## Social Support Program at Indus Hospital PMDT

in collaboration with NTP & PTP

Saira Khowaja Indus Hospital DR-TB Control Program





#### Social Support

 Providing support to create an environment that is conducive to the completion of treatment and cure of the patient

#### Why is Social Support Necessary?

- Long, intensive treatment
- Serious adverse effects
- Poor socioeconomic factors affect adherence

### Strengths of Social Support

- Improve commitment to treatment
- Improve cure rates
- Decrease side effects by nutritional improvement
- Decrease rates of default, treatment failure and death

## Components of Social Support Indus Hospital PMDT

- Counseling
- Food Assistance Program
  - Nutritional Supplementation for special cases
- DOT provision through Treatment Supporters
- Transportation and housing costs for special cases

#### Why is Counseling Necessary?

- Long, painful treatment
- Disconcerting adverse effects
- Poverty
- Social stigma and alienation
- Hopelessness after previous failed treatments
- Death of a family member
- Guilt and worthlessness
- Special case patients



#### Emotional Support in Lima, Peru

- Treating MDR TB patients since 1996
- 80% cure rate
- Nurses manage provided emotional support
- Common areas of concern
  - Guilt
  - Stigma
  - Side effects
  - Adherence difficulties
  - Socioeconomic difficulties
  - Death and concurrent illness

## **Food Assistance Program**

## **Indus Hospital PMDT**

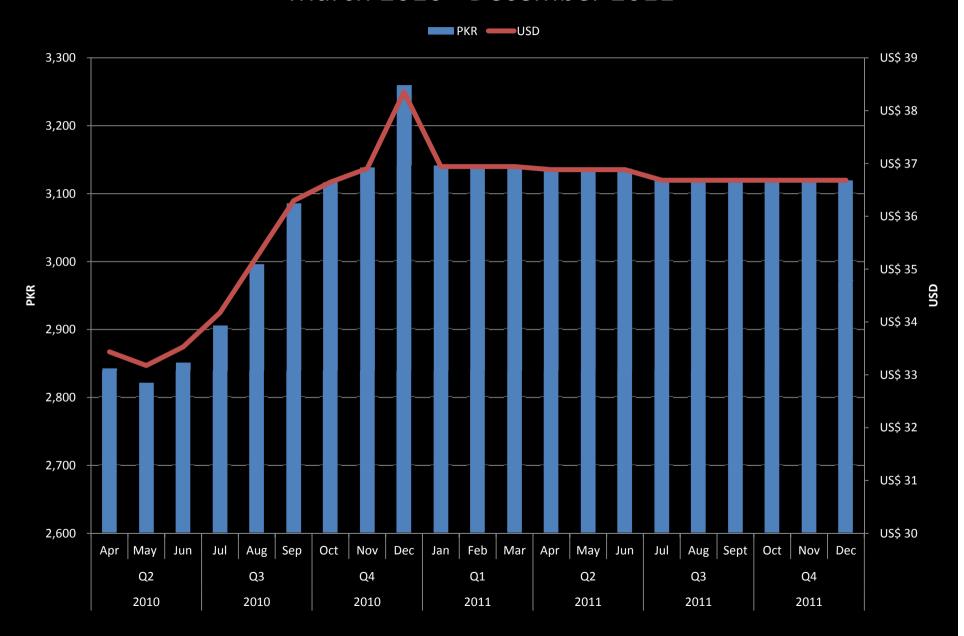


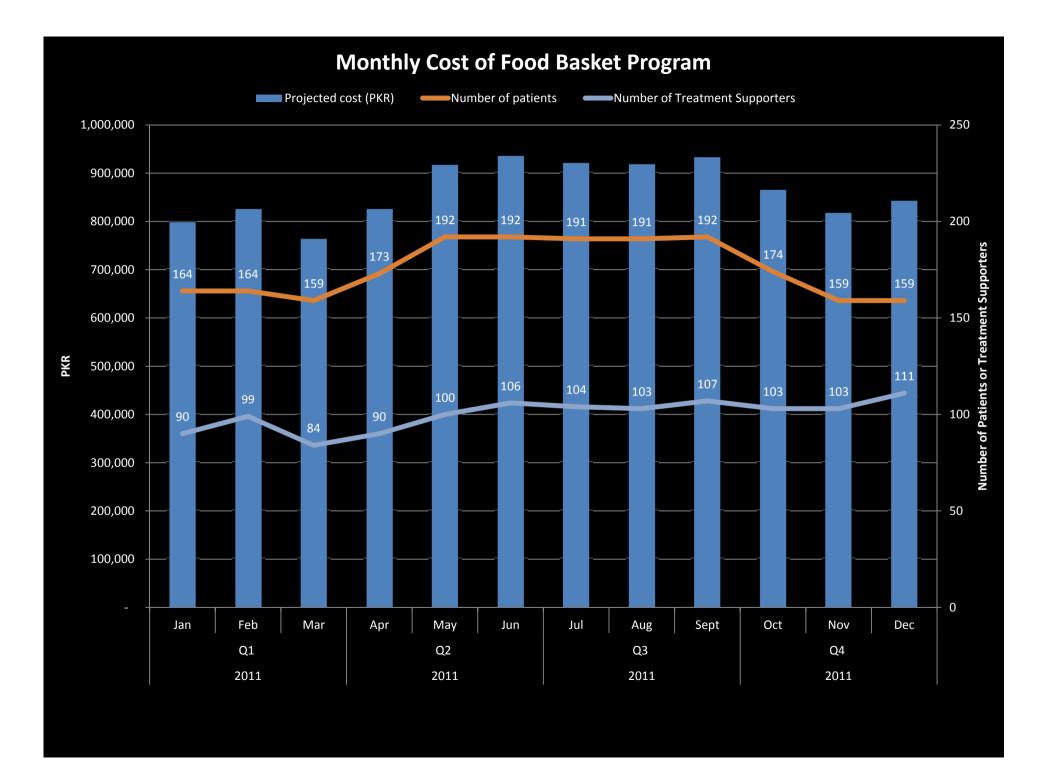
Article	Quantity
Flour	20Kg
Rice	5Kg
Lentils	4Kg
Sugar	4Kg
Oil	5Ltr
Milk	1Kg

#### Food Assistance Program Advantages

- Provide nutritional benefits
- Incentive to comply with treatment
- Increases 'worth' of patient
- Allows subsistence in the absence of income
- Compliance for follow-up sputum submission and clinical visits

#### Monthly trend in cost per food basket March 2010 - December 2011





#### **Nutritional Support for DR-TB Patients**

Baseline
Height & Weight
recorded
BMI calculated

Normal BMI (18-25)

Low BMI (16-18)

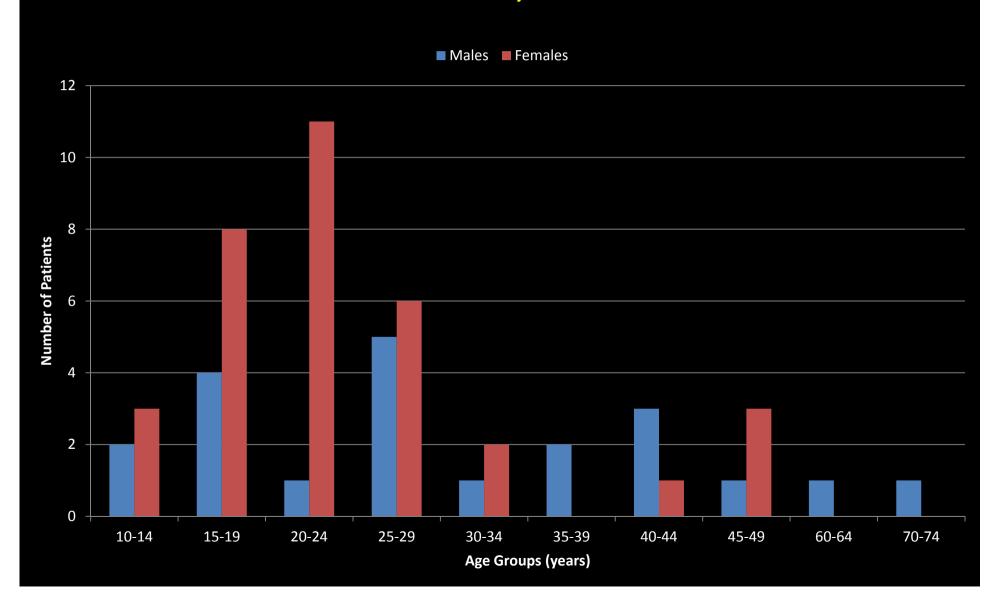
Very Low BMI (<16)

2 month follow-up

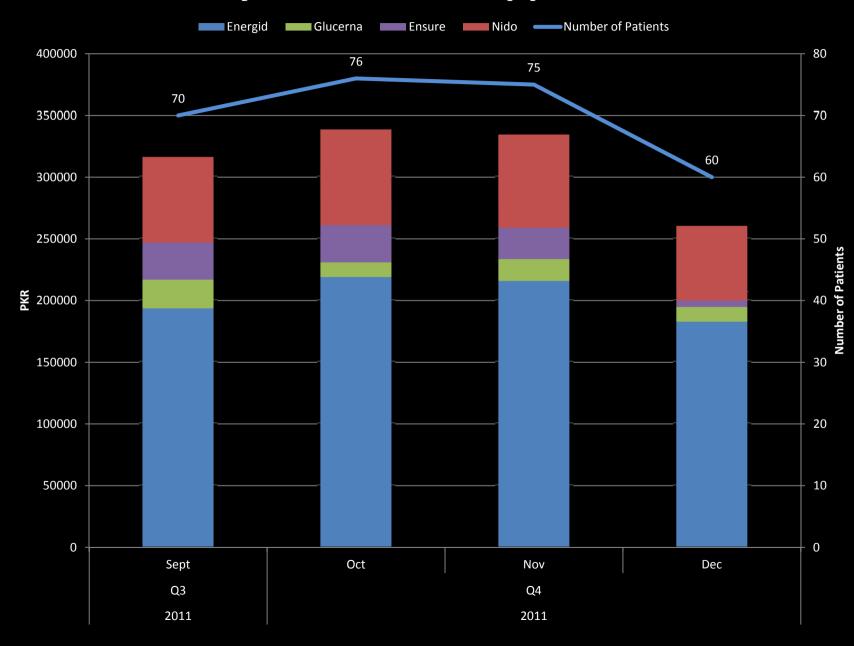
Monthly Nutritional consult

Monthly
Nutritional Consult &
Nutritional
Supplements

# Patients on Power pack by Age and Gender (N= 60)



## Monthly nutritional supplement cost



### Why are Treatment Supporter Necessary?

- Increase compliance
- Identify and report side effects
- Identify potential contacts
- Provide support and some counseling
- Delivery of medication
- Assess transmission risk factors in the household
- Encourage patients to attend their clinical appointments

#### **DOT-Treatment Supporters**

- Directly Observed Therapy for Completion of Pulmonary Tuberculosis- Chaulk CP & Kazandjiam VA, JAMA. 1998 Mar.
  - DOT with incentives and enablers: 86% 96%
  - DOT w/o incentives and enablers: 85% 87%
  - DOT only in part of the therapy: 78% 82%
  - No DOT: 41% 82%
- Conclusion: Treatment completion rates for pulmonary tuberculosis are most likely to exceed 90%, when treatment is based on a patient-centered approach using directly observed therapy with multiple enablers and enhancers.

## **Additional Support**

- Hygiene kits
- Transportation costs
- Clothing and shoes
- Schooling for children
- Improving housing conditions

# Challenges Indus Hospital PMDT

- Treatment supporters
  - Identification for female patients
  - Family vs. community supporters
  - Monitoring
- Counseling
  - Emotionally draining
  - Angry and aggressive patients
  - Separating physiological symptoms from social/psychological ones
- Food Assistance
  - Logistics
    - Supply , procurement & storage of large number of food baskets
  - Intake by patients?
  - Deception by workers

## Thank you!