Xpert MTB/RIF: Opportunities to Enhance Private Provider Engagement

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Overview

In health and TB care provision:

• Private care providers matter

• They matter even for the poorest

• Their alienation makes matters worse

• They are successfully engaged in many settings

• Xpert offers opportunities to enhance engagement
Private care providers matter

Source: http://www.ps4h.org/globalhealthdata.html

Data: DHS
Source of Healthcare for < $1.25/day - Sub-Saharan Africa

Population that lives on less than $1.25

above $1.25/day: 44.9%
below $1.25/day: 55.1%

Source: [http://www.ps4h.org/globalhealthdata.html](http://www.ps4h.org/globalhealthdata.html)  
Data: DHS
Their alienation makes matters worse!

Source: Global Alliance for TB Drug Development, Annual Report, 2010
Private providers can be successfully engaged

Case notifications by PPM providers - 2009

Source: Global TB Report 2010
Xpert MTB/RIF: opportunities to engage private providers

- Only one manufacturer

- A "public-private partnership" product in itself

- Exclusive source of global supply….no "flooding" of the market yet

- Successful private sector engagement in Xpert field trials

- Pathfinder for inclusive introduction of future innovative and new tools
Using Xpert to enhance engagement?

Global

- Create inventory of Xpert buyers outside TB programmes

- Incorporate within the product literature, emphasis on the need to notify TB cases and manage them according to guidelines / standards

- Provide a protocol to collect essential information on Xpert use and results

- Maintain global database on Xpert use and results

- Offer Xpert machines at subsidized rates to NTP "affiliated" PPM providers
How to enhance engagement?

National / Local

• Seek and maintain inventory of Xpert owners

• Approach non-programme Xpert owners pro-actively to:
  – Present national guidelines/international standards
  – Offer training (if needed) and supportive supervision
  – Insist on notification of all TB cases
  – Ensure that the patients diagnosed are properly managed
  – Provide protocol to collect essential information on Xpert use and results

• Accept patients referred for treatment by private providers

• Provide access to Xpert to patients of PPM providers already linked to NTPs

• Use Xpert to attract informal providers for early referral of suspects
Conclusion

- The private care providers missed the DOTS train and are still struggling to catch up.

- It would be a mistake to ignore private care providers in early implementation of Xpert MTB/RIF.

- There are ways to engage private providers in TB diagnosis and treatment.

- There is a need to change the mindset from "public sector first" to "patients first" and "public and private together".
Contact

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