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Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
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Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi-110108

D.O. Letter No.: Z-28015/148/2019-TB

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Dear State TB Officers,

In order to ensure Universal DST, all bacteriologically diagnosed TB patients are to be offered testing for Rifampicin resistance using CBNNAT. All Rifampicin resistant patients are to be tested for resistance to second line drugs using second line LPA (SL LPA). This activity has to be prioritized and it is to be ensured that close to 100% of all rifampicin resistant patients should have the second sample tested using SL LPA.

As per the integrated diagnostic algorithm, all TB patients who are susceptible to Rifampicin are to be offered first line LPA (FL LPA) for determining resistance to Isoniazid. The uptake for FL LPA testing is dependent on the laboratory capacity and field readiness in respective States. In order to optimally and effectively use of FL LPA, the following groups may be prioritized in the order given below:

1. Failures- Non responders to treatment(follow up positives)
2. Contacts of DR TB
3. Previously treated TB patients
4. TB-HIV co-infected patients
5. New TB patients

All States/UTs are to conduct an exercise, determine capacity and expand the above mentioned criteria in a phased manner. In States where capacity exists all groups can be taken up.

Your cooperation in this regard will be highly appreciated.

(Dr. K. S. Sachdeva)

To

State TB Officers of all States/ UTs

Copy to:

- PPS to JS(RNTCP), MoHFW, GOI
- All NRLs, IRLs and TB C&DST Laboratories