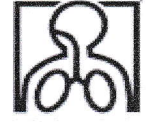




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காச நோய்த் தடுப்பும் மாப்பு நோய்களுக்குமான தேசிய செயற்திட்டம்  
NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL & CHEST DISEASES



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Ministry of Health & Mass Media

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NPTCCD/HE/TB DayCircular/2025/09/01

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DTCOs,

**“Yes! We can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver” - World TB Day 2025**

World TB Day will be commemorated on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2025. The theme for the year 2025 is “Yes! We can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver.”

The National Programme for Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases (NPTCCD) has planned a national event as well as island-wide programmes to commemorate World TB Day 2025 under the theme of “Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver.”

**Proposed activities:**

**I. National Level**

- A media conference in collaboration with the Health Promotion Bureau and other relevant stakeholders.
- Announced a TB awareness week from 17<sup>th</sup> of March to 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2025 in par with the World TB Day 2025 which falls on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March. A series of awareness programmes would be conducted through electronic and printed media and screening programmes would be conducted for the high-risk groups using the mobile X-ray machine.
- The national event which would be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March in Colombo will include;
  - Organizing a TB Day Walk starting from Colombo Chest Clinic (CCC) to the National Hospital of Sri Lanka (NHSL) in collaboration with community-based organizations (CBOs) and all the other stakeholders to create awareness among the general population regarding TB.
  - Launching the WHO recommended ‘four symptoms screening tool’ (W4SS) for Diabetic patients at the Endocrine clinic – NHSL.
  - Conducting a screening programme using the mobile X-ray machine at the Out Patient Department (OPD) – NHSL.
  - Conducting a multi-stakeholder advocacy program at NHSL auditorium.

In par with the national event, the World TB Day 2025 activities should be carried out island-wide. These activities would entail scaling up evidence-based interventions, active case finding, early and accurate diagnosis, preventive treatment, and high-quality care for drug-resistant TB.

These programs should be coordinated by the District Tuberculosis Control Officer (DTCO) and implemented at the levels of the Provincial Director of Health Services (PDHS), Regional Director

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of Health Services (RDHS), Medical Officer of Health (MOH) areas and both public and private healthcare institutions.

## 2. Provincial / District level

- Conduct TB awareness programmes among school children in collaboration with the zonal and provincial education offices, Ministry of Education emphasizing respiratory and cough hygiene.
- Conduct screening programmes among high-risk groups for early identification of patients in collaboration with community-based organizations and other stakeholders.
- Conduct awareness and screening programmes among the high-risk groups in the estate sector in collaboration with the field-level officers of the plantation sector.

## 3. Medical Officer of Health level

The following programmes should be carried out with the assistance of DTCOs and Medical Officers – District Chest Clinics.

- Conduct awareness programmes for school children emphasizing respiratory and cough hygiene.
- Include TB as a topic in the agenda of the monthly conference and in-service training programmes during the month of March, in par with World TB Day.
- Incorporate TB awareness into other routine programmes conducted by the MOH office [Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clinics, Nutrition clinics, Well Woman Clinics (WWC), community programmes, etc.]

## 4. Health institution level

- Incorporate TB awareness into the agenda of monthly clinical meetings during the month of March and obtain the assistance of Consultant Pulmonologists, Consultant Microbiologists, and DTCOs.
- Health Staff - Conduct TB prevention programmes for further sensitization, capacity building, and screening programs.
- High-risk groups (prison inmates, elderly population, HIV patients, close contacts of TB patients, high-risk communities, etc) – Conduct screening programmes throughout the year.
- OPD awareness – Incorporate TB awareness into health education sessions done at OPD and clinic settings, maintain the presumptive TB register at the OPD level, and increase the number of OPD referrals for screening.
- Conduct TB awareness programmes for health staff and patients in hospitals and clinics that cater to high-risk patients (e.g., National Institute for Nephrology Dialysis & Transplantation, Apeksha Hospital - Maharagama, Children's hospitals, Endocrine clinics, etc.)

## 5. Cross-programmatic activities

- The public health programmes that handle or encounter persons with high risk for TB should pay special attention in conducting these programmes.
- Ministry of Health - MCH Programme, School Health Programme, Urban and Estate Health Unit, National STD & AIDS Control Programme, Non-Communicable Disease Unit, and

Chronic Kidney Disease Unit shall give their support at the central and district level to improve awareness, increase case-finding among the respective high-risk groups and promote access to care in combating Tuberculosis.

- Facilitate screening programmes in high-risk settings – prisons, elderly homes, rehabilitation centers, detention centers, and other congregate settings (Tri forces, urban slums, etc.)
- These activities are to be carried out in collaboration with NPTCCD at the national level and District Chest Clinics at the sub-national level.



Director  
NPTCCD

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Note: The official circular for World TB Day 2025 will be circulated in due course.

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