

# SECTION 7

GUIDE TO USE OF STG'S

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### INTRODUCTION

The correct application of standard treatment guidelines is of great importance to ensure high quality care. The National Department of Health has provided service providers with a number of STG's to support them in their work. There are specific programme STG's – management of STD's, management of pulmonary TB. Additionally, staff have been provided with a booklet to support the clinical management of patients; **PHC Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Drug List, 1998 (Green Book)**.

CS's have an important role to play by ensuring that clinic staff follow STG's for conditions treated at the clinic level. By ensuring the use of STG's we know that our clinic staff will;

- Diagnose correctly
- Treat their patients with the correct drugs.
- Give correct non-drug treatment of many conditions
- Refer patients in an appropriate and timely way for higher level care when necessary.

### HOW DO WE GET STAFF TO USE THE STG'S?

1. By ensuring that each clinic nurse and doctor who prescribe treatment have a "**Green Book**" on their desk.
2. By ensuring that staff use the "**Green Book**" – does the book look new or does it look as if it is being used (well paged)
3. By supporting staff in the use of the "**Green Book**". It is proposed that during a supervisory visit, the CS will select five interesting cases from the clinic register and through using the "**Green Book**" assess the appropriateness of management of each of the five conditions. The CS will be able to support the STG review with "Clinical Tips" where they are available for the specific condition reviewed.

By getting staff to use the "**Green Book**" we can make a great difference to the quality of care we provide at the clinic.