

## **TB Innovations in Africa**

all slides combined

### **STOP TB PARTNERSHIP**

38<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING

12–14 December 2024 • Abuja, Nigeria





## Using State of the Art Technology (CXR-AI, Xpert & Starlink) to reach remote & vulnerable populations in North East Nigeria

Dr Stephen John, Janna Health Foundation

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## Northeast Nigeria



- Made up of 6 States
- > 26 million
- Land Mass: 272,451 km2
  - 1/3 of land in Nigeria
    - 12% of the population
  - Limited access to Health Care
  - Poor Health infrastructure
  - Numerous TB KVPs, Remotely located in Hard-to-Reach areas;
    - Nomads
    - Internally Displaced Persons
    - Refugees
    - Miners
    - Tribal Populations (e.g. Koma People)

JANNA HEALTH FOUNDATION





- WHO recommends testing algorithms with CXR
  - Most sensitive screening tool
  - Excellent triage tool as well
- WHO recommends rapid molecular diagnostics







#### Reality in NE Nigeria:

- Taraba State:
  - Population: 4.3 m
  - $_{\circ}~$  Only 9 Public Health facilities (HFs) with CXR
    - Only 6 machines are functional
  - 2 Radiologists in 2 Tertiary HFs
- 6 HFs have Xpert:
  - 1 Xpert equipment & CXR machine/>700,000 population





- Access is difficult
- Roads are limited
- Transportation is expensive
- Violence is common
- Insecurity is a challenge

How do we reach all PWTB?

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Despite these challenges:

- JHF is **reaching KVPs** with innovative technology
- We provide Care to people in dire need!





## The Equipment!



- We use PDX-AI to screen KVPs!
- Can go **anywhere!** 
  - Across Rivers, in
     Fields, on mountains
     & valleys
- We have set up in Schools, Camps, Clinics, Settlements, Communities, Grazing reserves & Resting points
- Run on batteries, no wires!
- This is NE Nigeria!

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#### Our Team!

- Leverage on stakeholder engagement to reach communities
- Out Team is **trained** by MinXray/Qure
- They provide outreach services across NE Nigeria
- Screen Apprx 200/D





- With support from TB REACH we were able to bring this **state of the art TB screening tool** to the **doorstep** of KVPs in NE Nigeria!
  - What an opportunity this was!!
- JHF & SUFABEL Community Development Initiative (SCDI) have;
  - Screened >1 million people for TB among KVPs in NE Nigeria
  - Diagnosed and Cured >15,000 PWTB (Bac+) through TB REACH programming





- JHF is able to bring the best TB screening to people who have little or no access to TB care
- We provided Integrated Service Delivery since W5!
   Leprosy, Nutritional Support, women empowerment, skin disease screening & Care, HIV, etc!





## Acknowledgement



- Stop TB Partnership
- Canada and UK for their support to TB REACH, our work & the People we serve!
- MinXray & Qure
- TB REACH
- Makes a huge difference to people with many barriers to care
- JHF is reaching thousands of PWTB who would have been missed!









## Integrated care in Mozambique prisons: addressing TB and other conditions

Mario Vicente, Mozambique National Penitentiary Service



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## **TB Burden in Mozambique**

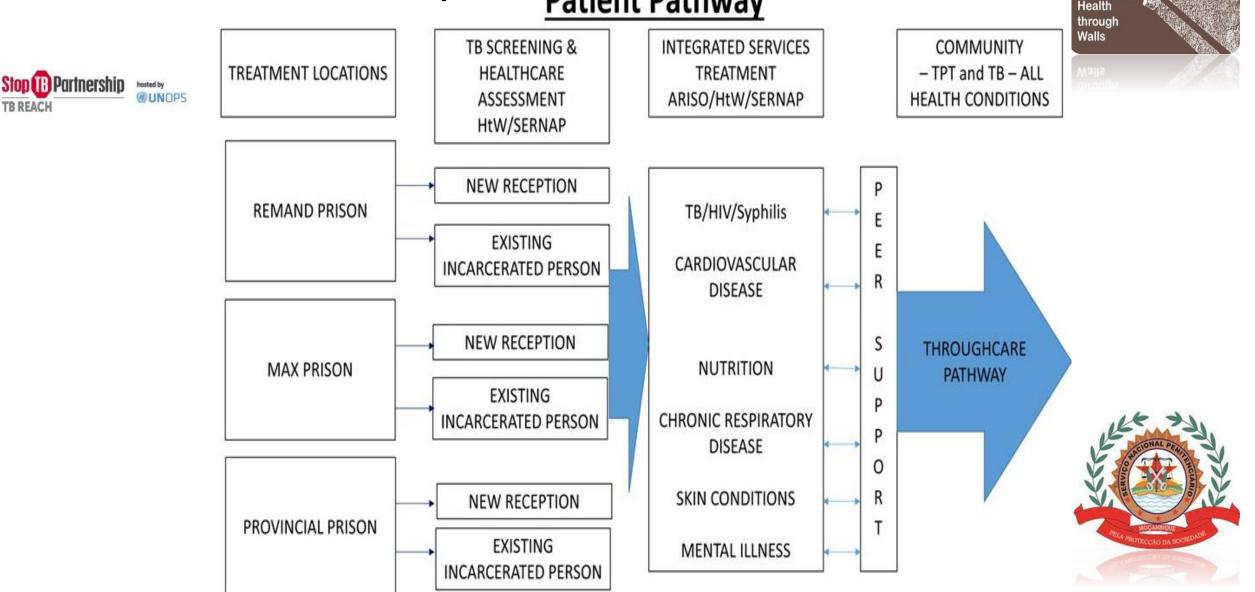
- Mozambique is one of 30 TB high burden countries, TB incidence 361/100,000
- Incarcerated persons are a key population for TB
- The National Penitentiary Service of Mozambique (SERNAP) previously detected TB via symptom screening alone estimating:
- ~50% of TB in prisons is undetected
- <u>10-27X more TB in prisons than general population</u>
- SERNAP benefited from a TB REACH Grant led by Health Through Walls (HtW), in collaboration with ARISO, Emory Rollins School of Public Health, SureAdhere by Dimagi and Qure.ai
- Thanks to your funding, our partnership introduced digital chest radiography read by AI into prisons to rapidly detect TB and included an integrated health screening approach.





#### Integrating TB and other health services in Prisons in Mozambique **Patient Pathway**

**TB REACH** 



#### Our "CIPMATOD" Project Approach



Stop B Partnership

TB REACH

- 6 partners
- 21 month project
- 3 program phases
- 3 month blitz
- 10,735 people screened
- 3 intervention prisons
- 2 control locations
- 8 health conditions
- 27 staff
- 70 Peer Educators
- Humane treatment
- New learning
- State of the art tech!!







Screening

Registrati

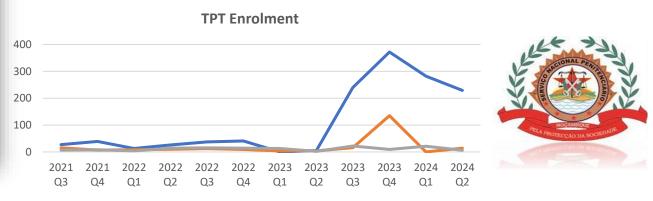
on

Health Matters App & Digital Chest X-Ray with AI Reading

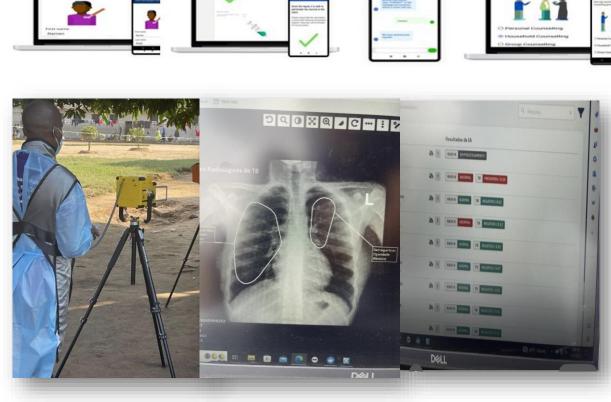
**Results and Reports** 

#### Results

- 1. Screened: 10.735
- 2. TB Presumptive: 2,134
- 3. TB Confirmed: 307
- 4. Prevalence (country): **361/100,000**.
- 5. Prevalence (prisons): 3300/100,000.
- 6. TPT Offered: 3.120
- 7. TPT Initiated: 1.600







Laboratory

——— M Prov PF ——— Max security facility (SSPF) ——— Maputo City Remand Pen Facility



#### Our CIPMATOD Program (ISD)



Health Conditions (Integrated Services)										
	2022/2023	2023/2024	%							
Number of Screens	No systematic screening recorded	10735	-							
New HIV Cases	408	630 (5.8%)	>35							
Syphilis	No tests available for PDL	3 (<1%)	-							
Diabetes	No tests available for PDL	6 (<1% )	-							
Malnutrition (BMI<18.5)	567	858 (7.9%)	>34							
Mental Illness	132	155 (1.3%)*	>15							
Respiratory Disease (Non-TB)	No systematic screening recorded	2039 (19.9%)	-							
Cardiovascular Disease	No systematic screening recorded	1455 (13.5%)	-							
Skin Conditions	908	700 (6.5%)	<30							



### Where in the World?



"Our mission is to assist developing countries in implementing sustainable improvements in the health care services of their prisons."

John P. May, MD, - President, Health through Walls





# Standby for

a Wave 12

Application!

# Thank you!





# Pooled testing to increase coverage of rapid molecular diagnostics for TB

Dr Comfort Vuchas -Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory Bamenda at the Center for Health Promotion and Research in Cameroon



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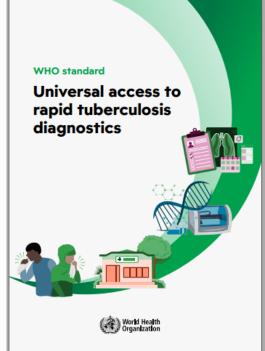


#### **Rational - Limited Access to Rapid TB Diagnostics**

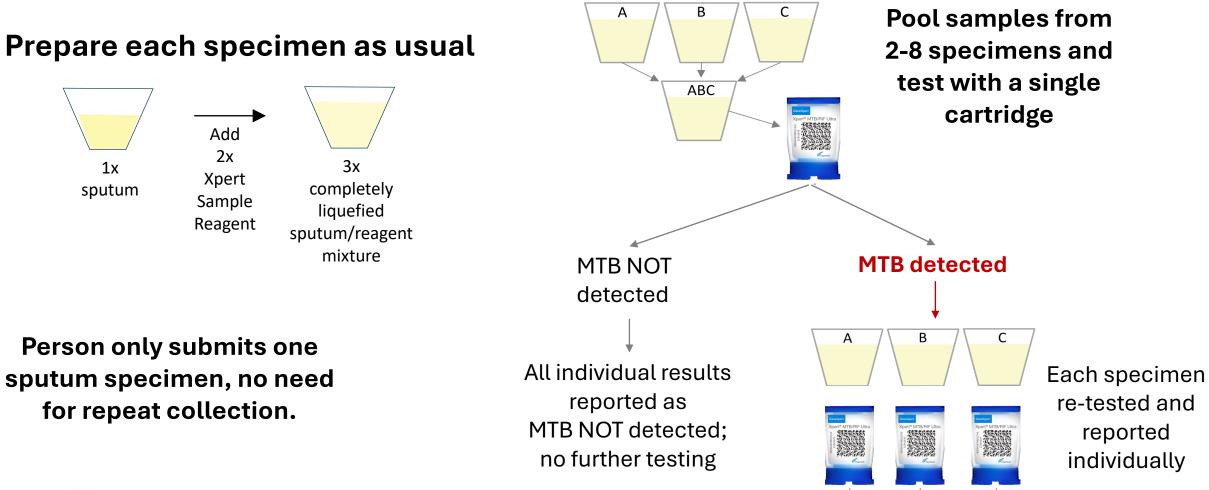
- Current molecular tests (Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra and TrueNat MTB-RIF) are highly sensitive and enable detection of rifampicin resistance
- In 2023, only 48% of people to be evaluated for TB were tested using a molecular assay (Global TB Report)
- We need to test <u>many more people</u> for TB to reach goals in Global Plan to End TB
- Challenges to scale up for molecular testing
  - Cost of assays (\$8++)
  - Equipment- Limited availability/ function; competition with other tests on same platforms
  - Supply chain issues
  - Competition with other spending priorities
  - Personnel time

Pooled testing has been used in HIV, STDs and COVID-19

Has potential to increase access to molecular testing for TB



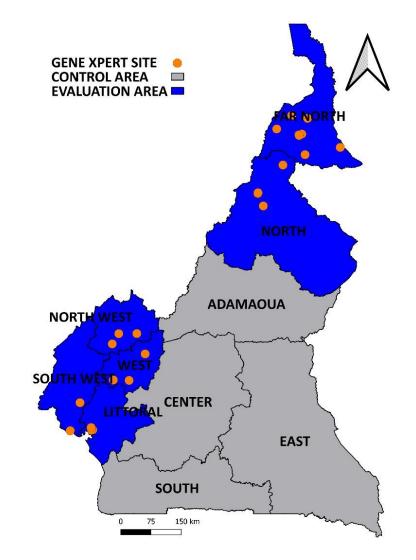
#### Process- Specimen preparation for pooled testing – Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra





#### Scope of pooled testing

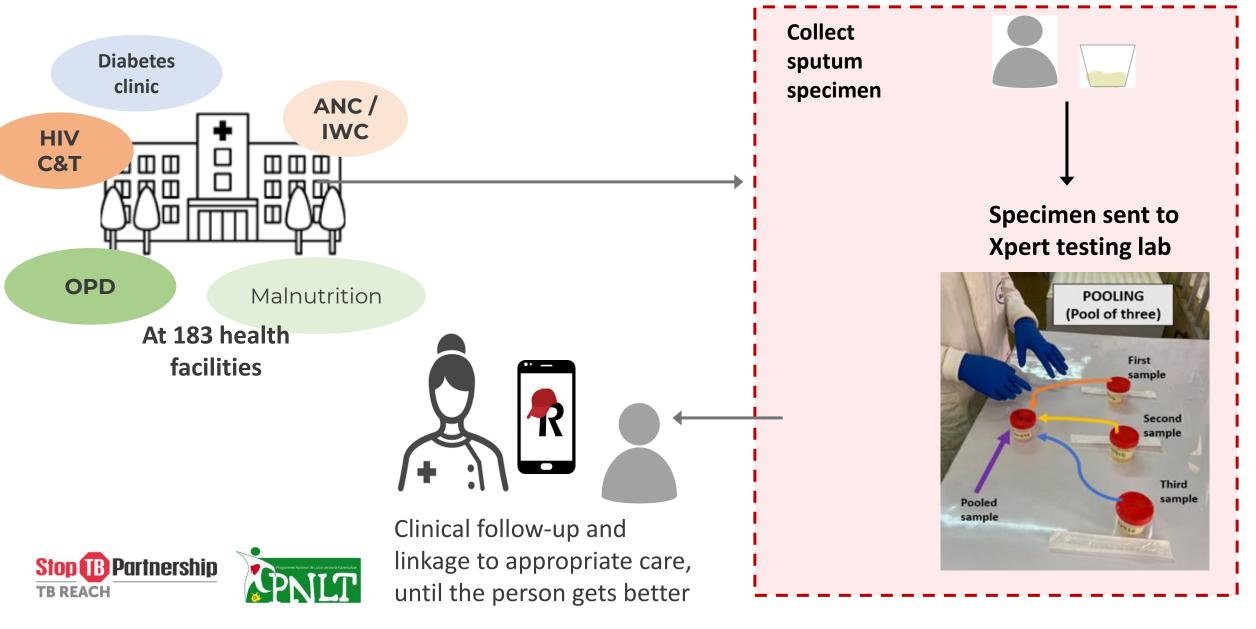
- In 2020 we started pooled testing out of necessity in a few labs to extend availability of limited Xpert cartridges in Country
- Reference laboratories have been performing pooled testing since July 2020 with good experience to date
- In the Context of TB reach Wave 10, pooled testing has been extended to 25 GeneXpert labs receiving and performing pooled testing for specimens for TB testing from 183 health facilities



Map of Cameroon, with GX labs (orange); Regions currently testing(blue)



#### Flow of work for pooled testing for TB diagnosis



#### S TI

#### Impact of Pooled Testing

- Testing more people with fewer cartridges
  - Using a combination of individual and pooled testing with pools of size 2-8
  - We have tested over 36,312 specimens with 18,668 cartridges (49% cartridges saved) in a population with 8.5% of specimens with MTB detected on Ultra
  - Nearly twice as many people (an additional 17,798 people) have been able to receive a molecular test result as compared to individual testing with the same number of cartridges
- Pooled testing is also useful when Xpert instrument service (such as module replacement) is delayed and fewer modules are available for testing.
- Cost and time savings increase with lower yield most benefit from active case finding



Partnership

## **THANK YOU!**



















# Achieving Universal Health Coverage & TB Elimination in Lesotho

Mrs Mathemba Radebe - Partners In Health – Lesotho



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#### Lesotho

#### **Our History**

PIH has worked in Lesotho since 2006, at the invitation of the MOH to support its response to the HIV epidemic. Since then, PIHL's work and programs have grown to include MCH, DR-TB, mental health, NCDs and more, transforming care and health systems across the country. PIH leverages its 5 S model as a system strengthening approach to all programming.

Our programs and approach support community needs and are provided by 370 PIH-LS staff, 96% are local. PIH-LS RI program reach approximately 120,000 people, the Reform reaches 40% of the population, and the national MDR-TB program provides care and treatment for all Basotho.



#### **Our Partners**



#### **Current TB Situation In Lesotho**



TB incidence **664/100,000** TB-HIV co-infection rate is **50%** Treatment coverage is **42%** TB cases are missed to care: **58%** Treatment success rate: **80%** TB case fatality ratio **37%** 



# We need innovative ways to search, prevent, and treat TB



Bo-mphato Litšebeletsong Tsa Bophelo

#### Mr. Janki, a story of restored hope



Day 15 in the ICU – Janki intubated Day 44 in ICU– Learning to walk

ay 178 – Janki going home





**STAFF** Dr. Yonathan Gebrewold, PIH Lesotho radiologist reviewing chest X- ray images



**STUFF** A patient being screened with a portable X-ray machine at Tlhanyaku health center.

### PIH's 5 S Model: System Strengthening Approach



#### Applying 5 S Model to TB: Experiences from Rural Clinics

#### **SPACE** Adequate for TB testing and patient care



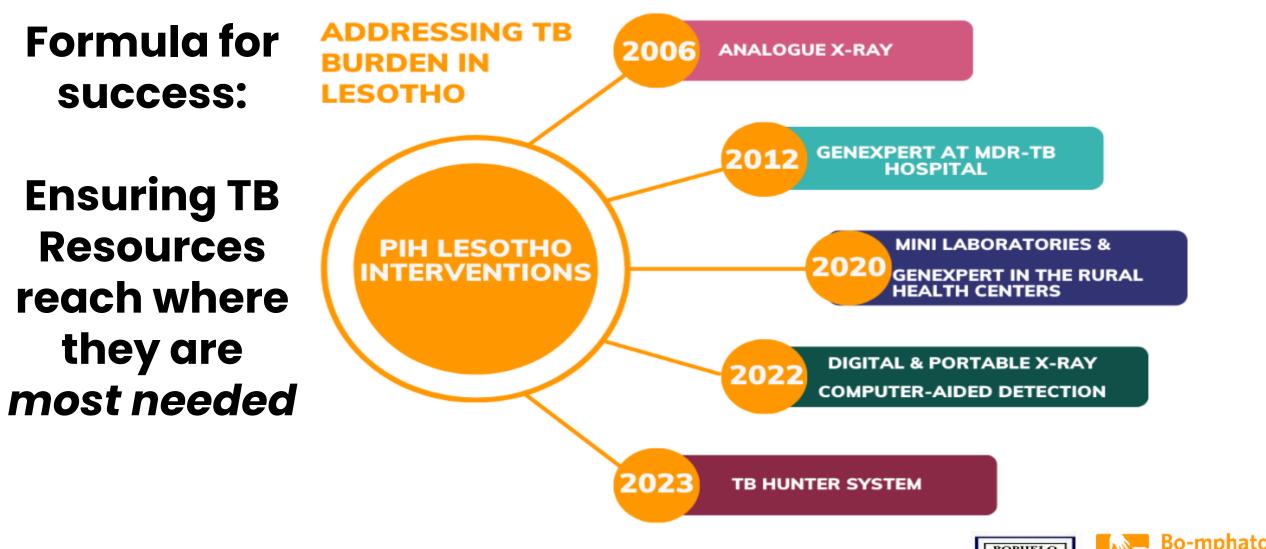




**SYSTEMS** for TB diagnosis, patient care and data reporting

**SOCIAL SUPPORT** for patients with social needs





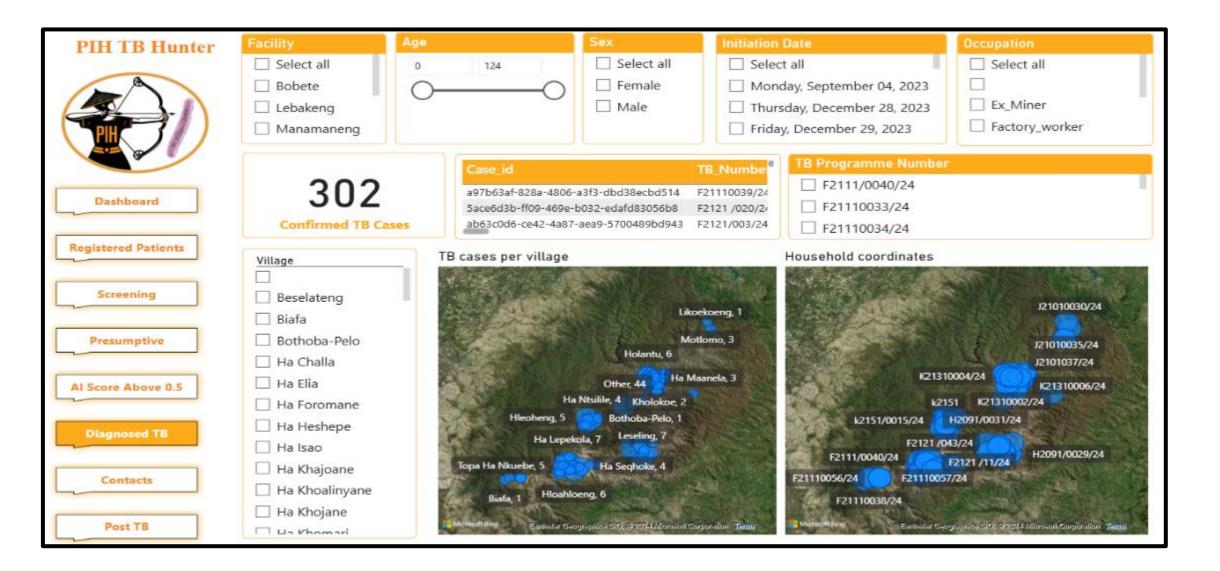


Litšebeletsong Tsa Bophelo

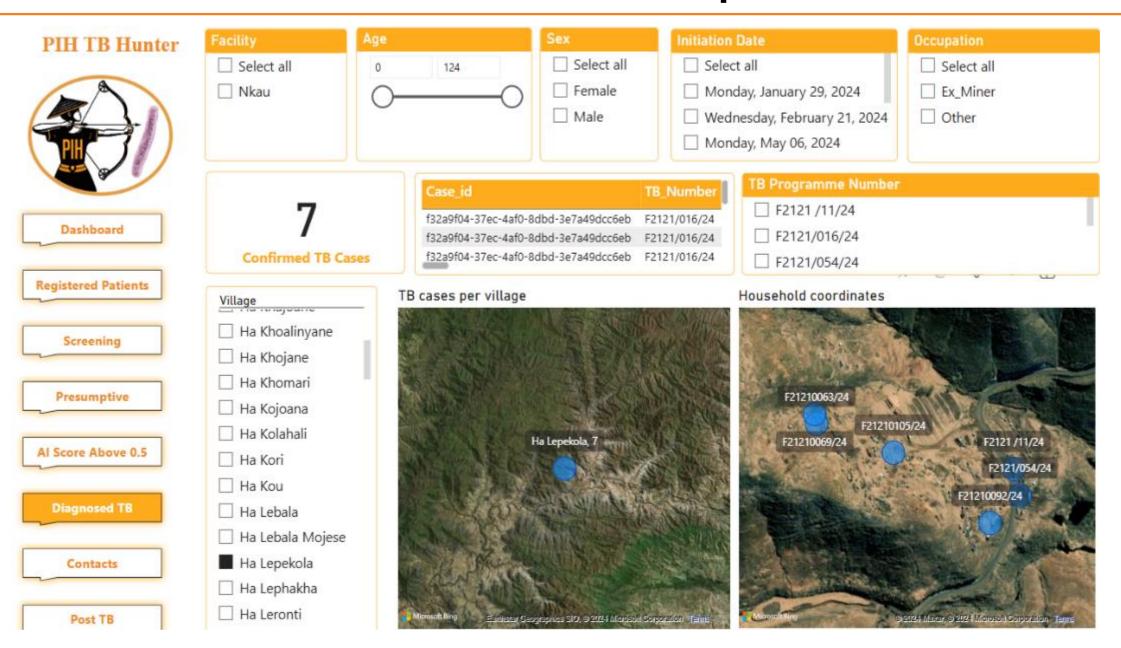
#### TB Hunter: An innovative data system combining new real-time, Alsupported screening, testing, contact tracing and follow-up

<b>PIH TB Hunter</b>	Facility		Village	Ag	je			Sex		Occup	ation	
	<ul> <li>Select all</li> <li>Bobete</li> <li>Lebakeng</li> <li>Manamaneng</li> </ul> Registered unique patients		<ul> <li>Select all</li> <li>Auplase</li> <li>Beselateng</li> </ul>	0 124		-0	Select all Female Male		<ul> <li>Select all</li> <li>Ex_Miner</li> <li>Factory_worker</li> </ul>			
Dashboard Registered Patients	18450 Registered patients		25.32% Presumptive		81.22% Presumptive Tested		<b>5.27%</b> Diagnosis Rate			100.00% Treatment Initiation		
Screening	30146 Number of screenings		506 Contacts	Screening Event           Year           2023           2023								
Presumptive	17725 People Screened	5538 Presumptive TB	258 Contacts screened	Month	Bobete	Lebakeng	Manamaneng	Methalaneng				
Al Score Above 0.5	4498 Tested Presumptives 443		208 Contacts screened pos	February March April	749 937 830				186 713 990			935 1650 1820
Diagnosed TB			50	May June July	761 566 762	221 584	165	1	727 729 783	1 534		1489 1517 2991
Contacts	Highly presumptive		Contacts screened neg	August September October	887 893 625	403 515 473	625 523 648	679	992 784 778	1188 916 897	597 827	4662 4907 4786
Post TB	SU2 Confirmed TB		87 Contacts given TPT	November Total	302 4167	177 1638	184	112	318 3705	90 3613	216	1399 17588

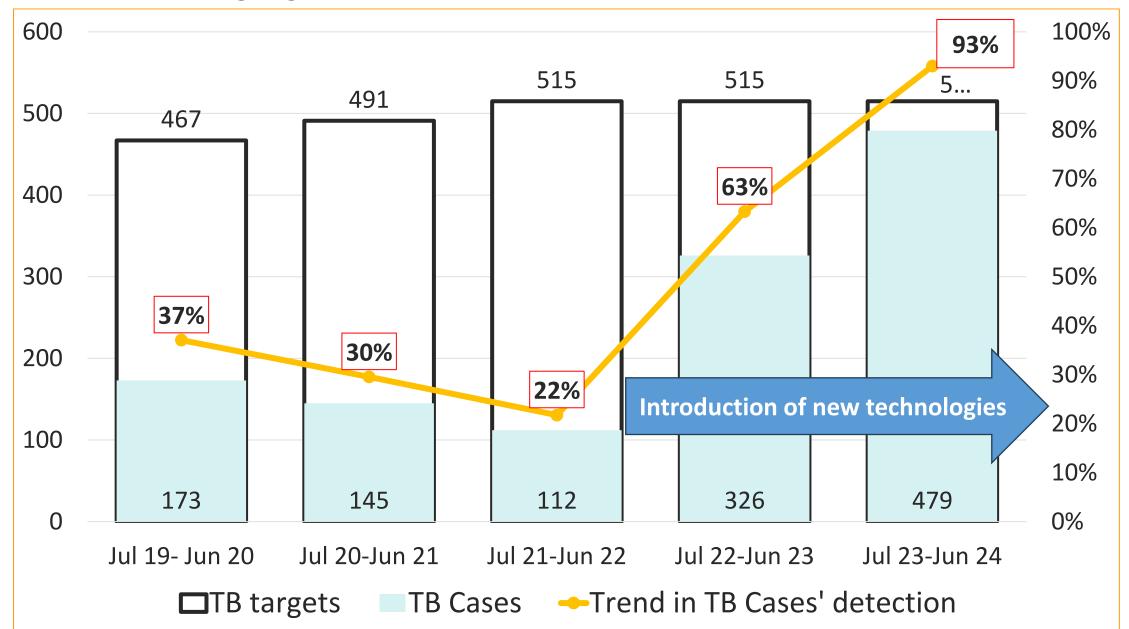
## **Geolocation of newly diagnosed TB patients**



## **Identification of TB hotspots**



## In pilot catchment areas, PIH Lesotho interventions dramatically increased case finding against the estimated total TB burden of disease



## Launching Replication of PIH Lesotho's TB Innovations

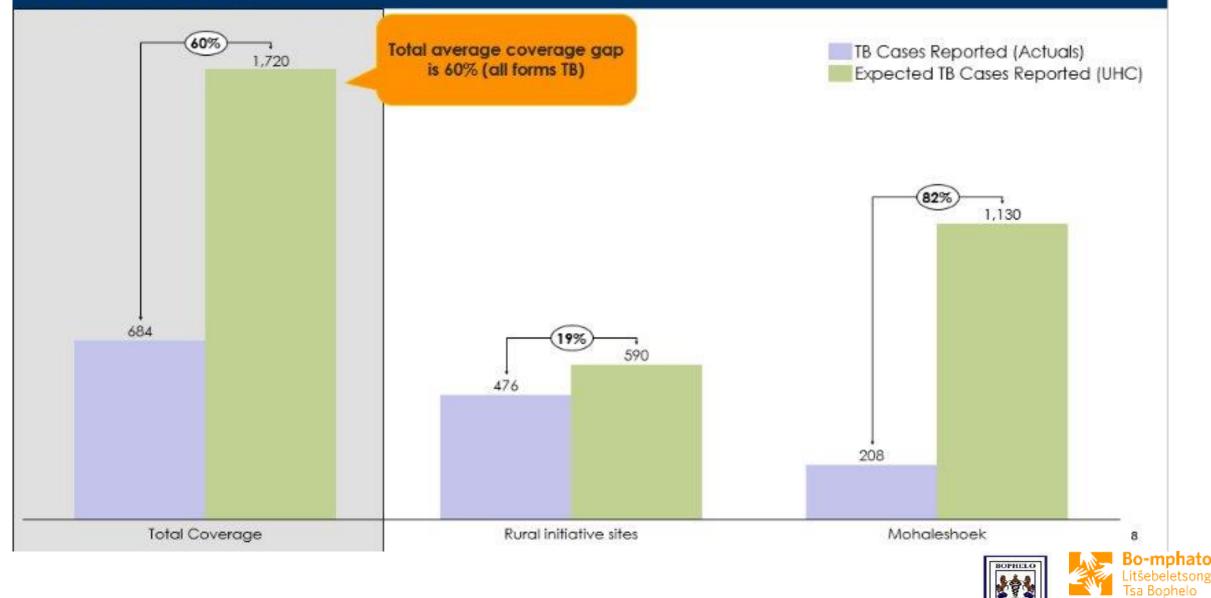
Through population level Search-Treat-Prevent, we plan to detect and treat an additional 5,151 people with TB over 5 years, and drive down rates of TB.

- PIH Lesotho's plan spans 2 key areas
  - Intensive Search-Treat-Prevent in Mohale's Hoek and existing Rural Initiative sites
  - Targeted improvements in 6 other national health reform districts' hospitals



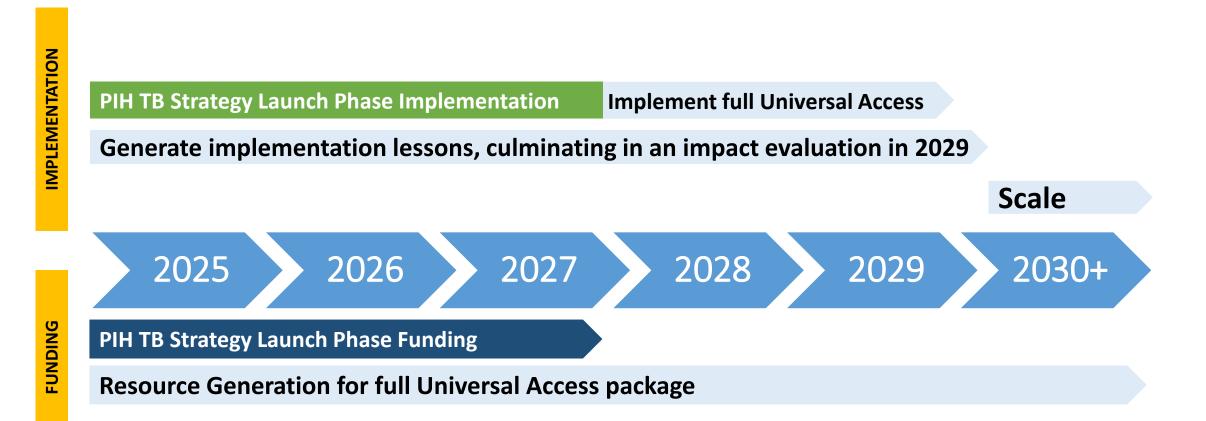


## Coverage gaps for all forms of TB exist within the RI and Mohaleshoek catchment areas



Partners In Health

# Over a five-year period, PIH Lesotho will replicate innovations to drive down rates of TB in a full district





## REMEMBERING DR PAUL FARMER



"The idea that some lives matter less is the root of all that's wrong with the world."

- DR. PAUL FARMER



## **Novel TB infection testing in Zambia**

Dr Kwame Shanaube - Zambart Deputy Director of Research/Acting Executive Director

## **STOP TB PARTNERSHIP**

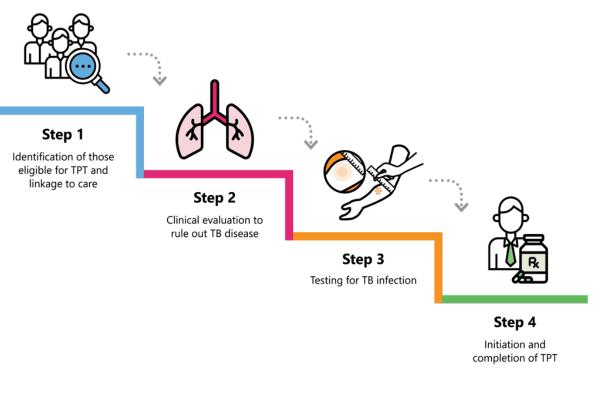
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## Background

- A quarter of the world's population is estimated to be infected with Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Testing for TB infection remains a big challenge especially in low-resource settings
- Current diagnostic methods such as Tuberculin skin test (TST) and interferon-gamma release assays (IGRAs) have limitations:
  - Nonspecific antigens that cross react with BCG and nontuberculous mycobacterium (NTM)
  - IGRAs require costly laboratory infrastructure and trained laboratory personnel
- Novel TB infection tests such as Cy-TB and TB-Feron use more specific antigens and offer the advantage of lower costs and require basic laboratory infrastructure making them suitable for low-resource settings
- However, these new tests have not been tested in diverse populations with data mostly limited to the country of origin

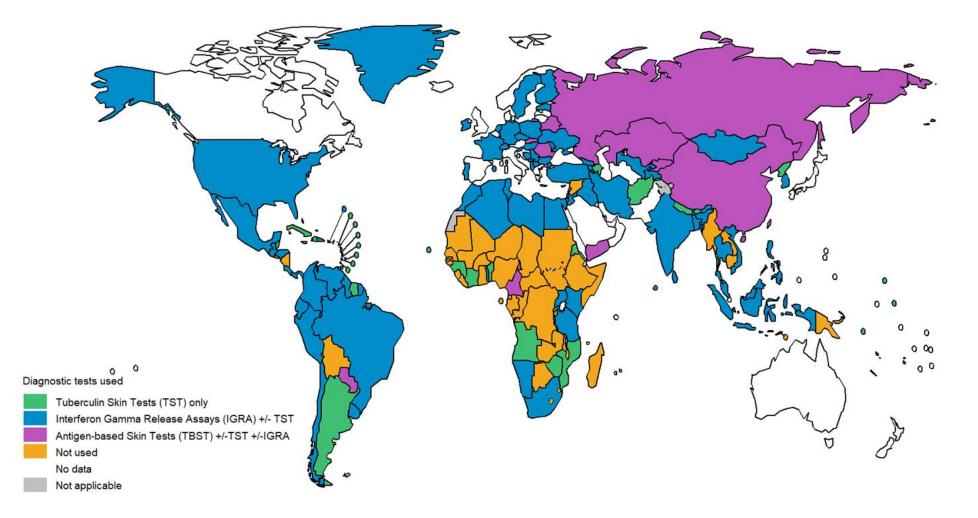


TB, tuberculosis; TPT, TB preventive treatment

Source: Oxlade et al. (15). Modified and used with permission of the copyright holder, The International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease.

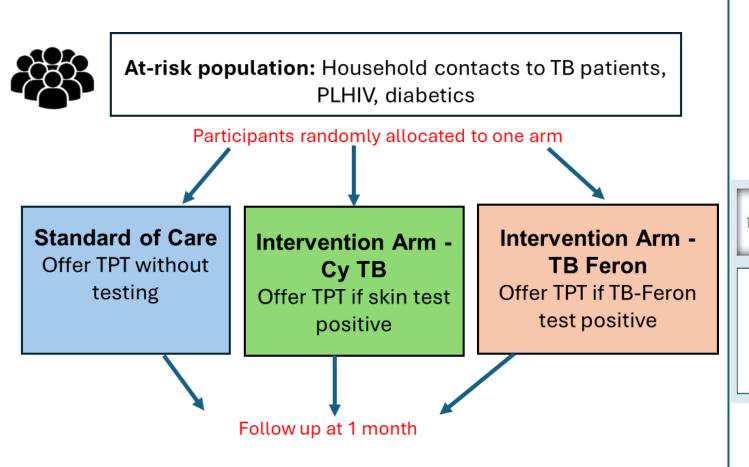
## TB infection cascade of care

## **Diagnostic tests used for TB infection, by country, 2023**



Of the 38 countries reporting no use of tests for TB infection, 27 were in WHO African Region

# What is the role of novel tests for TBI for provision of TPT in Zambia?

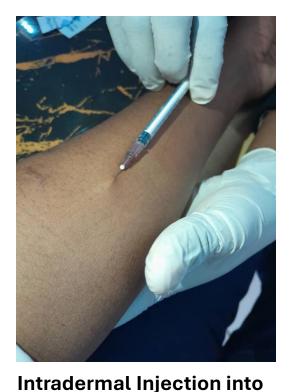


## Reference test :QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus



# We need a test that is fast, accurate and cost-effective in detecting TB infection in LMICs

## **Cy-TB Skin Test**

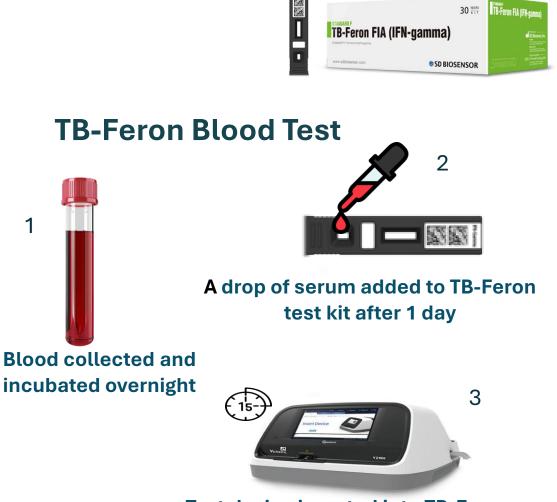


the skin

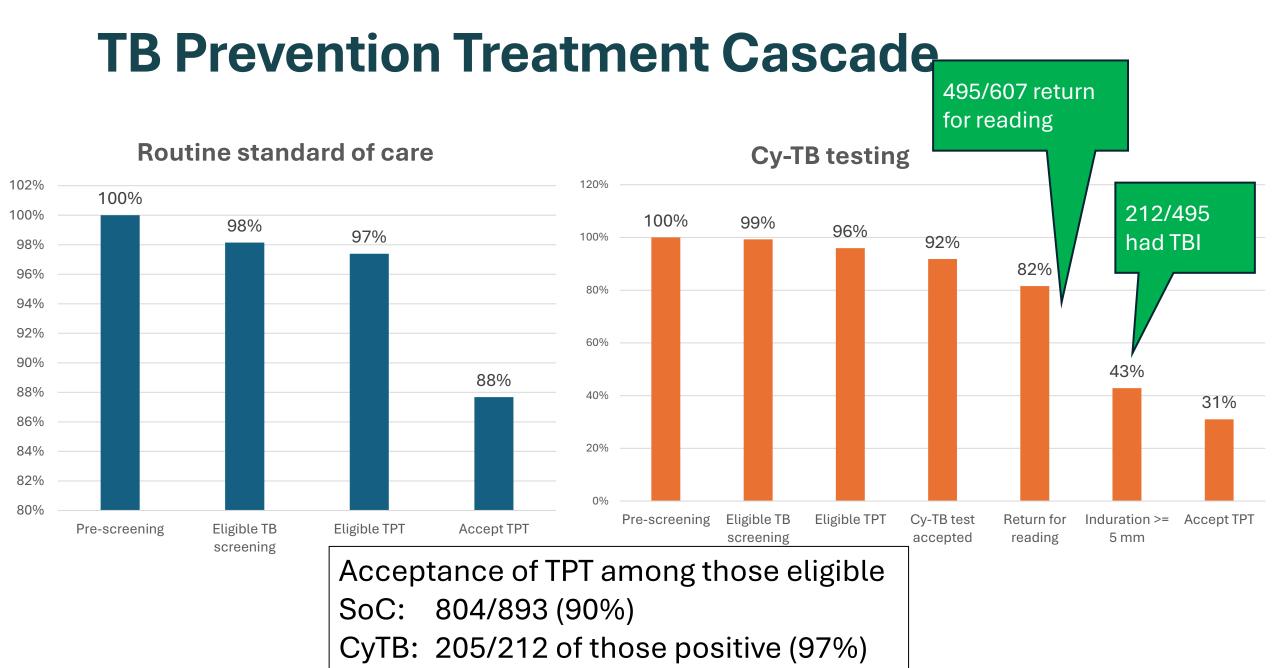


Reading of induration 2-3 days later

dESAT-6 and rCFP-10



Test device inserted into TB-Feron analyzer machine and results available in 15 minutes



## Performance of novel tests compared to QuantiFERON-Gold Plus

	QFT- positive	QFT- negative	Total		QFT- positive	QFT- negative	Total
TB-Feron-positive	73	16	89	Cy-TB positive	52	9	61
TB-Feron-negative	14	98	112	Cy-TB negative	27	74	101
Total	87	114	201	Total	79	83	162

Cy-TB cut off-universal 5mm

Sensitivity and Specificity					
	TB Feron	Cy-TB			
TBI-prevalence	89/201 (44%)	61/162 (38%)			
TBI-Prevalence QFT	87/201 (49%)	79/162 (49%)			
Sensitivity	73/87 (84%)	52/79 (66%)			
Specificity	98/114 (86%)	74/83 (89%)			

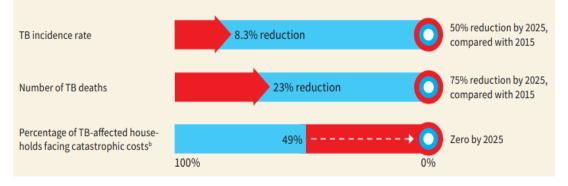
- TBI positivity rate lower novel tests compared to QFT-Plus
- TB-Feron had higher sensitivity than Cy-TB
- Evaluating the accuracy of TBI tests in diagnosing TBI remains a problem since there is no "gold standard"

## Looking towards the future

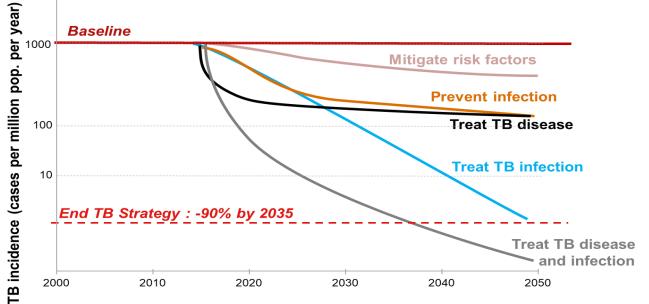
- TB infection testing with novel tests produces comparable results to QFT gold plus and can be implemented at primary care level
- TB-Feron had higher sensitivity than Cy-TB but had more operational challenges in our setting
- Uptake of TPT is high (~90%) among those eligible with novel tests
- INVEST in systems for TBI testing
  - Development of tests that don't require lab infrastructure or a second visit for reading
  - Tests or biomarker signatures that are more predictive for TB disease
- TREAT TB disease and Infection to end TB
- Primary results of our trial (role of novel tests for TBI for provision of TPT) pending analysis soon

## Global TB milestones and targets: latest status<sup>a</sup> of progress

#### End TB Strategy, 2025 milestones



## The potential of TPT to accelerate the decline in TB incidence



From Dye C et al., Prospects for Tuberculosis Elimination. Ann Rev Public Health 2013. 34:271-86

Vasiliu A, et al. TB prevention: current strategies & future directions. Clinical Microbiology & Infection. 2024;30(9):1123-30.

## Acknowledgements



# Canada

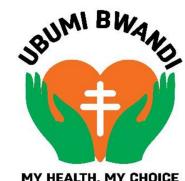






Partnership Progress Prosperity





**MY HEALTH, MY CHOICE** 



## **Innovations in Service Delivery**

Dr Stella Zawedde – WALIMU, Uganda

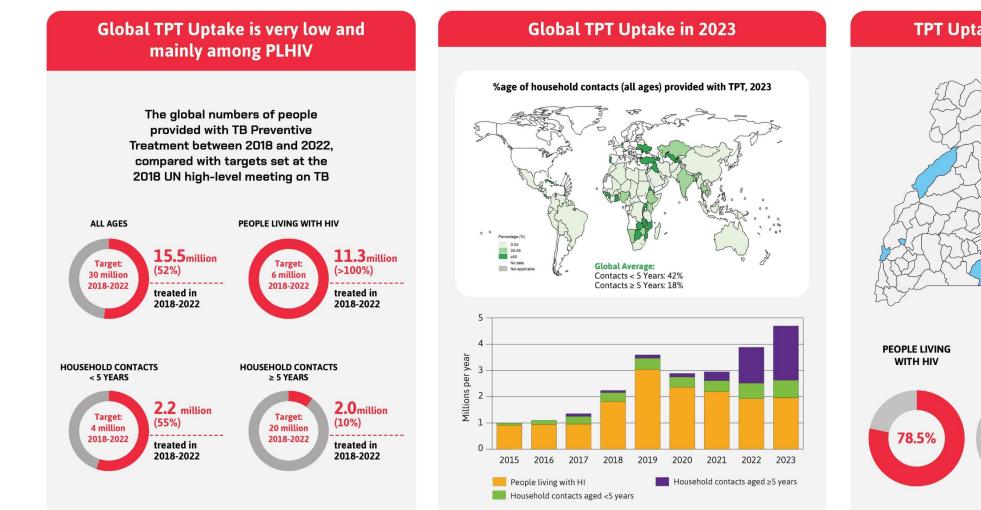
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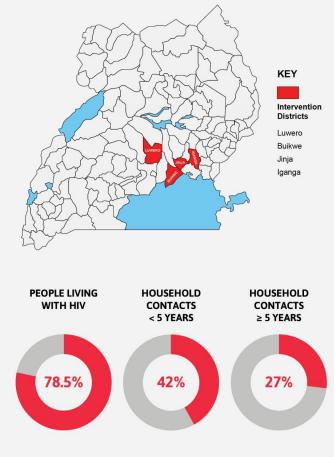
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## Introduction



#### **TPT Uptake in Uganda, 2022**







## Introduction

#### Challenges of Traditional Delivery Models for TPT



Crowded Health Facilities = Long Waiting Times = Missed Wages



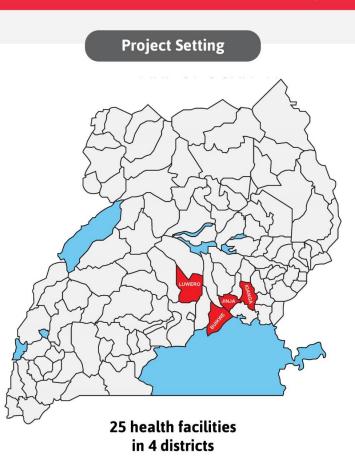
**Lack of transport fares** to come for medicine refills

Isoniazid	Tablets IP	
Solonex <sup>®</sup>		
सोलोरेक्स्	Kaptares Plares	
MACLEODS	© +91-798 408 2123	

Long treatment regimens



Few healthcare workers with multiple roles (little time to pay attention to contact screening and TPT delivery



#### **Project Setting and Objectives**

#### Project Objectives

## **Overall goal**

To increase TPT coverage among eligible household contacts < 5 years and PLHIV in accordance with the Uganda NTLP Strategic Plan.

## **Specific objectives**

- To increase the proportion of eligible household contacts
   <5 years initiated on TPT to ≥74%.
- To increase the proportion of eligible household contacts living with HIV initiated on TPT to >90%.
- To achieve 90% treatment completion rates for all people started on TPT.





## **Project Implementation**

The Expand TPT Project Implemented an Innovative Community-based Model for TB Preventive Therapy

## Health Systems Interventions to Improve Capacity for TPT Delivery

Trained CHWs to conduct home-based contact tracing

#### Provided shorter TPT regimens



**Community rider to support CHWs** 







## Community Interventions to Decrease Costs Associated with Accessing TPT

Increased community awareness about contact tracing and TPT to combat stigma



Home-based contact tracing



Home-based TPT initiation and refills







Home-based TST placing and reading





## Project Results, July 2023 - June 2024



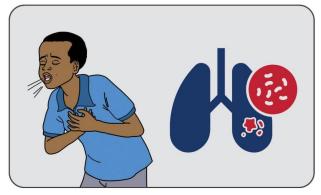
3,418 TB patients



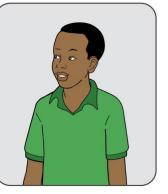
2,726 (80%) received a contact tracing visit



**16,226 contacts** (av. 6 contacts per patient)



612 were symptomatic112 patients diagnosed with TB and started on TB treatment



**15,614** were asymptomatic and eligible for TPT



**14,871 (95%)** were started on TPT

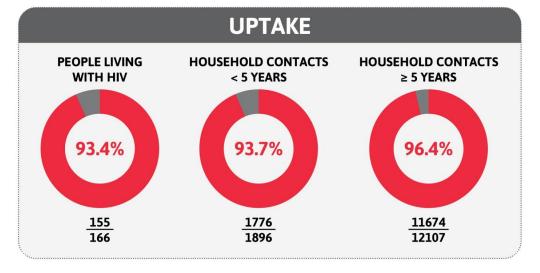


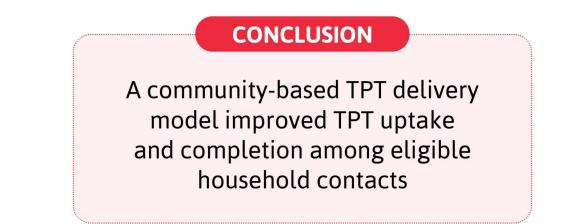
**11,463 ( 77%)** completed TPT





## Project Results, July 2023 - June 2024





# COMPLETIONPEOPLE LIVING<br/>WITH HIVHOUSEHOLD CONTACTS<br/>< 5 YEARS</th>HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS<br/> $\geq 5$ YEARS667.4%67.4%127119715511971176895511674

## **CALL TO ACTION**

Scale up of community-based delivery models should be considered by countries which seek to increase uptake and completion of TPT among household contacts.





# Acknowledgements





Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office











Yale school of public health



## TRANSFORMING LUNG HEALTH (TB) through INTEGRATED HOLISTIC SOLUTIONS

Mr Gustav Eschberger - Vertice

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## **OUR JOURNEY**



South African based healthcare company with a global reach

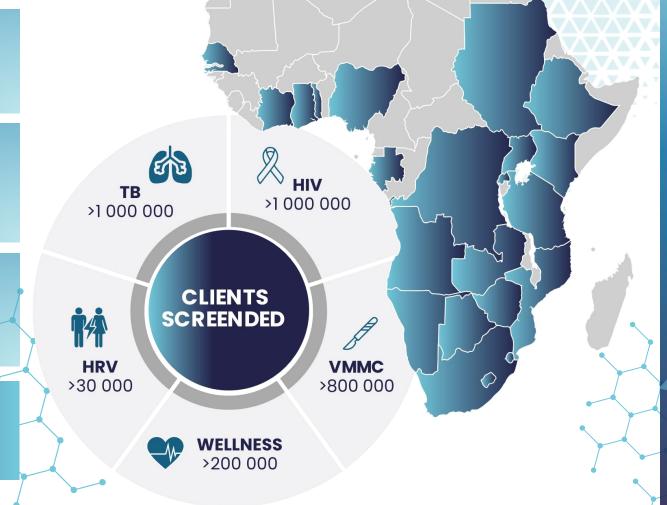
More than a decade of providing integrated, mobile healthcare and software solutions

Over **5 million lives** impacted, including Global Fund supported TB and HIV programs.

Programs implemented in over 20 Africa countries with expansion into South America and Australasia

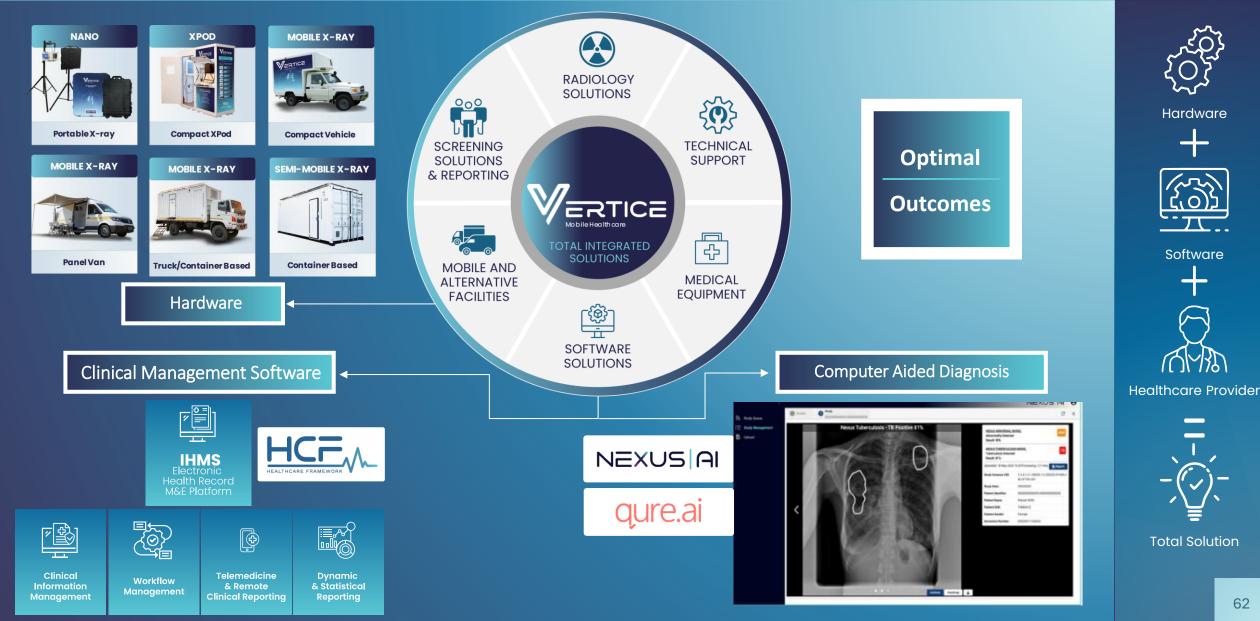
> CLIENTS SCREENDED WITH HCF





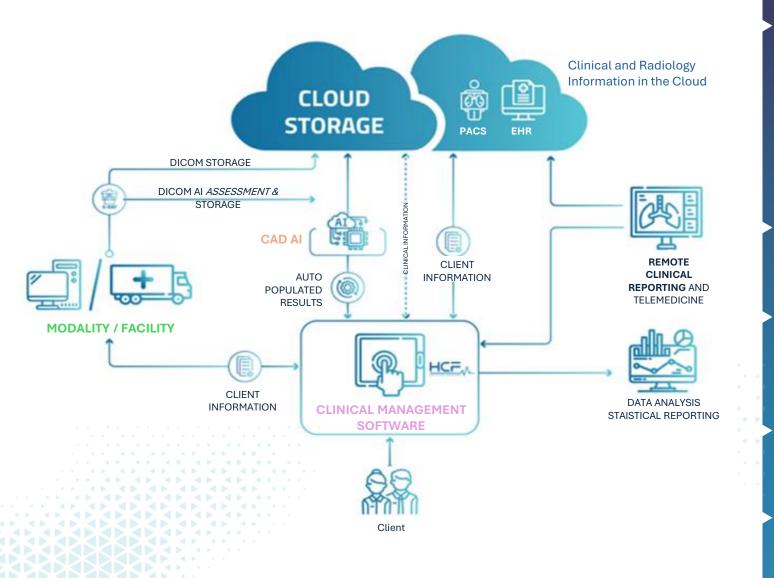
## **HOLISTIC INTEGRATED SOLUTION**





## **RESULT = COMPREHENSIVE ECOSYSTEM**





Full integration between Clinical Management Software, EHR (HCF), CAD Ai, PACS and Hardware systems enabling automated accurate data transfer.

Automated CAD Ai result population within EHR (HCF).

Built-in remote radiology reporting and telemedicine modules.

Dynamic real-time extracts, dashboards and BI reports.

Optimized outcomes.



## **LOOKING AHEAD**



## **OUR GOALS**

#### Scaling Innovations to End TB:

By expanding our innovations and encouraging transition from a product-centric approach to a comprehensive, solution-driven model, we aim to strengthen and accelerate the global effort to eradicate TB.

Expanding Mobile Healthcare Solutions: Extend our reach into new regions with enhanced mobile healthcare technologies and holistic solutions.

#### Innovative, Cost-effective Solutions:

Develop and implement cost-effective CAD AI tools (Nexus Ai) to enhance TB/HIV programs, facilitating accurate detection, CRRS, and seamless linkage to care. Collaboration with Google to drive costs down.

- Data Systems Integration: Adoption of Clinical Management Software (HCF) with integration of Nexus AI, improving workflow & case management, linkage to care and real time reporting leading to improved outcomes.
- LLM Integration:

Θ

Harnessing advanced tools, including LLMs, to enhance outcomes by integrating CAD AI results with clinical information from CMS / HCF, enabling data-driven insights for optimized patient care and actionable recommendations.

Sustainable Screening: Deploy integrated mobile solutions powered by sustainable energy for off-grid operations, utilizing Starlink and providing access to specialists(CRRS) worldwide thus improving healthcare delivery in remote areas.



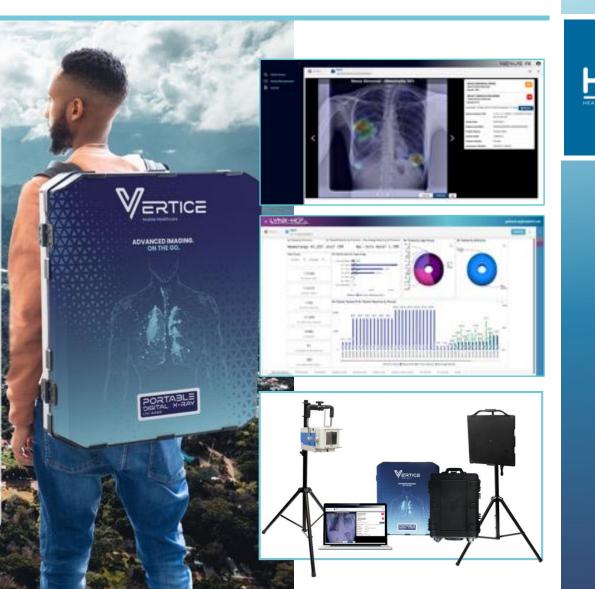
## **NEW INNOVATION – TB DCXR SCREENING PACKAGE**



Offer a comprehensive TB screening turnkey package whereby TB programs can get access to ultra portable Nano X-Ray, integrated CAD Nexus Ai and HCF Clinical Management Software included in all inclusive fixed licensed or rental model.

Reducing the need for complicated CAPEX and procurement processes, our licensed package will include:

- Ultra portable X-Ray unit.
- CAD Ai software.
- HCF M&E (EHR) software.
- Technical support.
- 3 Year unlimited usage license.



## **NEW INNOVATION – AUTOMATED XPOD**



€SULVE

No and Arrow in the



#### IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE

The X-POD is a CXR facility that allows for comprehensive lung health screening integrated with CAD Ai and HCF Clinical Management Software allowing immediate results.

The X-POD ensures a **radiationcontrolled environment**, fully compliant with international radiation safety standards.

Versatile and can be strategically placed at entry points such as borders, airports and settings requiring screening for lung health or infectious diseases.

Portability, ease of deployment, minimal operational footprint and equipment less prone to damage. Empowering Lung Health with Precision Radiology

VERTICE

Högrated health Management System (Hwa

crititung Houlih Screening

## **NEXUS AI - COMPUTER AIDED DIAGNOSIS (CAD)**



Nexus AI, developed in collaboration between Nexus and Google LLC, is an advanced chest X-ray algorithm designed for detecting findings in chest X-rays.

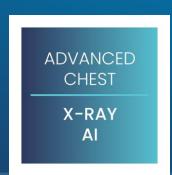
The AI model can classify X-rays as:

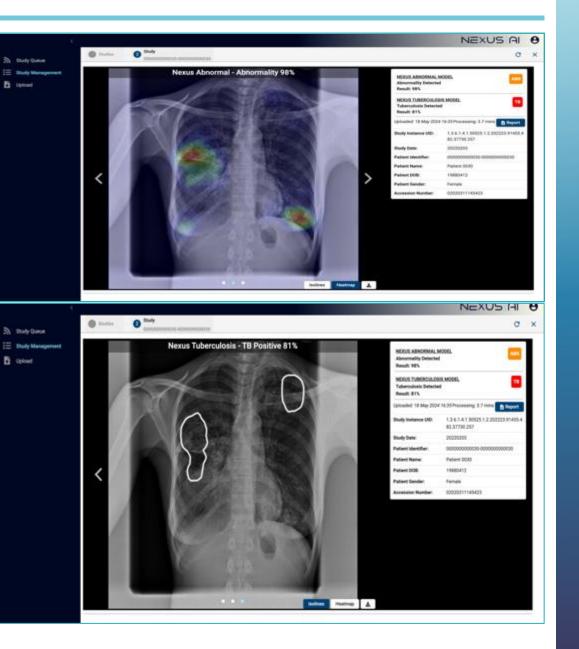
- Normal/Abnormal
- TB Suggestive/Non-TB Suggestive

## Outputs include:

- Heatmap secondary capture
- Abnormality score
- Classification

Evaluated by StopTB and top CAD AI for TB Screening (Published in The Lancet)





## AI COMPUTER AIDED DETECTION (CAD) - NEXUS AI



## Computer-aided detection of tuberculosis from chest radiographs in a tuberculosis prevalence survey in South Africa: external validation and modelled impacts of commercially available artificial intelligence software



Summany



NEJM AI 2024; 1 (10) DOI: 10.1056/Aloa2400018

oa

Articles

#### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Prospective Multi-Site Validation of AI to Detect Tuberculosis and Chest X-Ray Abnormalities

Sahar Kazemzadeh @, B.S.,<sup>1</sup> Atilla P. Kiraly <sup>©</sup>, Ph.D.,<sup>1</sup> Zaid Nabulsi <sup>©</sup>, M.S.,<sup>1</sup> Nsala Sanjase <sup>®</sup>, MBChB.,<sup>2</sup> Minyoi Maimbolwa <sup>©</sup>, B.S.,<sup>2</sup> Brian Shuma <sup>®</sup>, D.M., M.P.H.,<sup>2</sup> Shahar Jamshy <sup>®</sup>, Ph.D.,<sup>1</sup> Christina Chen <sup>®</sup>, M.D.,<sup>1</sup> Arnav Agharwal <sup>®</sup>, M.S.,<sup>1</sup> Charles T. Lau <sup>®</sup>, M.D., M.B.A.,<sup>3</sup> Andrew Sellergren <sup>®</sup>, B.A.,<sup>1</sup> Daniel Golden <sup>®</sup>, Ph.D.,<sup>1</sup> Jin Yu <sup>®</sup>, M.S.,<sup>1</sup> Eric Wu <sup>®</sup>, M.S.,<sup>1</sup> Yossi Matias <sup>®</sup>, Ph.D.,<sup>1</sup> Katherine Chou <sup>®</sup>, M.S.,<sup>1</sup> Greg S. Corrado <sup>®</sup>, Ph.D.,<sup>1</sup> Shravya Shetty <sup>®</sup>, M.S.,<sup>1</sup> Daniel Tse <sup>®</sup>, M.D.,<sup>1</sup> Krish Eswaran <sup>®</sup>, Ph.D.,<sup>1</sup> Yun Liu <sup>®</sup>, Ph.D.,<sup>1</sup> Rory Pilgrim <sup>®</sup>, B.E., LLB.,<sup>1</sup> Monde Muyoyeta <sup>®</sup>, MBChB., Ph.D.,<sup>2</sup> and Shruthi Prabhakara <sup>®</sup>, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>

Received: January 8, 2024; Revised: July 31, 2024; Accepted: August 7, 2024; Published: September 26, 2024

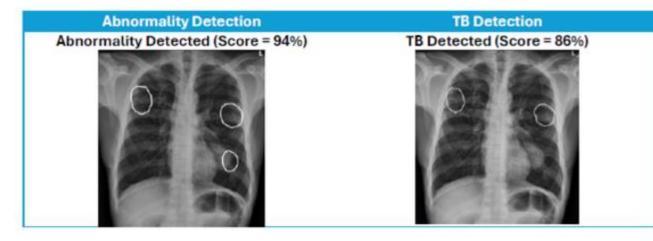
	Threshold	Sensitivity	Specificity		
Threshold to match 90% sensitivity					
Lunit	0.07	89.9% (85.6-93.3)	67.7% (63.5-71.7)		
Nexus	0.48	89.9% (85.6-93.3)	67.1% (62.9-71.2)		
JF CXR-2	0.23	89.5% (85.1-93.0)	62.7% (58.3-66.9)		
qXR	0.18	90-3% (86-0-93-6)	62.3% (57.9-66.5)		
ChestEye	0.08	89.1% (84.7-92.7)	61.3% (57.0-65.5)		
Xvision	0.11	89.9% (85.6-93.3)	58-6% (54-2-62-9)		
CAD4TB	3	89.9% (85.6-93.3)	55.7% (51.3-60.0)		
InferRead	0.26	90-3% (86-0-93-6)	54.9% (50.5-59.3)		
Genki	0.02	89.5% (85.1-93.0)	54-5% (50-1-58-9)		
TiSepX-TB	0.18	89.9% (85.6-93.3)	48.0% (43.6-52.4)		
XrayAME	0.02	88.4% (83.8-92.0)*	36-9% (32-8-41-3)		
RADIFY	0.02	82.6% (77.4-87.0)*	32.5% (28.5-36.7)		
Threshold to match 70% specificity					
Lunit	0.09	89.5% (85.1-93.0)	70-2% (66-1-74-1)		
Nexus	0.54	88.8% (84.3-92.3)	69.8% (65.7-73.8)		
qXR	0-32	86.8% (82.1-90.7)	70-2% (66-1-74-1)		
JF CXR-2	0-4	86.4% (81.6-90.4)	70-0% (65-9-73-9)		
ChestEye	0-11	86.0% (81.2-90.0)	69-6% (65-5-73-6)		
InferRead	0-37	85.7% (80.8-89.7)	70-4% (66-3-74-3)		
Xvision	0-14	85.7% (80.8-89.7)	69-6% (65-5-73-6)		
Genki	0-09	84.5% (79.5-88.7)	70.6% (66.5-74.5)		
CAD4TB	12	81.0% (75.7-85.6)	70-6% (66-5-74-5)		
TiSepX-TB	0-29	77.5% (71.9-82.5)	70-8% (66-7-74-7)		
XrayAME	0.13	68.6% (62.6-74.2)	70.6% (66.5-74.5)		
RADIFY	0-57	43-4% (37-3-49-7)	71-0% (66-9-74-9)†		

\*The closest sensitivity to 90%. †The closest specificity to 70%.

Table 2: Computer-aided detection performance compared with 90% sensitivity and 70% specificity target values

## LLM / GPT for Report Generate and Peds Diagnosis





#### Chest X-Ray Report Summary:

This chest x-ray shows suspicious areas in your lungs called **opacities**. The x-ray shows **strong signs of abnormality which are highly indicative of tuberculosis (TB)**. The model used to analyze your x-ray is very confident in its prediction of both abnormalities and TB.

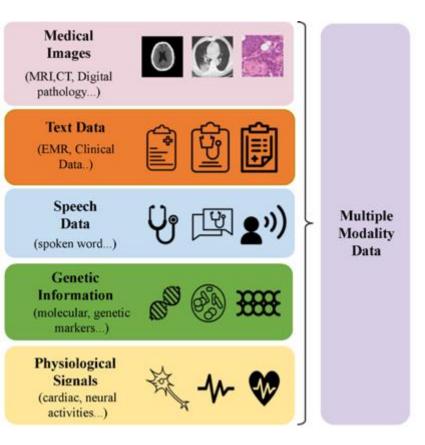
Location:

- Right Upper Lung: A dense area is present, suggesting consolidation (fluid buildup) which is common in TB.
- Left Upper Lung: A similarly dense area is seen, with a possible cavity. Cavities are concerning and often indicate
  active TB.
- Left Lower Lung: A smaller, defined nodule is present, possibly a granuloma, another hallmark of TB infection.

#### Key Findings and What They Might Mean:

- The opacities in both upper lungs, particularly the possible cavity, strongly suggest TB.
- The presence of possible granulomas further supports this diagnosis.
- While other conditions can cause similar findings, the combination and location of these abnormalities point towards TB.

## \* CAD results combined with clinical information from CMS for better LLM outputs and suggestions



## **RETROFITTING EXISTING CXR CAPACITY**



## Can be installed on current install base to increase TB screening footprint.



#### Benefits of a DR Upgrade Kit for TB Programs:

#### Seamless Transition to Digital:

Allows for a smooth transition from outdated film or computed radiography to advanced digital systems. This <u>cost-effective</u> upgrade enhances diagnostic accuracy without the need for entirely new X-ray machinery. (Quarter of the price of new DR system)

#### **Advanced Diagnostics:**

Integrated CAD Ai technology, ensures early and accurate detection of TB and other lung conditions, including atypical cases and simultaneous screening for COPD and malignancies.

#### **Comprehensive Package:**

Complete with digital detector panel, CAD software, a high-performance workstation, and installation services—ensuring a smooth, efficient upgrade process

## Quarter of new DR system price

## **PROVEN IMPACT**



## REACHING THE HARD TO REACH - SOUTH AFRICAN ACTIVE TB CASE FINDING - COMMUNITY AND FACILITY BASED DIGITAL CHEST X-RAYS WITH CAD AI AND M&E.

In a collaborative venture with the Global Fund, the South African Department of Health has introduced an innovative TB screening program. This initiative unites active case finding in both facilities and communities with state-of-the-art digital chest x-ray technology, supplemented by advanced computer-aided detection (CAD) AI and an integrated monitoring and health management system (HCF) to streamline the screening process, case management, diagnosis, linkage to care while offering real-time data analytics.

## From 6000 to over 30 000 screenings

9 Provinces covered across South Africa Through our integrated solutions and **HCF Clinical Management Software**, monthly screenings have increased from fewer than 6,000 to over 30,000 delivering impactful, scalable healthcare outcomes.

#### 33 Mohile

Mobile X-Ray Clinics with HCF M&E and CAD Ai

#### > 450,000 Individuals screened to date

> 8,500 Individuals initiated on TB treatment



MOBILEX-RAY CUN



Mobile Healthcare

ERTICE

## **EMAIL**

andries.vorster@vertice.co.za andries@healthcf.com

## ADDRESS

VER BOS

Menlyn Central Office Building Floor 9 Dallas Avenue 125 Waterkloof Glen Pretoria 0010 NUMBER +27 12 997 3954 +27 82 552 5006



WEBSITE www.vertice.co.za www.healthcf.com





### The potential of CAD for aiding TB diagnosis in children

**TB REACH Wave 7** 

Dr Monde Muyoyeta Centre For Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ)

#### **STOP TB PARTNERSHIP**

38th BOARD MEETING

12–14 December 2024 • Abuja, Nigeria



# **TBREACH** Wave 7: Childhood TB Project

#### Study Purpose and Objectives

- To improve TB case detection rates and access to TB preventive therapy in children
- To evaluate and validate innovative TB screening and diagnostic tools so that their use in childhood TB case finding can be optimized

#### Objectives

• To increase TB case detection in Children

#### Secondary Objectives

- To assess KAP of health workers and caregivers towards childhood TB
- To validate CAD4TB and evaluate CRP as TB screening tools in children 5 years and above.
- To evaluate novel screening and diagnostic tools and tests in children less than 5 years

Stop Purplers and valid ately boratory methods for stop Apert ultration of the stop of the

### **TBREACH** Wave 7- Outputs

#### Successes

- Health care worker training on childhood TB
- Community Health care worker training on childhood TB
- Improved access to CXR services at both facilities
- Access to LAM- for undernourished
- Strengthened contact tracing
- Nutritional Support to all diagnosed with TB
- Increased TB case detection

#### Lessons learned adopted by NTLP and TBLON



Summary Indicators	Target	Performance	% Achieved
Number screened for TB	11831	5185	43.8
Number with presumptive TB identified (Facility/ADS)	2833	2103	74.2
Number with TB diagnosis (Facility/ADS))	250	429	171.6
Number with TB linked to care (Facility/ADS)	250	407	162.8
Initiated on IPT	2009	532	26.4

### **Background: Rationale for CAD**

- ~1 million children develop TB every year
- ~63% never access TB diagnosis & treatment or are not reported
- Diagnosing TB in Children presents numerous of challenges including:
  - Wide spectrum of disease manifestations and symptoms that overlap with other common childhood conditions such as pneumonia, HIV-associated lung disease, and malnutrition

Canada

- Difficulties with collecting sputum from children.
- Other specimens have low sensitivity / specificity
- Diagnosis of TB in children is often made clinically (No confirmation)
- CXR is an important tool for childhood TB diagnosis but:
  - Difficult to read due to atypical presentation of TB in children
  - Lack of experienced staff/ or radiologists

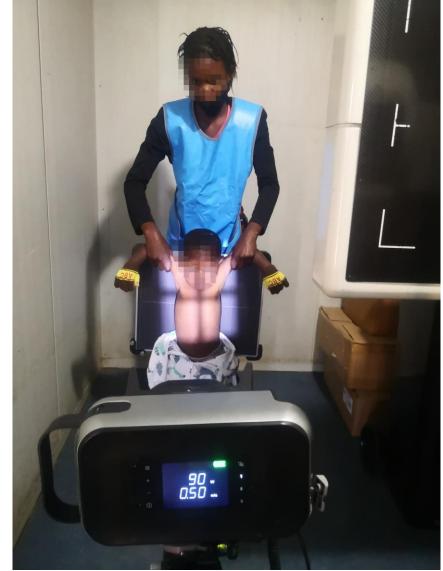
**B** Partnership

• Even radiologist may struggle to interpret child x-rays hosted by



## Background: Rationale for CAD

- Diagnosis of TB in children is often made clinically
  - Paucibacillary disease limitations of current diagnostics
  - Low sensitivity
- CXR is an important tool for childhood TB diagnosis but:
  - Difficult to read due to atypical presentation of TB in children
  - Lack of experienced staff/ or radiologists
  - Even radiologist may struggle to interpret child xrays
- Computer-aided-detection (CAD) for automated interpretation of CXRs may overcome these challenges
  - <u>CAD is not validated for use in children</u>
- There is urgent need for AI solutions to aid TB diagnosis in children

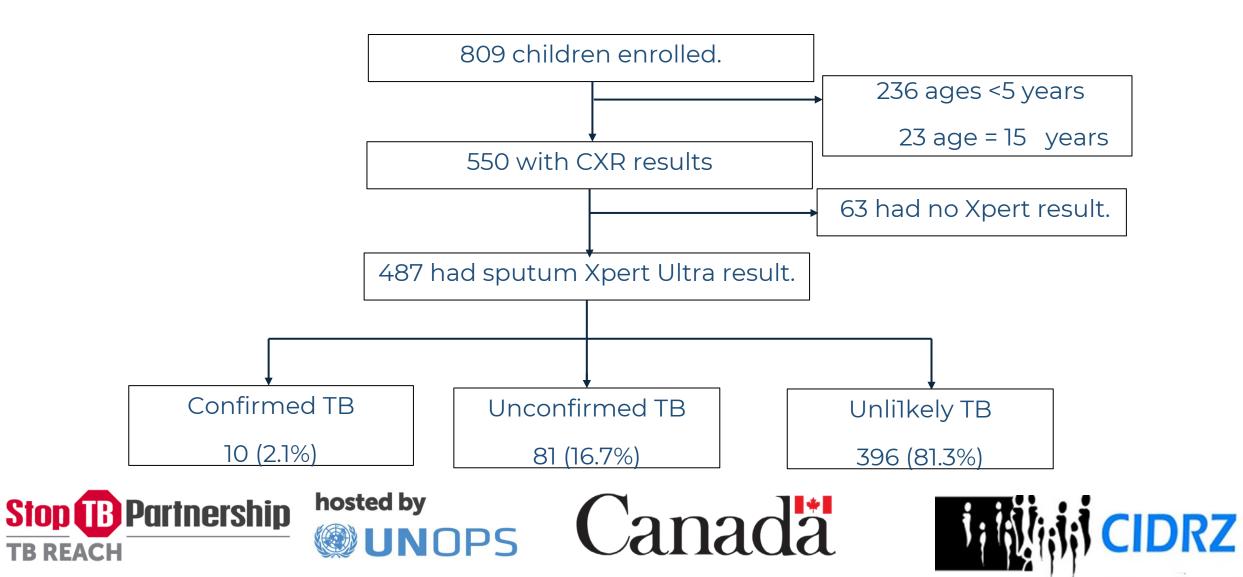


## New Tools, New opportunities

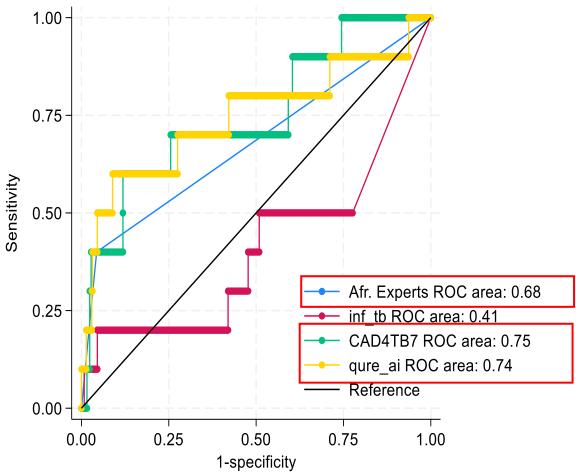
- Developments in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
  - Opportunities to overcome challenges of reading CXRs
  - Improve screening and diagnosis
  - Improve patient flow and access
- Ultra portable Xray units can increase access-Lower cost
- WHO approved and include use of Computer Aided Diagnosis (CAD) for TB in adults in 2021
  - Improve screening sensitivity
  - Perform equal and sometimes better than expert readers
- CAD is not validated for use in Children
  - There is urgent need for AI solutions to aid TB diagnosis in Children



### **Evaluation of CAD : Results**



### CAD performance



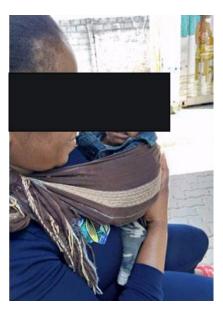
- 2 CAD systems performed better than Human expert readers
- All CAD software improved when compared to CXR scored as TB by >=3 experts
- 2 CAD Systems had excellent performance
- Offers option to create expert panel data base for training
- Data from this work will contribute to WHO Policy development on CDA use in Children

### Stories



- Baby SN was unwell for several months with regressing milestones
- "Baby SN was eventually referred to the HIV clinic for HIV testing. Whilst in queue at the HIV clinic, baby SN's grandmother listened to the childhood TB sensitisation that was being given by the TB REACH team and she decided to take the child to the open access point for TB screening"
- Baby SN was diagnosed with TB based on CXR findings, clinical presentation, and urine LAM results.
- "Baby SN has shown remarkable improvement, he has started walking and symptoms have subsided. He can now play with friends and his appetite has improved, and he has gained weight"





Two days later, after the mother started her treatment Tshawn's Aunt brought him to Kanyama First Level Hospital because he had fever and a cough. As she and the baby were seated in OPD waiting to be attended to, she heard the health sensitization on TB Childhood and decided to come through to TB Reach Open Access where the child was screened for TB. Tshawn had fever, weight loss, a productive cough for more than 3weeks, and had experienced some night sweats according to his Aunt, after registration, the child was subjected to Chest X-ray whose results came out Abnormal he was seen by the TB Reach Study Doctor and Gastric Lavage was done and the sputum results came out the next day in which MTB was not detected. However, the baby was put on TB treatment based on Chest X-ray and suggestive symptoms of TB.

### **Thank You**









TB REACH wave 11: Integrated Lung Health approaches







### How to Implement a Sustainable TB Connectivity Solution A Case Study of Ethiopia

Mr. Ernest Okot – Founder, MedX Intl

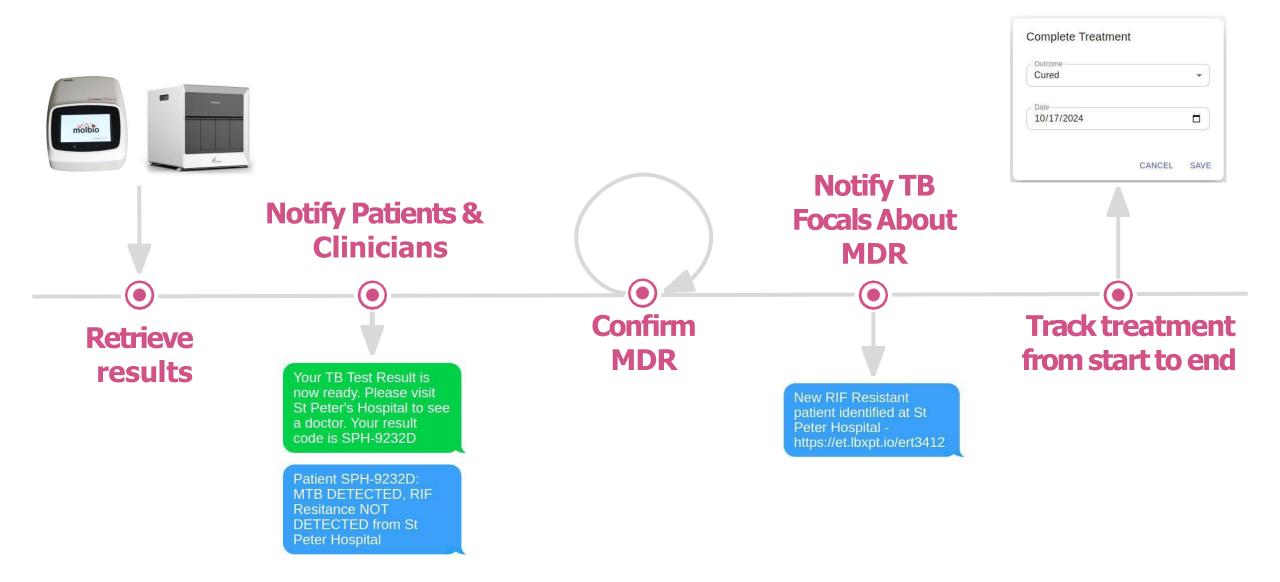
#### **STOP TB PARTNERSHIP**

38th BOARD MEETING

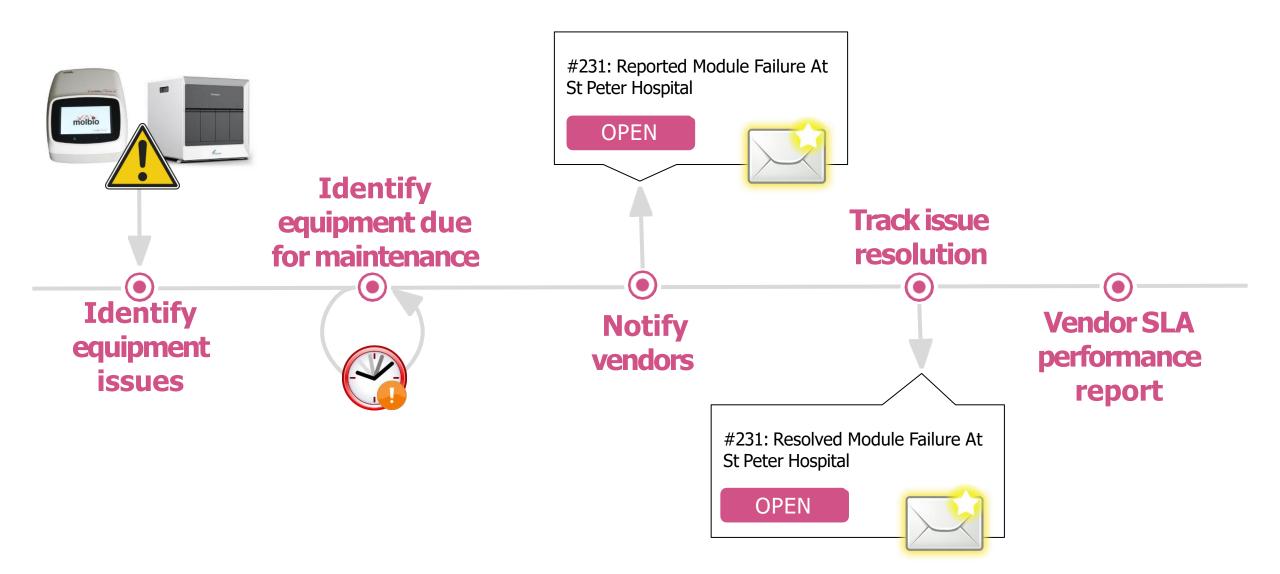
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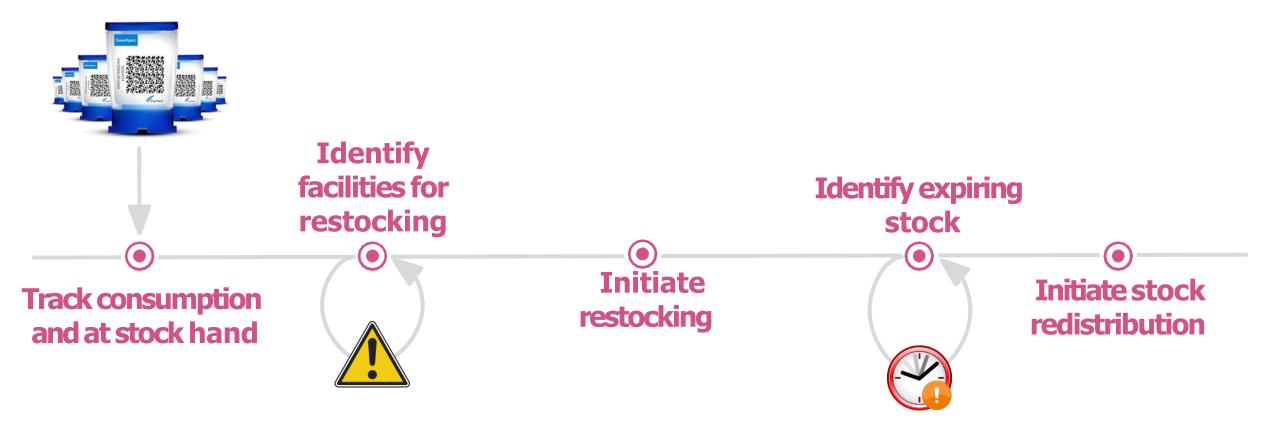
#### Connect critical patients to care in low resource settings



#### **Connect equipment vendors** for faster resolution of issues



#### **Connect the logistics network** to prevent stock out and expiry



# Serve as a platform for launching other digital innovations in the TB program

Realtime National Reporting Sample Referral Network Monitoring

Data Analytics and Dissemination Decision Support System

### The need for sustainability

Existing Models	Sustainable Model	
Provided on a recurring cost basis maintained by offshore teams running on global telecom infrastructure	Acquired with one time investment as a country owned solution maintained by a local team using local telecom infrastructure	
Cost Of C	wnership	
\$\$\$	\$	



# MedX introduced as a local connectivity solution in Ethiopia from 2022 to 2023

 Installation
 Training
 Capacity Building
 Technical Support
 Customisation









### 90% increase in digitally confirmed MDR

## ~946

MDR Digitally Confirmed 7 90%

### 300k+

Notifications Sent ∧ 377% 

# 53% increase equipment issues reported & resolved

# ~240

Issues Resolved ↗ 53% vs 2023

### ~295

~644

### **100% country owned** 100% locally maintained

# 85+

System changes made by local software engineers

**76%** 

Reduction in internet cost through negotiation between NTP & local telecom



### Join The Sustainable TB Connectivity Revolution

### Free Pilot Available

- 6 month Pilot
- <10% of equipment fleet
- 10,000 SMS included

https://medx.international sales@medx.international +256774290781

#### Acknowledgements

- STOPTB
- REACH Ethiopia
- USAID
- Eliminate TB
- MSH
- EPHI

#### **Special Thanks**

- Misikir Amare (Project Manager)
- Enanu Hunegnaw (LIS Coordinator)
- Mulugeta Worku (Software Engineer)
- Dinka Fidaku (Project Coordinator)



### Innovations in TB case finding -Implementation experience from Nigeria

Dr Odume Bethrand – Executive Director, KNCV, Nigeria

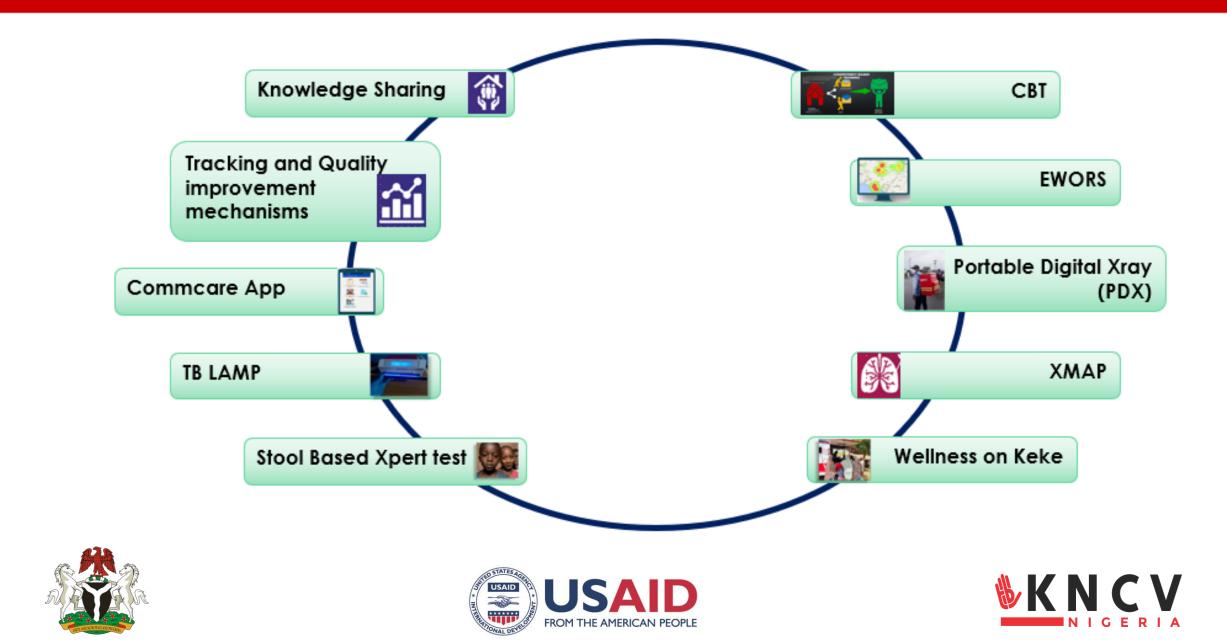


38th BOARD MEETING

12–14 December 2024 • Abuja, Nigeria



#### **PROGRAM INNOVATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES – 2020 to date**



#### Portable Digital X-ray (PDX) with AI and XMAP





- KNCV Nigeria partnered with Delft to pilot the use of PDX with AI and following a successful pilot, USAID funded the scale up with 7 additional PDX machines under the New Tools Project
- XMAP is a digital web-based platform with an automated process for digital x-ray reporting with inbuilt quality assurance system for optimized clinical TB diagnosis
- XMAP eases CXR interpretation and clinical TB diagnosis by specialist radiologists irrespective of the location where the TB services were provided and PDX machines are deployed
- In 2024 alone, 2,678 TB cases (31.7%) were diagnosed from 8,441 identified presumptive TB with a negative TB Xpert test result.
- These TB cases would have easily been missed within the program without the use of the PDX and XMAP





#### Wellness on Wheels (WoW)

The **Wellness on Wheels Truck "WoW"** is a motorized 20 feet container housing an Artificial Intelligence (AI) embedded digital x-ray machine, two 4 modular GeneXpert machines and a level 2 biosafety cabinet.

The WoW truck was introduced by KNCV with support from USAID in 2018, and integrates a CXR with AI, and 2 GeneXpert machines They were designed for mobile TB case finding targeting TB hot spots and hard to reach locations

Beyond testing for TB, the WOW truck is an excellent advocacy tool









#### Wellness on Keke (WoK)

The **Wellness on Keke "WoK"** innovation is a local solution, a rickshaw assembled in Nigeria by Innoson Motors. The WoK houses a portable digital x-ray with AI, and TB Lamp or Truenat molecular diagnostic machine, and serves as a one-stop-shop for TB services

The WoK can work in remote rural locations without electricity as it comes with a rechargeable battery and is also solar powered. It is aimed at reducing the cost of WoW since it is smaller and require less resources to achieve comparable results

From May 2023 to June 2024, the WoK has screened **224,379** persons for TB, evaluated **34,155 presumptive TB cases** and diagnosed and diagnosed **2,693 TB cases**.

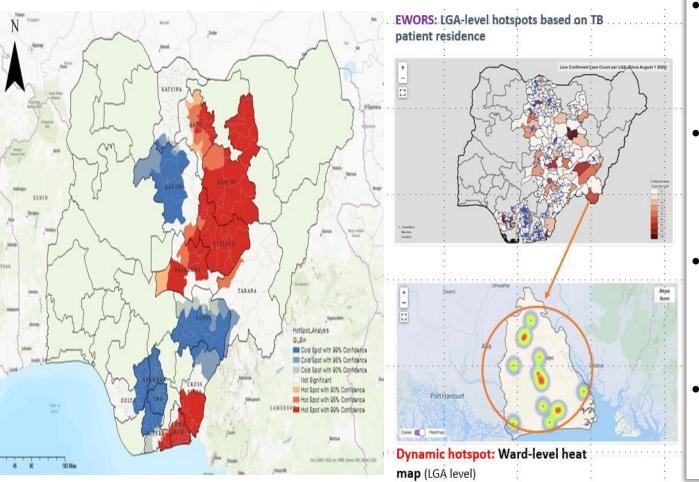








#### Early Warning Outbreak Recognition System (EWORS)



- Deployed by KNCV Nigeria for Community Active Case Finding under the USAID-funded TB LON Regions 1&2 in 14 states, 4 geo-political zones
- EWORS uses primary TB surveillance data for real-time **TB hotspot heatmaps and AI-based**
- This provides automated TB hotspot alarm email notification to TB teams with location-specific details; state, LGA and ward
- NTBLCP has now adopted EWORS nationwide for community active TB case-finding







#### **Truenat – battery and solar powered**



ation Truelux™ Standard Solar Panel Truelux™ Battery	
256W Continuous	
256W Continuous 768 Wh I 12.8V/60Ah	
LifePo4	
1x Port (DC5521) 24 V/10A (Wall charging) / 19V/9.1 A (Solar charging)	
Ix USB 5V/2A	
3x 5.5mm Port (DC 552) 10V/5A	
Discharge: -20°C to +60°C   Charge: 10°C to +45°C	
325 mm x 75 mm x 210 mm	
*Will vary based on the type of requirement	
1.5 kgs (excluding solar panel and battery)	
2000	
4S BMS	
4SIOP, LFP cell, 3.2V 6000mAh	
12 months standard warranty	
Compatible Solar Panels, DC Adapter	
Standard Solar Modules 200WP DC Adaptor 24V/10A	
OR BATTERY WITH BMS section. ad discharge	
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- Truenat test is a near point-of-care (POC), PCR-based test that detects MTBC and RR-TB with an inbuilt battery system that requires minimal infrastructure without dependency on environmental temperature
- In 2021, Nigeria received 38 Truenat donations from USAID-funded New Tools project
- Due to inadequate supply of electricity to charge the battery, some facilities experience service interruptions
- KNCV Nigeria, in collaboration with Molbio and NTBLCP installed a portable Truelux power package in a Truenat facility in Kano State to provide alternative power







#### **Stool based GeneXpert test + PrimeStore**

Nigeria commenced the implementation of **stool-based Xpert in 2020** in all GeneXpert laboratories nationwide

KNCV Nigeria has recorded an average TB yield of 5% from the stool Xpert testing contributing 4,548 (18.4%) of 24,682 pediatric TB cases diagnosed from January 2021 to September 2024 The stool test SOP stipulated that samples should be transported in cold chain and processed immediately in the lab preferably within 3 hours of collection for optimal results

> Most rural settings lack the cold chain transportation system, and it can take between 1 to 5 days for stool specimens to get to the lab which **contributes to the low TB yield**

**PrimeStore MTM** is a transport medium designed and optimized for molecular testing allowing pathogenic samples to be collected, transported, and processed safely and efficiently





**PrimeStore MTM** 

(INSI)



#### The future - Oral swab - Pulse life, Multiplex testing for TB DST and other diseases



- The Pluslife Mini Dock platform is a rapid molecular point-of-care diagnostic system that uses isothermal amplification technology
- The product is portable, and user friendly with short Turn-around-time of 35 minutes
- It is a multiplex testing platform with capacity to test for TB, Influenza virus, Respiratory syncytial virus, HPV, Trichomonas, Strep, Hepatitis C, Monkeypox, TB, Dengue, MRSA etc
- It has potentials for detecting XDR-TB and can be used for sputum and tongue swab specimens
- KNCV plans to evaluate the performance of Pluslife in a routine program setting in Nigeria







### Conclusion

Our innovations were built on a strong partnership and collaboration with the NTP, contributed to an improved TB case finding and strengthened NTP TB program guidelines and policies

















### From Implementation to Policy: Lessons from the Introducing New Tools Project (iNTP)

Dr. Lorraine Mugambi-Nyaboga - Centre for Health Solutions -Kenya (CHS)

#### **STOP TB PARTNERSHIP**

38th BOARD MEETING

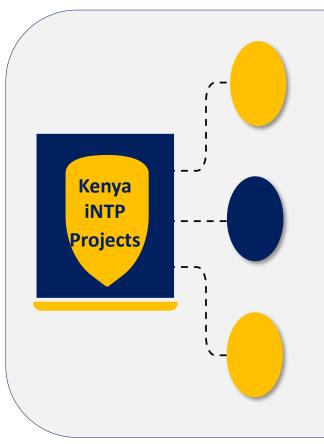
12–14 December 2024 • Abuja, Nigeria





#### Background

#### The Introducing New Tools Project (iNTP)-Kenya with funding from USAID and STOP TB Partnership (2021-2023)



Digital Adherence Technology (DAT) 2 Counties

TPT scale up (3RH/3HP)-47 counties

TIBULIMS – Diagnostic connectivity projectnational

#### Diagnostics

- **1. Trunat**-*33* counties
- **2. IGRA-***2* counties
- 3. Al-enabled Digital CXR -8 facilities

<image>

NEW











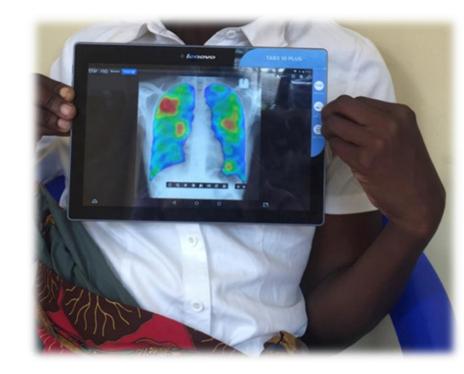
INTRODUCING



OOLS







### Implementing AI-enabled Digital Chest Xrays in Kenya



INISTRY OF HEA













#### **Digital Chest X-ray and CAD4TB**













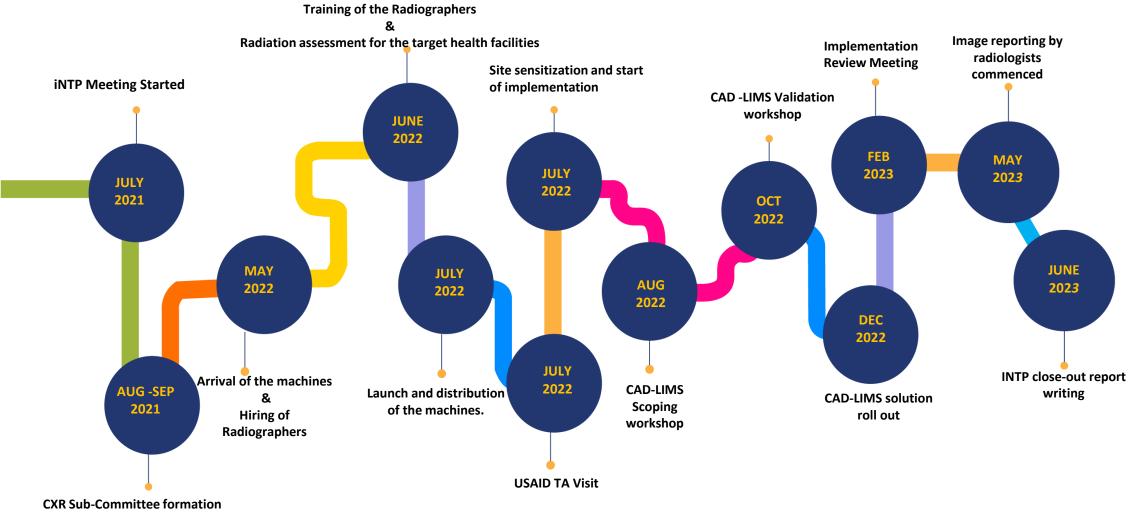








#### **Key Processes**









**Stop B** Partnership





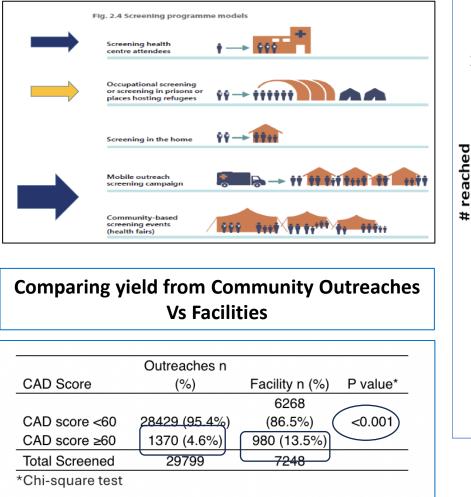


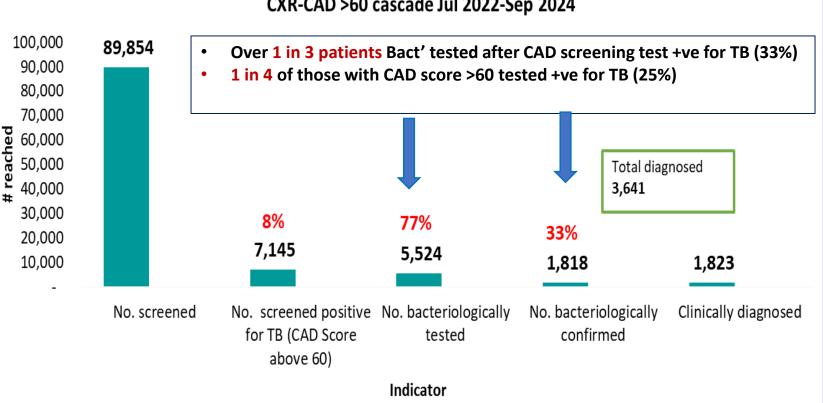


#### **Key Results**

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA** 

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

















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### Impact on Policy













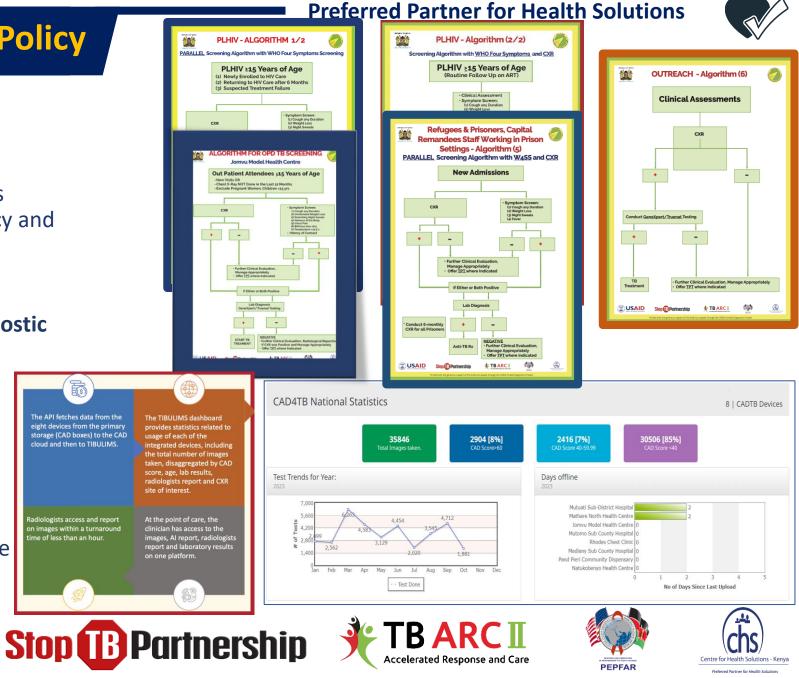


#### **Lessons Learnt and Impact on Policy**

- Defining Algorithms for different populations (algorithms are context specific)
- Integrating with MOH surveillance systems, is useful to provide collated data to inform policy and planning
- Integrating dCXR systems to TIBULIMS (diagnostic connectivity platform) through an Artificial Programming Interface (API)
  - device performance visibility,
  - access of images for reporting
  - generation of reports
- The clinical diagnostic interface-minimizing leakages in cascade: The critical role of linkage assistants.







#### Lessons Learnt and Impact on Policy

Impact on Case finding (up to 62% increase in some facilities)

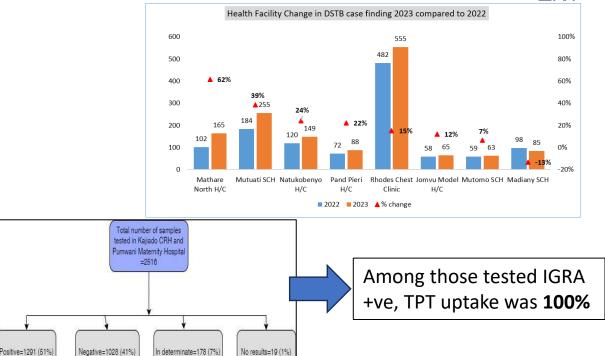
Diagnostic efficiency (>30%) of those dCXR+VE tested positive: The **positive yield on bacteriological testing** for those with high threshold scores is high

Roll out of the CAD-CXR screening paired with an mWRD is a **high yield intervention**.

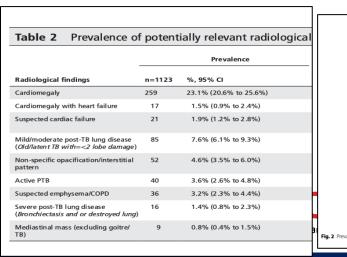
If not TB then what? Integrating TB and other Lung Diseases; -CXR picks additional abnormalities other than TB

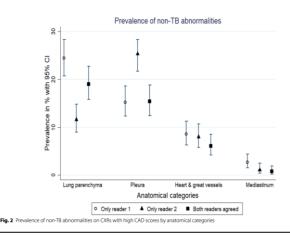
Prevention to End TB: The correlation between LTBI testing and TPT uptake

- Global Fund **scale up** considerations;
  - -Availability of an **in-country agent to reduce** the TAT for replacement of parts.
  - -Engagement of **sub-national leadership** for ongoing support supervision necessary for **sustainability**.
  - -For real impact, minimum of 1 dCXR/Subcounty paired with a mWRD
  - -X ray specifications, portability, software capabilities, conformity with regulatory processes -Sustainability at sub-national levels
  - -Radiologists and Quality Control; Radiologists added value for CAD4TB scores **between 40-60**



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We propose a tiered screening approach that integrates AI-dCXR and symptomatic screening, that pairs dCXR screening with mWRDs, and prioritizes the management of those screened +ve but **do not** have TB.....for holistic, person-centric care













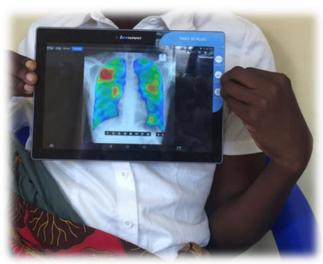


#### Acknowledgement

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#### Asante Sana!



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