

MONITORING & EVALUATION FOR TB/HIV COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

THE CHALLENGE:

Indicators for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of collaborative TB/HIV activities were originally developed by WHO in 2004¹ and are being implemented by AIDS and TB control programs facing the following challenges:

- The implementation of these indicators has been impeded by the lack of prior experience with TB&HIV indicators, the need for sound collaboration between HIV and TB program stakeholders at all levels, and the dearth of sound technical expertise and resources.
- The increasing number of TB and HIV stakeholders working on TB/HIV, particularly in HIV prevalent countries who monitor their activities with systems that do not incorporate these indicators.
- The urgent need to ensure alignment and standardization of indicators used for national monitoring and evaluation systems, and among global TB and HIV stakeholders to avoid duplication of efforts and reports to allow countries to simplify and streamline their reporting requirements nationally, internationally to WHO and UNAIDS, and to donors such as PEPFAR and the Global Fund.
- The need for harmonised Indicators to allow comparison of performance data and monitoring of trends, locally and globally.

The lessons learned and the experiences over the years since the first publication of the TB/HIV indicators have to be drawn and used to update the indicators and harmonize the efforts.

THE RESPONSE:

Harmonisation of indicators: There has been increasing awareness about the importance of addressing these challenges through an inclusive and broad based approach. This led to the initiation of harmonisation process of TB/HIV indicators among the WHO Stop TB and HIV Departments, UNAIDS, PEPFAR and the Global Fund. The core TB/HIV indicators were agreed among these different stakeholders. The Global Fund also adopted these indicators into their revision of their Monitoring and Evaluation toolkit.

Revision of the TB/HIV Monitoring and evaluation guidelines: A global consultation meeting was conducted in Geneva in September 2009, to revise the TB/HIV monitoring guidelines incorporating the harmonised indicators. Email based consultation among HIV and TB stakeholders including national programme managers, implementers and policy makers was also done to finalise the guidelines. The changes in the revised guidelines were as follows: the indicators were reduced from 20 to 13 modified indicators, including two new ones: the first (B.3.2) on the monitoring of TB disease among health-care workers and the second (C.1.2.2) on the detection of HIV-positive TB patients, as a percentage of the estimated HIV positive TB cases in a country.

NEXT STEPS:

- At country level ensure an effective national TB/HIV monitoring system in alignment to existing systems and enhance the utility of the monitoring and evaluation tools that adapt the harmonized indicators.
- All TB and HIV stakeholders should collaborate and use the one national system to document and report their activities and contribute towards improving the national programme performance.
- Resources and technical expertise should be made available to ensure the implementation of these harmonised indicators and establish effective national TB/HIV monitoring and evaluation system that will be used by all stakeholders.

INDICATOR SUMMARY

Summary of indicators measured in HIV care settings by the HIV control programme

Indicator B.1.1	Number of adults and children enrolled in HIV care whose TB status was assessed and recorded during their last visit during the reporting period, expressed as a proportion of all adults and children enrolled in HIV care and seen for care in the reporting period
Indicator B.1.2.1	Number of adults and children enrolled in HIV care who started TB treatment, expressed as a proportion of adults and children enrolled in HIV care during the reporting period.
Indicator B.1.2.2	Percentage of estimated HIV-positive incident TB cases that received treatment for TB and HIV.
Indicator B.2.1	Number of adults and children newly-enrolled in HIV care, who are started on treatment for latent TB infection, isoniazid preventive therapy, expressed as a proportion of the total number of adults and children newly-enrolled in HIV care during the reporting period.
Indicator B.3.1	Number of health-care facilities providing services for people living with HIV with demonstrable infection control practices that include TB control, expressed as a proportion of the total number of health-care facilities evaluated.
Indicator B.3.2	I Number of health-care workers employed in facilities providing care for people living with HIV who develop TB in one year expressed as a proportion of the total number of health-care workers employed in facilities providing care for people living with HIV during that same year.

Summary of indicators measured in TB care settings by the TB control programme

Indicator C.1.1	Percentage of TB patients who had an HIV test result recorded in the TB register.
Indicator C.1.2.1	Number of TB patients registered with documented HIV status on TB register who are HIV-positive, expressed as a proportion of the total number of all registered TB patients with documented HIV status over the reporting period.
Indicator C.1.2.2	Number of TB patients registered with documented HIV status on TB register who are HIV-positive, expressed as a proportion of HIV-positive TB patients estimated to occur countrywide each year.
Indicator C.2.1	Number of TB facilities where free condom distribution is practiced and condoms are available, expressed as a proportion of all TB facilities.
Indicator C.3.1	Number of HIV-positive TB patients who are started on or continue previously initiated CPT, during TB treatment, expressed as a proportion of all HIV-positive TB patients registered over the reporting period.
Indicator C.4.1	Number of HIV-positive TB patients referred to HIV care and support services (as defined in local or national HIV/AIDS policy) during TB treatment, expressed as a proportion of the total number of HIV-positive TB patients
Indicator C.5.1	Number of HIV-positive TB patients who are started on or continue previously initiated ART, during TB treatment, expressed as a proportion of all HIV-positive TB patients registered over the reporting period.