

partners. Monitoring and evaluation of TB-HIV activities has also been strengthened and the flow of data is now rapidly increasing. As results of these efforts, TB-HIV data collected in the last six months show a dramatic and encouraging increase in the provision of TB-HIV service at ground level.

Conclusion: The strengthened and enhanced commitment and collaboration between TB and HIV Programmes at central level and the active involvement of all Regions and implementing partners allowed reaching promising results in the implementation of TB-HIV activities in Ethiopia.

PS-82357-20 TB prevention among HIV-infected people in public health clinics: strengths and weaknesses

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Background: THRio is an ongoing study, with a primary objective to provide TB prophylaxis to HIV infected people in order to prevent TB among those patients. This study has been developed in 29 health clinics, throughout Rio de Janeiro city, where over 15 000 people living with HIV are treated by a broad health professional team with different levels of knowledge about TB and AIDS.

Aims: The present qualitative study was designed to investigate experiences at four participating clinics of the study during the implementation of the intervention. We identified strengths and weaknesses and specific aspects concerning the ongoing TB prevention activities at the selected clinics.

Methods: Four health clinics were selected according their performance of IPT prescription (the best and worst performing clinics pre and post intervention). Interviews with physicians (7 HIV specialists and 3 TB specialists) and two Focus Groups (6 nurses and 6 local health administrators) were carried out.

Results: The main results were: 1) the lack of the doctors' knowledge about the protocol of TB prevention in HIV patients was the first difference identified in understanding the varying performances in the clinics; 2) the complexity of HIV treatment and HIV patients' lifestyle adversely affected TB prevention for those patients; 3) potential adverse effects of IPT were an important issue for the physicians and they were very concerned about that; 4) fragmented responsibilities, lack of integration among TB and HIV services and lack of management tools were the primary problems at the local level.

Lessons learned: To increase the sustainability of TB prevention for people living with HIV in the public health clinics, we need: new communication strategies for physicians; specific strategies and tools to mobilize local management; and novel and more broad training models for health professionals.

PS-82460-20 Assurance de qualité des comptages de CD4 au laboratoire TB en RD Congo

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Contexte : Le projet IHC de L'Union introduit dans 12 centres pilotes le comptage manuel des CD4 au laboratoire de la TB, où le microscope est souvent seul équipement disponible. Comme pour la TB, l'assurance de qualité (AQ) est un enjeu essentiel. A la différence de la tuberculose il n'est pas possible de fixer des lames de CD4 et de les acheminer vers un laboratoire de référence.

Méthode : La méthode se fonde d'une part sur la conformité de la procédure avec les spécifications du fabricant, évaluée par supervisions du laboratoire provincial de référence, et d'autre part sur une double lecture en aveugle du même échantillon, réalisée par deux techniciens différents du même centre. Les perceptions des laborantins sont recueillies lors des supervisions et d'une enquête indépendante.

Résultats : Le principe est bien compris et accepté par un personnel familier avec la tuberculose. La charge de travail est acceptable, mais appelle rétribution. Fin 2007, le laboratoire de référence juge la procédure conforme, et la concordance est bonne. Les résultats fin juin 2008 seront présentés.

Conclusion : Dans un contexte où l'infrastructure est limitée, l'AQ du comptage manuel des CD4 élargit la qualité du laboratoire et permet d'offrir aux cliniciens des résultats fiables. La rotation des personnels de santé ne pose pas de problème tant qu'un technicien performant reste pour former son nouveau pair. La rémunération adéquate de services de laboratoire gratuits pour le patient constitue un enjeu de la qualité.

VACCINES/DRUG DEVELOPMENT/ CLINICAL TRIALS AND TB TREATMENT/ OTHER

PS-81470-20 Genome wide proteomics of Mycobacterium thymidine kinase (TK) vs. other taxa TK

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Aim: With TB affecting about a third of the global population, diagnosis and treatment still challenging