

Quelapio, MID, Orillaza, RB, Gler, MT, Galipot, MC, Macalintal, L, Raymond, L, Maramba, T, Mira, NR, Belen, VB, Mangubat, NV and Tupasi, TE, "MDR-TB patient types in a private – public mix DOTS unit," *The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*, Vol. 10, No. 11, (November) 2006, Supplement 1: S100.

Background and setting: The Makati Medical Center DOTS Clinic, a privately initiated PPMD unit since 1999 provides a programmatic multidrug resistant (MDR-TB) management in Manila, Philippines. This country has a large sector of private practicing physicians especially in Metro manila where the PPMD unit is located. DOTS was initiated in the public sector in 1996 and had reached a 90% coverage in year 2000. Structured involvement of the private sector in DOTS has been a focus since 2003 through the establishment of PPMD units in strategic areas of the country.

Objective and methods: To describe the type of MDR-TB patients seen in this PPMD unit from 1999 to 2005. Patients' charts were reviewed to gather this information.

Results: During 1999 to 2003, only 13% (24/182) of our MDR-TB patients were DOTS referrals. However, from 2004 to 2005, 32% (94/294) of our MDR-TB patients were DOTS referrals, mostly from failures of Category II.

Conclusion: Our data indicate that either there is more awareness among the DOTS implementing units to refer their unsuccessful DOTS patients to our PPMD unit or more private physicians are availing of DOTS services through PPMD units or public health centers. It is anticipated that over time, DOTS referrals will predominate the MDR-TB referrals to this unit.