



Active Compliance and Treatment Strategy

A Bottom-Up Approach to Eradicate Tuberculosis

About FreedomTB

FreedomTB is a holistic technology-linked program to combat Tuberculosis. It uses an innovative strategy called **Active Compliance and Treatment Strategy (ACTS)** to fight Tuberculosis. ACTS offers a system-change approach in treatment and management of TB and helps in reducing burden on DOTS providers.

The key approach of ACTS is being 'Active'. It gives control to patients to manage their treatment using mobile phone tools with compliance reporting, reminders and other information channels. It creates a new network of treated patients as knowledge providers, who serve as peer-educators in communities. ACTS has multi-tier technologies at various stages with a built-in environment for active adherence and community participation, thus reducing burden on existing infrastructures. The stages of ACTS are given below.



Stages of ACTS:

Stage I: Active Ground Building

Learning Tools/ Digital Stories/ Interactive Games/ ACSM

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Stage II: Active Case Finding

Door-to-Door Screening / Testing / Referrals

2

Stage III: Active Patient Compliance

Patient tools for Evidence based Reporting (VOT)

3

Stage IV: Community-led Supervision

Group Active Compliance/ Family ACTS / Monitoring

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Stage V: Active Treatment Management

OUTB Platform/DMCs/TB Units/Nikshay Integration

5

Stage VI: Active Ground Assessment

Spatiotemporal Epidemiological Model / e-Predict

6



Active Ground Building

ZMQ uses Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) approach where every section of society is involved through various interventions and tools. It uses strategies like campaigns in schools using interactive games / edutainment to create awareness; out-of-school campaigns to reach to youth through social media / role-play mobile games; community-based workshops in rural areas using decision-making digital stories on TB; dissemination through community radio stations and mobile re-charge shops; and community mobilization meetings families and patients using IEC material and ICT tools.

Door-to-Door Mobilization



Finding the Missing Million

Active Case Finding



Every year almost 4 million of 10 million people suffering from TB go missing from the health systems; failing to be diagnosed, treated or reported. ZMQ's ACTS uses systematic screening of people suspected with active TB in a predetermined target group. This is done by conducting workshops at different levels – rural, peri-urban slums and urban areas to create awareness and identify people with TB symptoms. ZMQ's Active Case Finding mobile toolkit captures data of the suspected person and sends it to the nearest testing centre for immediate referral and testing.

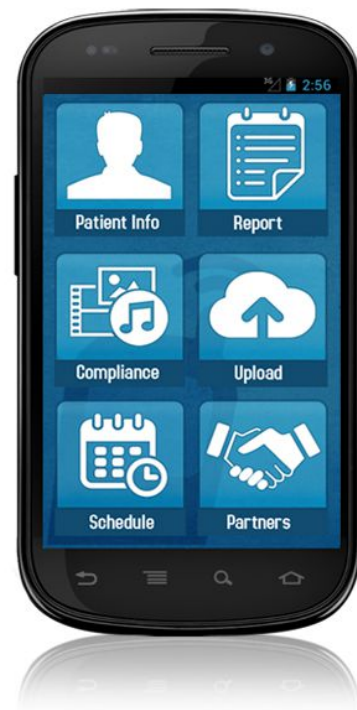


Active Patient Compliance

Gaining Full Control



Mobile Active Patient Compliance is a system for TB patients to report their compliance to treatment using mobile phones. It enables patients to report their adherence from their homes and villages, far flung from healthcare facilities. The patient reports compliance by sending a video, audio or text. The toolkit has other components like patient information, scheduler, test reports, referral dates and other knowledge channels to keep updated with TB awareness. It also supports a 'Real-time' dashboard to monitor each and every patient daily.





Active Community-led Supervision

Involving the Peers

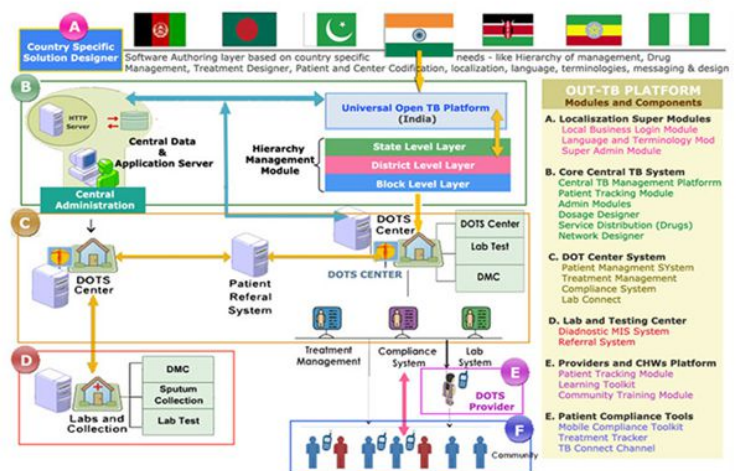
Active Community-led Supervision is the process of engaging community members of the TB patient observing his/her treatment. Community member can be from the family or someone from the neighbourhood, village volunteer or already-treated TB patient. This approach creates a new network of treated patients as new knowledge providers, who are ready to serve as peer-educators / assistive support to new TB patients. This makes it a Community-led model, also called the Group Active Compliance (GAC) mode.



Holistic Technology Linked Model

Active Treatment Management is a start-to-end fully-technology linked framework where all the stages of TB treatment are knitted together as an integrated solution. It has a backbone called OUT-TB platform, which empowers the community health workers, field coordinators, DOTS providers, supervisors and lab technicians to manage TB treatment in a coordinated way. The framework uses technology at all the layers of TB system from mobilization, case finding, diagnosis, address verification, initiation of treatment, reporting and follow-up testing and completion of treatment; and gets integrated with the government infrastructure.

Active Treatment Management



Active Ground Assessment

Keeping a Close Watch

Active Ground Assessment is a model for persistent stimulation and endemic prediction of Tuberculosis. It is derived based on multiple factors of TB epidemiology and community based social networking parameters. ZMQ's Active Compliance Treatment System helps generate these predictive models to the level of villages and communities.

Reach and Impact

Freedom TB's ACTS has scaled to 3 districts in India – Mewat, Jahangirpuri and Mangolpuri with almost 7,200 patients completed their treatment; and 2 districts in Uganda – Wakiso and Kampala with almost 1,000 patients. The program got an overwhelming acceptance in both the countries and has substantially improved key TB indicators – treatment completion rates, cure rates and lowering the re-lapse rates.

ZMQ Development

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