



Experiences in scaling up childhood TB activities- Pakistan

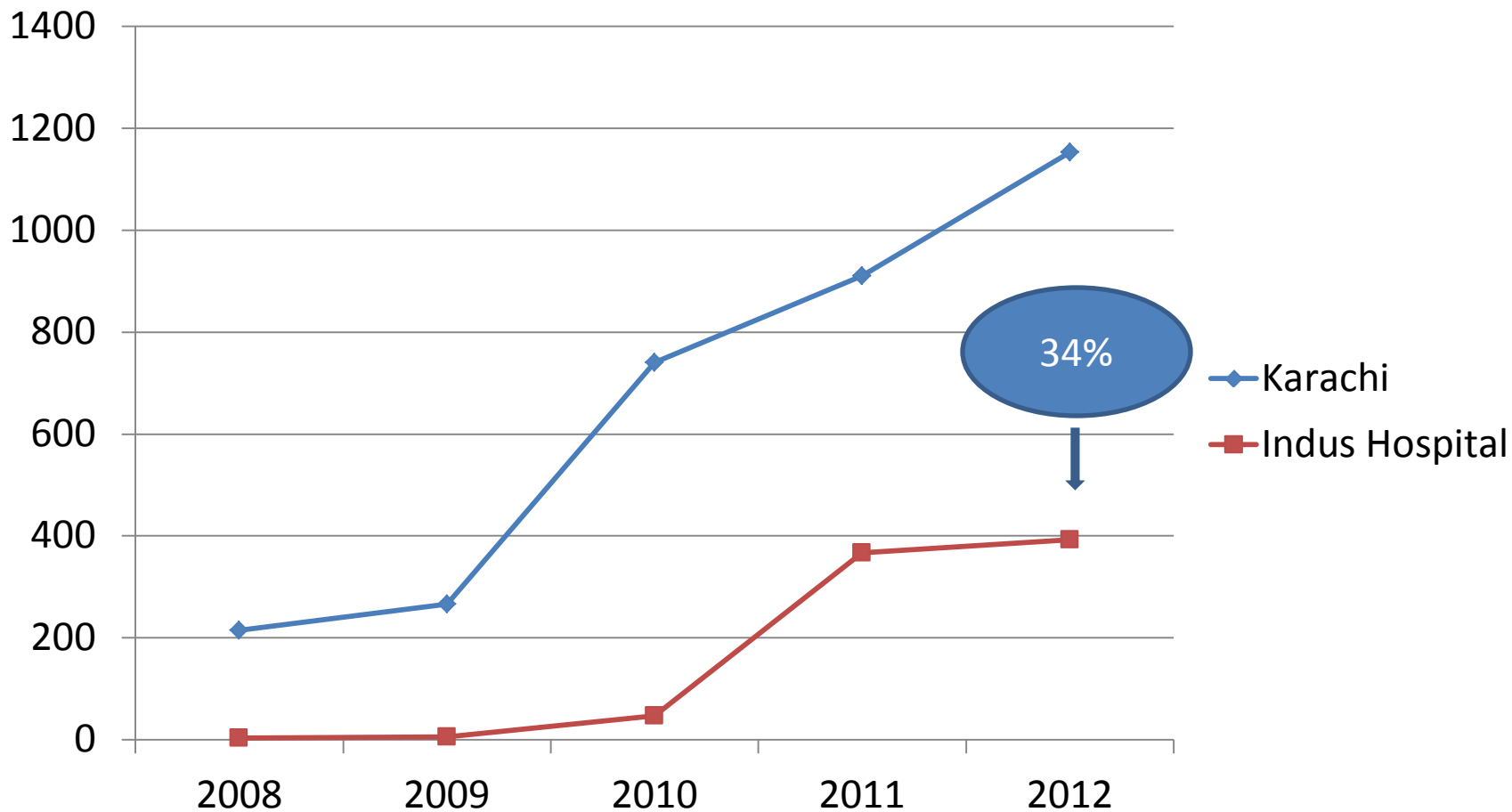
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Childhood TB subgroup meeting 29th October,
2013- Paris, France

Childhood TB in Pakistan

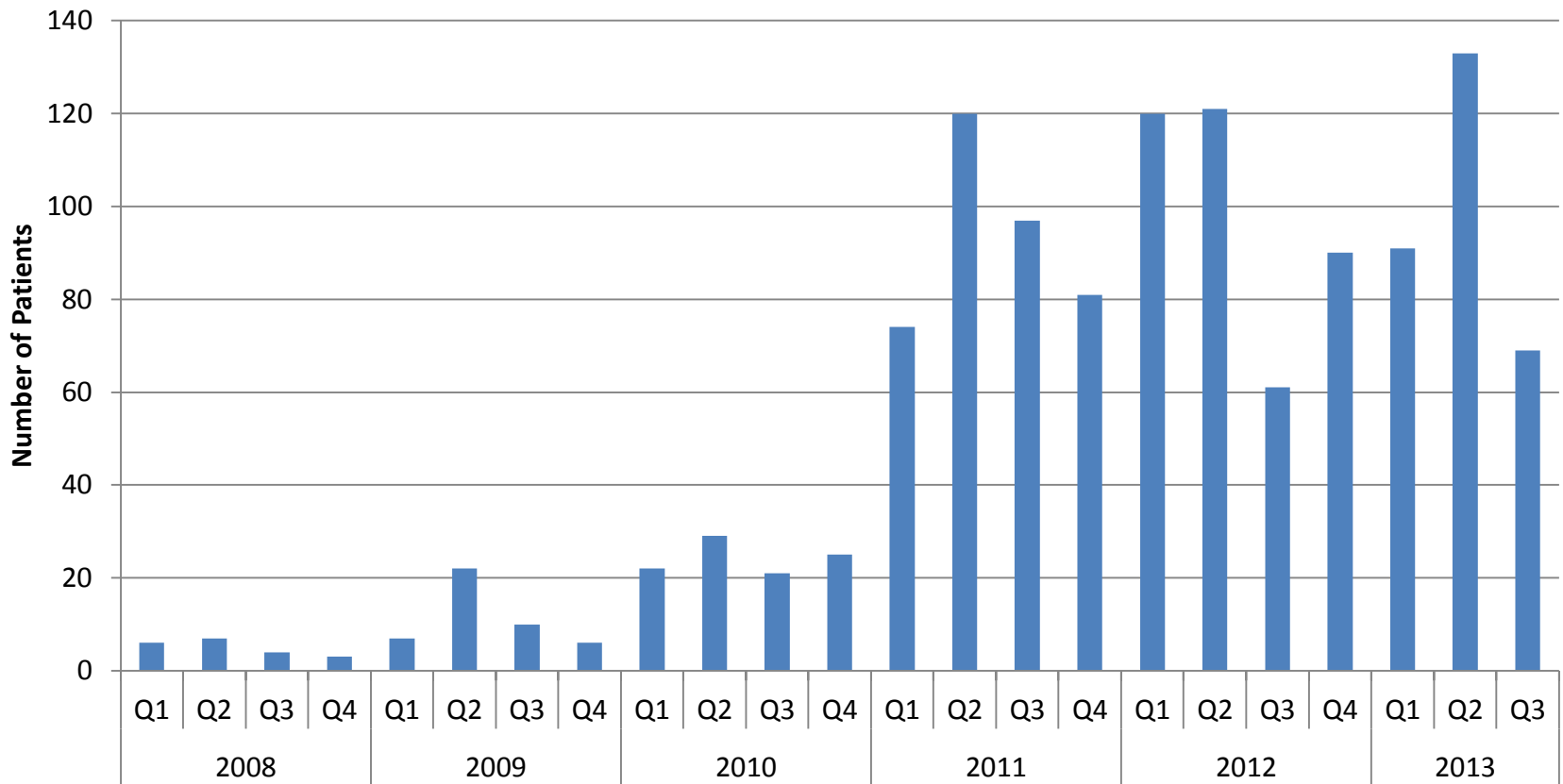
- TB Prevalence rate is estimated at 350/100,000 overall (child and adult cases)
- WHO 2012: Children comprise 10% of TB caseload-
 - 25733/255094
- Incidence of childhood TB: No data available.
In Pakistan 34.7% of the population is <15 year age.
 - Total <15 population:
 - $34.7/100 * 177 \text{ million} = 61.4 \text{ million}$
 - Incidence:
 - $25733/61400000 = 41.9$ or 42 cases/100,000 population
- Provincial TB data is notified disaggregated in 0-4 and 5-14 years categories
- BCG coverage is reported as 95% in Pakistan

Child TB case reporting from Karachi 2008-2012



Pediatric TB Patients Enrolled by Quarter

Indus Hospital TB Clinic 2008-2013



Private sector engagement in Karachi

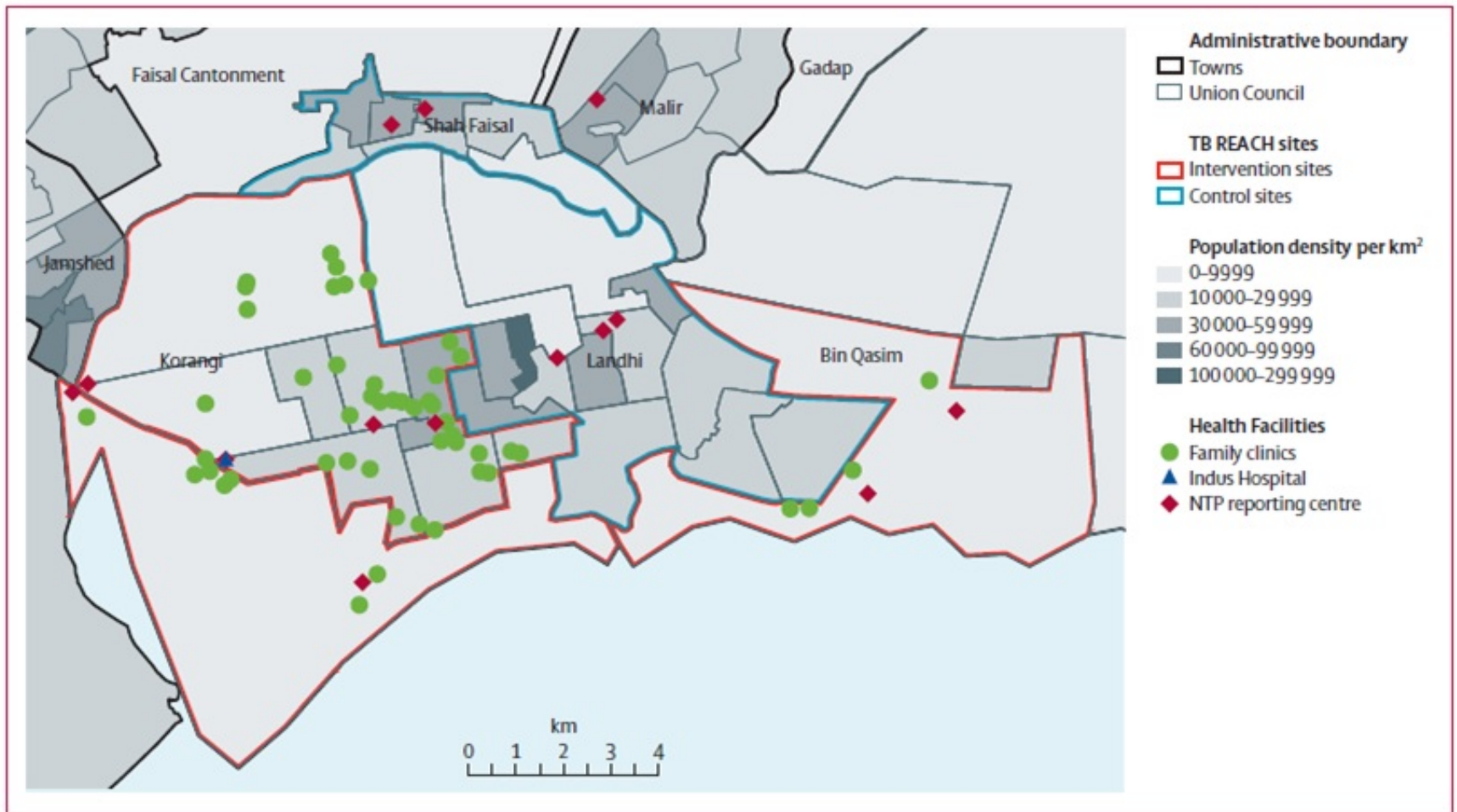


Figure 4: Map showing intervention and control area boundaries, and location of clinics and NTP reporting centres
NTP–national tuberculosis programme.

The NTP Pakistan-Childhood TB

1. Child TB guidance and desk guide- 2007
2. Child TB included in JMM 2010

JMM Recommendations:

- Update Child TB guidelines/ train NTP and non-NTP sector
- Introduce DOTS in children's hospitals
- Achieve high BCG coverage

Child TB activities

- Training of Trainers- Childhood TB Pakistan and Afghanistan (May 13-17, 2013)
 - Sub-regional Child TB workshop (Stop TB Partnership and NTP Pakistan)
 - 26 participants including GPs, Pediatricians, Chest Physicians, NTP workers.
- Objectives:
 - Increase case detection of TB in children
 - Improve the diagnosis and management
 - Increase implementation of child contact screening and preventive therapy
 - Improve quality of child TB data
 - Increase child TB case reporting from the private sector

Child TB training

- Training modules and course material were based on the NTP Child TB training- Cape town 2012
- Modules were adapted to Pakistan and Afghanistan's context.

Child TB training

- Review of National Child TB guidance
- An update of child TB knowledge, diagnosis and management in country context.

Participants:

- acquired a better understanding of the importance of child TB
- brainstormed for possible measures to improve child TB management in Pakistan
- developed a plan for conducting training and other child TB-specific activities

Child TB training- important outcomes

- In Karachi- Following the training a large public sector children's hospital started reporting child TB and is now the largest child TB reporting center in the city as of Q1 2013.
- Uptake of Xpert MTB/RIF for child TB diagnosis- NRL Islamabad- increasing numbers of gastric aspirates and sputum samples.

Child TB activities

- Rapid Assessment of Pediatric TB (TB Alliance/WHO) (August-September 2013)
- Objective: to understand under (or over) diagnosis and treatment in non-NTP facilities:
 - Identify points of care for child TB outside the NTP
 - Identify the presence of non-reported pediatric TB
 - Assess pediatric case records for TB
- The NTP supported and facilitated the assessment

Challenges

- Challenges identified- Rapid assessment.
 - Poor facility recording systems.
 - Lack of awareness that accurate data recording and reporting will inform/enable child TB drug procurement from NTP. Recording and reporting tools not always available.
 - PPM partnerships weak or lacking in the private/academic hospitals targeted.

Next steps in scaling up child TB activities

- Raise the profile of childhood TB in the National strategic plan to control TB.
- Identify a child TB champion who can work closely with the NTP and liaise with pediatricians, private hospitals and academia.
- Mandatory recording and reporting of child TB cases
- Steady supply of quality assured pediatric FDCs.
- Facilitate dissemination of updated National child TB guidance.

Next steps in scaling up child TB activities

- Facilitate dissemination of and training in the use of recording and reporting tools for child TB.
- Develop a clear referral system from private diagnostic centers seeing child TB suspects
- Inventory studies for child TB

