



ZAMSTAR is conducting clinical, epidemiological, anthropological and operational research on the interactions between HIV and tuberculosis in Zambia and South Africa.

Two interventions are currently being implemented:

- **Improved Case Finding** - By allowing individuals direct access to diagnostic services and empowering communities to seek care, we are reducing health system barriers and aim to reduce the number of people who are spreading infection.
- **Integrated TB/HIV care delivered through the household** - By harnessing the capacity of households and the community we are reducing the burden on the health system, increasing the coverage and efficiency of preventive and curative tuberculosis services and breaking down the barriers of stigma and denial.

This study is evaluating the interventions at the community level by conducting a community randomized trial, using a factorial design. The total population involved in the study is about 1.2 million people, consisting of about 50,000 people in each of 24 communities, 16 in Zambia and 8 in South Africa. Each community has been randomized to receive one of two interventions, neither intervention or both.

Our preliminary studies show that the interventions are feasible, affordable and likely to reduce the prevalence of tuberculosis by 30-50% within a few years.

**Progress as of 2008:**

- More than 4,000 people enrolled in the study;
- Rates of HIV testing amongst contacts exceeds 50%;
- More than 8,500 individuals have had sputum evaluations through the enhanced case finding intervention;
- More than 60,000 educational materials distributed to residents in participating areas every year since the beginning of the study.