

GDF/MSH Drug
Management
Consultant
Training
Workshop in
Vietnam:

Trip Report

Management Sciences for Health
is a nonprofit organization
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**Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus
GDF/MSH Drug Management Consultant Training Workshop in
Vietnam: Trip Report**

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November 11, 2005

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About RPM Plus

The Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (cooperative agreement HRN-A-00-00-00016-00), works in more than 20 developing countries to provide technical assistance to strengthen drug and health commodity management systems. The program offers technical guidance and assists in strategy development and program implementation both in improving the availability of health commodities—pharmaceuticals, vaccines, supplies, and basic medical equipment—of assured quality for maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, infectious diseases, and family planning and in promoting the appropriate use of health commodities in the public and private sectors.

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Abstract

Management Science for Health's Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program and the Global TB Drug Facility housed at World Health Organization conducted a TB drug management consultant training course in Hanoi, Vietnam, November 7-11, 2005.

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Key Words

Tuberculosis, TB, Drug Management, Pharmaceutical Management, GDF, GLC, Vietnam, GDF Consultants

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ACRONYMS

AFRO	Regional Office for Africa of the World Health Organization
DM	Drug Management
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short course
FDC	Fixed Dose Combinations
GDF	Global TB Drug Facility
GLC	Green Light Committee
MDR TB	Multiple Drug Resistant Tuberculosis
MOH	Ministry of Health
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
NTP	National Tuberculosis Program
RPM Plus	Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus Program of USAID
SEARO	South East Asia Regional Office of the World Health Organization
TB	Tuberculosis
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization
WPRO	Western Pacific Regional Office of the World Health Organization

BACKGROUND

More than eight million people become sick with Tuberculosis (TB) each year.¹ TB continues to be a major international killer disease because of poor access to effective high quality medicines, irrational treatment decisions and behaviors, and counterproductive financial priorities by some national health systems that impede progress.

Access to TB medicines is becoming less of a problem as both first and second-line TB treatments are made available to developing countries through global initiatives such as the Global TB Drug Facility (GDF) and the Green Light Committee (GLC) of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Stop TB department in Geneva. Since 2001 Management Sciences for Health (MSH) through the USAID-funded Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) program has collaborated with Stop TB to promote better overall TB drug management by GDF and GLC secretariats and by national TB control programs.

RPM Plus activities include technical assistance to the GDF and the GLC to develop program monitoring tools, conduct TB program monitoring missions to recipient countries of GDF drugs, audits of monitoring missions conducted by partner organizations and training workshops on TB pharmaceutical management. GDF and GLC secretariats operate with minimal staffs and both depend greatly on partner organizations to carry out the necessary in-country work to make sure TB medicines are received, distributed and used according to guidelines. The number of countries receiving GDF and GLC support is ever increasing requiring even more assistance from partner organizations like MSH/RPM Plus.

In September 2004 RPM Plus, in collaboration with the GDF, prepared materials and conducted a workshop to train consultants on how to monitor how GDF drugs are handled and used in recipient countries. This first workshop was conducted in Nairobi, Kenya in September 2004 to develop consultants for the Regional Office for Africa (AFRO) region.

The training modules used in these workshops consist of some didactic presentations including introduction to TB drug management and numerous practical exercises using GDF technical monitoring tools. The monitoring tools are then used during a field exercise where participants practice data-gathering for monitoring, supervision and evaluation of local TB supply and treatment facilities of MOH National TB Programs.

Purpose of Trip

RPM Plus's Thomas Moore and WHO/GDF's Hugo Vrakking and Adam Thomas conducted a workshop in Hanoi, Vietnam November 7-11, 2005 to develop GDF consultants within the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) and Southeast Asia Regional Office (SEARO) countries. Consultants were prepared to carry-out GDF country monitoring missions in the months and years ahead. Sixteen participants attended the training including two participants from the Vietnam National TB Program. Other countries represented were: Cambodia, India, Japan, Laos, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, and Egypt. See Annex 2 for list and contact information of participants. This event was co-funded by RPM Plus, GDF,

¹ WHO Fact Sheet No 104, August 2002. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/who104/en/index.html>

WHO/WPRO and WHO/Vietnam. RPM Plus participation was made possible by USAID SO5 TB global funding.

Scope of Work

1. Conduct didactic presentations on appropriate TB pharmaceutical management
2. Conduct practical exercises on use of the GDF drug quantification tool
3. Conduct practical exercises on use of the GDF monitoring tools
4. Conduct a field exercise where participants will use GDF monitoring tools to collect data.
5. Assist participants to analyze findings and prepare Power Point Presentations
6. Field Visit: feedback presentations and preparation of GDF consultant report
7. Brief/debrief USAID mission representatives, if requested

ACTIVITIES

1. Conduct didactic presentations on appropriate TB pharmaceutical management

Facilitators led Power Point presentations on the following topics:

- Introduction to GDF
- Introduction to TB drug management
- TB Case Classification and their Appropriate Drug Regimens
- GDF's processes, Terms and Conditions
- GDF Procurement Process including procurement agent, manufacturers and providers of quality assurance
- GDF's Requirements for Receipt and Distribution of drugs by a country
- Monitoring for TB Pharmaceutical Management
- GDF Assessment Tools
- GDF Quantification
- Preparing for Field Visit: group formation, introduction to Vietnam National TB Program and Role Play
- MDR-TB and the Green Light Committee
- GDF fixed dose combination (FDC) products and Stop TB Patient Kits
- GDF Laboratory Diagnostic Kits
- What to do if conditions are not perfect for the GDF consultant's visit
- List of additional references
- List of Handouts

See Annex 1 for more information about the workshop agenda.

2. Conduct practical exercises on use of the GDF drug quantification tool

Participants received an electronic copy of the GDF drug quantification tool which exists as an Excel Spreadsheet. Using three typical country scenarios, participants practiced using the tool to calculate how many drugs GDF would need to provide for each of the three countries. The scenarios included calculations for loose drugs, blister drugs; fixed-dose combination drugs (FDCs) and patient kits.

3. Conduct practical exercises on use of the GDF monitoring tools

Participants reviewed each of the GDF monitoring tools in small groups. Then in plenary discussions were held to clarify any issues related to the monitoring documents. The GDF tools consist of:

- Guidelines for pre-delivery country visits
- First Year In-country Monitoring Check List
- Second Year In-country Monitoring Check List
- Third Year In-country Monitoring Check List
- Direct Procurement Checklist
- Terms and Conditions for support
- Application to the GDF

4. Conduct a field exercise where participants will use GDF monitoring tools to collect data.

Participants were divided into four groups for making the field visits to MOH facilities as follows:

- Group 1: Visit national TB program headquarters to understand standard treatment guidelines and to National Storage Warehouse to survey stock management procedures
- Group 2: Visit National Drug Regulatory Agency to understand drug registration procedures, National Quality Control agency to understand how TB products are monitored for quality in Vietnam
- Group 3: Visit provincial TB hospital storeroom, district warehouse and TB treatment center to verify stock procedures, adherence to DOTS and rational treatment
- Group 4: Visit to a second provincial TB hospital storeroom, district warehouse and TB treatment center to verify stock procedures, adherence to DOTS and rational treatment

Each group traveled to their respective health facilities and agencies, interviewed managers and gathered data required by the GDF monitoring tools such as presence of expired TB products, stock outs, if stock records are up to date, drug regimens being given to TB patients, if patients understand their disease and consequences if not treated properly, and annual quantities of TB commodities (medicines and supplies) needed by the NTP in Vietnam.

5. Assist participants to analyze findings and prepare Power Point Presentations

In small groups, participants discussed their findings with participation of workshop facilitators and calculated indicators required by the GDF monitoring reports. Participants then prepared presentations of findings.

6. Field Visit: feedback presentations and preparation of GDF consultant report

In plenary each group presented its findings. Discussions were held on similarities and differences found among the four groups. The MSH and GDF facilitators critiqued the findings and presentations of the four groups making suggestions on how to improve their data collection techniques and presentations of findings to National TB Program managers in the countries they visit.

In small groups, participants then prepared a draft report of their consultant visit in Vietnam as they will need to do for future GDF monitoring visits to other countries. One of the GDF monitoring guidelines gives an index of topics to use when preparing these reports. In plenary, the facilitators made suggestions on how to improve the GDF consultant reports.

7. Brief/debrief USAID mission representatives, if requested

Thomas Moore attempted to contact Mr. Daniel Levitt, USAID/Vietnam but was told that he was in the field on business thus no debriefing took place in person.

Participant Evaluations

Prior to closing, participants were asked to fill out an anonymous evaluation form about the workshop for content, materials provided, practicality, facilitation and overall presentation. Each activity was ranked according to how it met the participant's expectations. Below the rankings are given where answers were "Yes, absolutely" and "Yes, mostly." As you will see most participants ranked all aspects highly except the activity called "what to do if..." (72%),

which covers those times when all the data or persons to be interviewed are not available to the GDF consultant.

Workshop Activity	% “yes absolutely” or “yes, mostly”
Introduction to GDF	100
Introduction to TB drug management	100
TB case classification; appropriate drug regimens	100
GDF's process, Terms and conditions	83
GDF's procurement process	83
GDF's Requirements for receipt and distribution	89
Monitoring for TB Pharmaceutical Management	89
GDF assessment tools	100
GDF quantification	89
MDR-TB and Green light committee	88
Role plays and reporting	83
Field visit - preparation	89
Field visit by participants	89
Field visit - write visit report, prepare PPP	88
Filed visit- participant presentation and feedback	100
Monitoring report to GDF	82
What to do if....	72
CD, additional resources, notebooks, slide show etc	100
Importance for future DM responsibilities	100
Allowed me to better understand and use for evaluating TB drug management	94
Provided opportunity to exchange useful experience with participants from other countries	100
Theoretical content of the presentation was useful and sufficient	100
Exercises and group activities were useful and sufficient	100
Good mix of presentations, discussion, group activities	100
Duration of the course was appropriate	100

NEXT STEPS

- GDF will contact newly trained GDF consultants for monitoring mission consultancies needed during the year 2006.
- RPM Plus will provide remote technical assistance to course participants as needed to help with monitoring visions.
- RPM Plus/GDF will take participant recommendations into account for the next GDF consultant training workshop planned for the NIS region in February 2006.

ANNEX 1: AGENDA

GDF/MSH Drug Management Consultant Training Workshop Hanoi, Vietnam, November 7 – 11, 2005

Day	Time	Presentation	Facilitator	Consultant Aids
Mon 7/11	9:00- 10:00	Opening of Workshop—purpose and expected outcomes	Hugo	
		Introduction of participants and facilitators (MSH/GDF/NTP)	Tom/Hugo	
	10:00- 11:00	Introduction to GDF	Hugo	GDF slide show
	11:00- 12:30	Introduction to TB drug management	Tom	
	12:30- 14:00	lunch		
	14:00- 14:30	TB Case Classification and their Appropriate Drug Regimens	Hugo	WHO TB manual
	14:30 - 17:00	GDF's processes, Terms and Conditions	Hugo	GDF-CD
		GDF Procurement Process	Hugo	GDF-CD
		GDF's Requirements for Receipt and Distribution	Hugo	GDF-CD
		Monitoring for TB Pharmaceutical Management	Tom	GDF-CD
Tue 8/11	09:00- 11:00	GDF Assessment Tools	Tom/Hugo	Guidelines for country visits, Interim monitoring checklists, Direct procurement checklist
	11:00- 12:30	GDF Quantification	Tom/Hugo	Quantification spreadsheet
	12:30- 14:00	lunch		
	14:00- 15:00	GDF Quantification	Tom/Hugo	Quantification spreadsheet
	15:00- 16:00	Preparation Field Visit: group formation: Role Play (introduction to NPT Vtm)	Tom/Hugo	Workshop materials
	16:00-	Field Visit--preparation	All	Workshop materials
Wed 9/11	09:00- 12:30	Field Visits by participants	All	MOH, DRA, central, regional stores, health centres, lab
	12:30- 14:00	lunch		
	14:00- 17:00	Field visits: prepare feedback presentations	All	All workshop materials
Thu 10/11	09:00- 12:30	Field Visit: feedback presentations	All	Findings of field visit

	12:30-14:00	lunch		
	14:00-15:00	MDR-TB and Green Light Committee	Tom	Findings of field visit
	15:00-17:00	Prepare Monitoring report: drug quantification, selected topics as per field visit	All	GDF monitoring visit report templates
		Handing in of reports		
Fri 11/11	09:00-10:00	Signing-in for Country visits up to 2006	Adam	
	10:00 - 12:00	Present Monitoring Reports	All	GDF monitoring visit report templates
	12:00 - 13:00	What to do if....	Tom/Hugo	Workshop materials
		List of additional references	Tom/Hugo	Workshop materials
		List of Handouts	Tom/Hugo	Workshop materials
		Closure and Certificates	All	

ANNEX 2. PARTICIPANT AND FACILITATOR LIST

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GDF/MSH Drug Management Consultant Training Workshop in Vietnam

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