



Patients and TB: Improving treatment outcomes through a patient centred approach and access to new treatments

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Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
and Médecins Sans Frontières

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Patients' Union- Achievements and challenges

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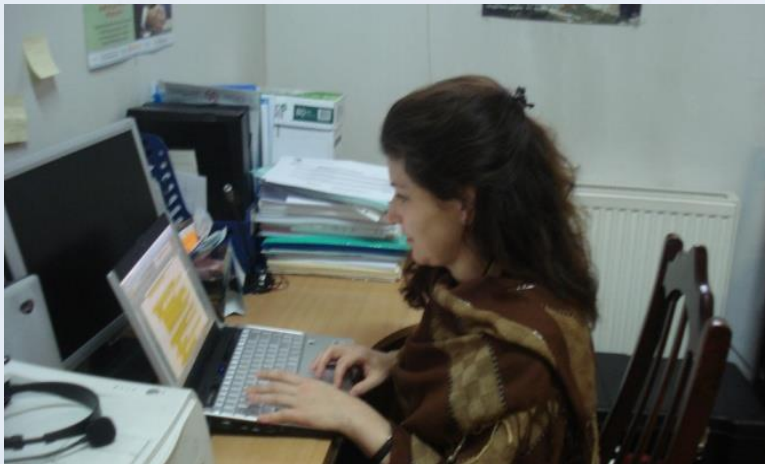
Georgian Patients' Union-advisor

Creation of Patients' Union

Short Historical Review

- Volunteer former patients' Initiative-2008
- Apply to Georgian Red Cross Society (GRCS) and NTP
- Barriers linked with legislation and Political Commitment
- As a result- non registered union

First steps – former patients and partners



Creation of TBPU

- 2014 –Support for creation of Georgia TBPU in the frames of the Stop TB and TB Euro Coalition projects to strengthen TB related CSOs
- Founders - International Fund for Georgian Medicine, GRCS, Georgian Independent Experts' Association

Creation of TB Patients' Union – December, 2014



Stop TB, TBEC

GRCS, IFGM

TB Patients

TBPU

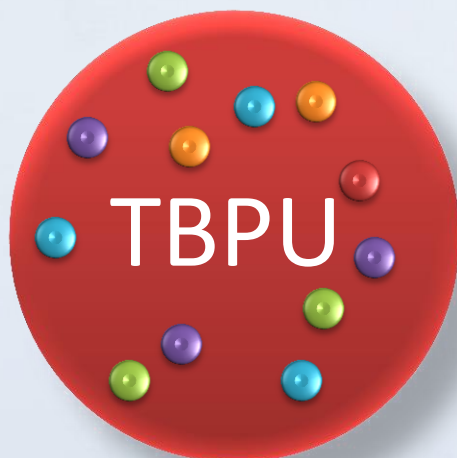
21 patients,
10 medical personnel

TBGC
8 NGO

+NGOs

Separate of TBGC from TB Patients' Union -

October, 2015



Aim and Objectives

- Support fight against TB in Georgia

Objectives

1. Advocacy to combat existing barriers
2. Communication - education and support of TB patients and general population
3. Social mobilization of various groups of society to implement concrete supportive projects

Activities conducted

1. Creation of Technical platform for PU –creation of TB Coalition
2. Participation in the CN writing and NTBSP elaboration process in the frame of NFM on the bases of patients' problems research and analysis

3. Caring about organizational development-
creation of regional network, attracting
members, informational work

4. Submission of the member in the CCM

5. Establishment of partnerships, conducting
joined actions





First activities for World TB Day

Achievements

1. Creation of TB Coalition, elaboration of Strategy
2. Membership of CCM
3. Awareness about PU and recognition from the side of CCM , governmental, partner and donor organizations, involved in the TB control system
4. Recognition from the side of society, TB personnel and patients



Main challenges

Stumbled/failed:

1. Participation in the TB legislation writing process
2. Consideration of PU's offers in the NFM Concept Note and TBSP last versions
3. Participation in the XDR TB Treatment planning-implementation /patients' education
4. Participation in the DOT and adherence services, access to information about difficult patients
5. Involvement in the work with the high risk groups

Future plans

1. ADVOCACY- including decision makers and organizations from local governmental level
2. INFORMING –various groups of society, mainly TB patients/ family members
3. MONITORING – promises keeping monitoring, new needs assessment-presentation, monitoring of decisions

- Thank you for attention