

# Community Participation in Case Detection of Suspected Tuberculosis Cases in Tanah Datar District, West Sumatra, Indonesia

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## ABSTRACT

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| <b>Introduction</b> | Pulmonary tuberculosis is an infectious disease that is a major cause death in Indonesia. The Indonesian government's efforts to cope with this disease are to follow the World Health Organization's (WHO) recommendation to use the Directly Observed Treatment strategy or DOTs. The weakness of following this strategy in Indonesia is that DOTs implementation has not reached all health centers, government and private hospitals, and the finding of new TB cases is still very low. DOTs strategy relies on an observed treatment to monitor TB patients swallowing the drugs by staff working at health centers. We introduced an alternative funnel-shaped, healthy triangle model, based on the partnership between educational institutions, health services, and communities, using community empowerment, in the early detection of TB cases. This model was named " <i>Model Corong Segitiga sehat</i> ". The purpose of this study was to see whether community participation as a result of this study will lead to increased number of household contacts of person with TB, coming to clinics for checkup to rule out TB. |
| <b>Methods</b>      | Quantitative and qualitative research methods with experimental research design using a one-group pre- post-test.  |
| <b>Results</b>      | The results showed the formation of partnerships using the model PPTB group and after 1 month of training provided by educational institutions and health centers, resulted in the 9 cases of BTA (+), and 14 cases with suspected tuberculosis being detected. This compares with the number of BTA (+) cases of, and seen in the previous 12 months before the study. These data supported the statement that training people will give them more confidence in advising TB patients to bring their household contacts to health centers for examination to see whether they have TB or not. Involving partnerships with community participation is one key to effectiveness of the model in detecting new cases of tuberculosis. Joint commitment in the form of active community participation and support of health centers and educational institutions will become the preferred method of TB case detection. Public participation should be supported by the law as one of the funnel of information on public health.   |
| <b>Conclusions</b>  | Therefore, commitment to the funnel model of healthy triangle must be maintained, so that people in this group of PPTB are more confident and more open in dealing with TB patients and suspected TB cases. It is recommended that local governments actively participate as one component of the funnel model of healthy triangle, because of the larger influence of local government among the community.   |