

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

3.1.1 PRIMARY RESEARCH QUESTION

What is the proportion of Sputum smear positive tuberculosis patients who do not comply the treatment against tuberculosis in Keshabpur sub district hospital of Bangladesh?

3.1.2 SECONDRY RESEARCH QUESTION

What are the factors associated with noncompliance of treatment among the sputum smear positive tuberculosis patients in Keshabpur sub district hospital of Bangladesh?

3.2 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

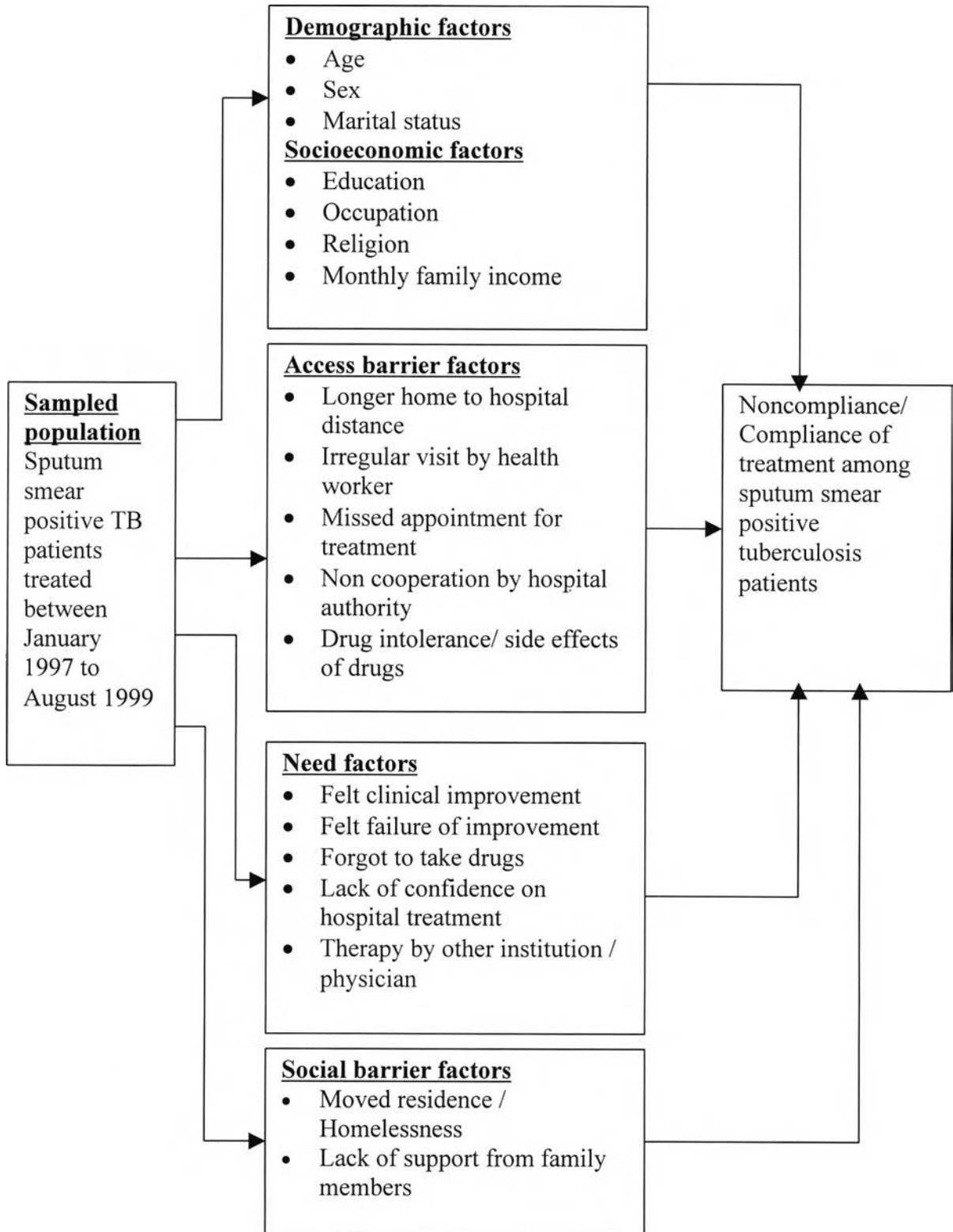
3.2.1 GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To find out the proportion of sputum smear positive tuberculosis patients who do not comply the treatment against tuberculosis in Keshabpur sub district hospital of Bangladesh.

3.2.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To find out the factors associated with noncompliance of treatment among sputum smear positive tuberculosis patients in Keshabpur sub district hospital of Bangladesh.

3.3 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



3.4 KEY WORDS: Noncompliance, Sputum smear positive, Tuberculosis, DOTS Strategy.

3.5 OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS

- **Non compliance:** Non compliance is defined in the following ways,
- Missing or not taking anti tubercular drugs for 2 weeks or > 2 weeks,⁽²⁷⁾
- Prolongation of treatment for more than 30 days from the normal 8 months course of anti tubercular chemotherapy due to sporadic missed doses,⁽²⁷⁾
- Patient after missing an appointment did not return to continue his/her treatment.⁽³⁸⁾
- So, in this study patient meeting any one of the three criteria was treated as noncompliance.
- **Sputum smear positive**
- It means patient having examined sputum for acid fast bacilli for three consecutive specimens and among the three investigated specimens at least one specimen of sputum diagnosed as containing acid fast bacilli at the time of presentation.
- **Sub district hospital**
- It is the primary level health care center in Bangladesh from where the National tuberculosis control program is initiated through well-organized approach. It is the focal point for implementation of all primary health care activities in Bangladesh.
- **Drug intolerance/adverse effects of drugs**
- It means any reaction due to drug intake that leads to temporary or permanent discontinuation of treatment with one or more drugs in the treatment regimen.

- **Patient**

- It refers to diagnosed sputum smear positive individual who was registered in the Keshabpur sub district hospital, Bangladesh between January 1997 to December 1998 and treated against tuberculosis from this hospital.

- **DOTS Strategy**

- It means directly observed treatment, short course strategy (chemotherapy).
- DOTS is the WHO-recommended strategy for the detection and cure of TB
- DOTS does not require that patients should go to hospital, rather they can take drugs at their homes under direct supervision of their relatives or the designated health staff of that area and they can soon return to work.
- DOTS combines five elements: Political Commitment, microscopy services, Drug supplies, monitoring systems and direct observation of treatment.
- TB can be readily and inexpensively cured with DOTS with in a short time.

- **Occupation**

- It refers to an activity that keeps the patient employed currently.

- **Monthly family income**

- It means total monthly income of the family instead of individual income, which is based on the assumption that the level of living of the individual is determined by family income in the household in which he lives.

- **Educational status**
- The measure of educational status is based on those who never went to school and unable to read and write and those who went to school / college. Among those who went to school / college their educational status were based on the number of years completed in studies.
- **Barrier**
- It means a thing that prevents or controls people to receive service easily and normally.
- **Access**
- It means opportunity or right to use or avail something.