

## Reaching to Vulnerable with TB Services: A Case of Manohara Slum, Nepal

**Objectives:** To identify health care seeking behaviour and barriers affecting utilization of TB services and suggest modalities to reach to vulnerable.

**Setting:** There is high burden of TB among vulnerable population. Goal of NTP cannot be achieved without addressing issues of TB services utilization which calls for finding level of access and barriers and design response mechanism.

**Methods:** Quantitative and qualitative information collected among slum dwellers. Analysis was done from “Right to Health” perspective where availability of services, quality of care, accessibility and other determinants like poverty, housing and sanitary conditions are analyzed.

**Findings:** Distance, time and money are major barriers. Distance to TB service is not far but knowledge on availability of service and government policy of free care is low. Private institutions charge for services there by making affordability a question for getting the services.

**Conclusion:** TB services can be expanded to private/NGO to increase accessibility. Belief of people towards public facilities must be addressed by improving quality of care. Linkages with economic activities could increase affordability to access the services. Policy advocacy for focused program for vulnerable population is necessary.

