

Meeting Minutes

“Round Table Discussion on Collaboration Between NTEP, Karnataka and USEA Trust”

Date: 7 th February, 2024

Venue: STO Office, Arogya Soudha, Bangalore

Officials Participated:

- Dr. Anil V, Deputy Director, NTEP, Karnataka
- Dr. Bharat, Deputy Director, NTEP, Karnataka
- Dr. Shankar Dapkekar, National Lead, USEA Trust
- Mr. Rajesh Bharatiya, State Lead Karnataka, USEA Trust
- Mr. Sanna Keshava, District Project Officer, Ballari, USEA Trust
- Mrs. Parimala Bhovi, District Project Officer, Vijayanagara, USEA Trust

Proceedings:

1. The meeting commenced with formal introductions. Dr. Shankar provided an overview of the TB Mukht Panchayat Initiative by USEA Trust, emphasizing potential collaboration with NTEP, Karnataka for successful implementation in Ballari and Vijayanagara districts.
2. Dr. Anil emphasized the importance of community mobilization for active case finding and agreed to commence project work from 1st April. Capacity building workshops and staff training will be conducted prior to this date.
3. Dr. Anil suggested engaging PROGNOSIS, a vendor from Karnataka, for chest X-rays at a favorable rate of Rs. 150 per scan for sample sizes exceeding 50,000.
4. A brainstorming session was proposed by Dr. Anil to be held in Hospet in February, inviting District Tuberculosis Officers from North Karnataka districts to formulate a systematic plan for project implementation, including village and panchayat identification, task force establishment, and training.
5. Mr. Rajesh was tasked with preparing a file to initiate the project, seeking approval from key officials including the Managing Director of National Health Mission, Karnataka, State Tuberculosis Officer, and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department.
6. Dr. Anil committed to sharing the TB Mukht Panchayat framework algorithm with Dr. Shankar for reference.

7. Updates on CBNAAT availability were provided, highlighting gaps in Vijayanagara district. Dr. Bharat raised concerns regarding patient travel convenience and sample transportation challenges from remote areas.
8. Rajesh will draft a letter to the State Tuberculosis Officer requesting collaboration, with STO Office advocating to JSW CSR for project consideration district-wide.
9. Dr. Anil assured CBNAAT availability at the district level and proposed conducting a district profile on testing before project initiation.
10. Mr. Keshava and Mrs. Parimala will share mapping of infrastructure, human resources, and required facilities for successful project implementation.

Conclusion:

The meeting concluded with a clear roadmap for collaboration between NTEP, Karnataka, and USEA Trust for the TB Mukt Panchayat Initiative. Action items were assigned to relevant officials to ensure smooth implementation and address identified challenges. Next steps include capacity building workshops, stakeholder consultations, and drafting official requests for collaboration and support.

Photo Gallery:

