



TB, DISPARITY, AND THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

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27TH NATIONAL TB CONFERENCE &
13TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LABORATORY
ASPECTS OF TUBERCULOSIS

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
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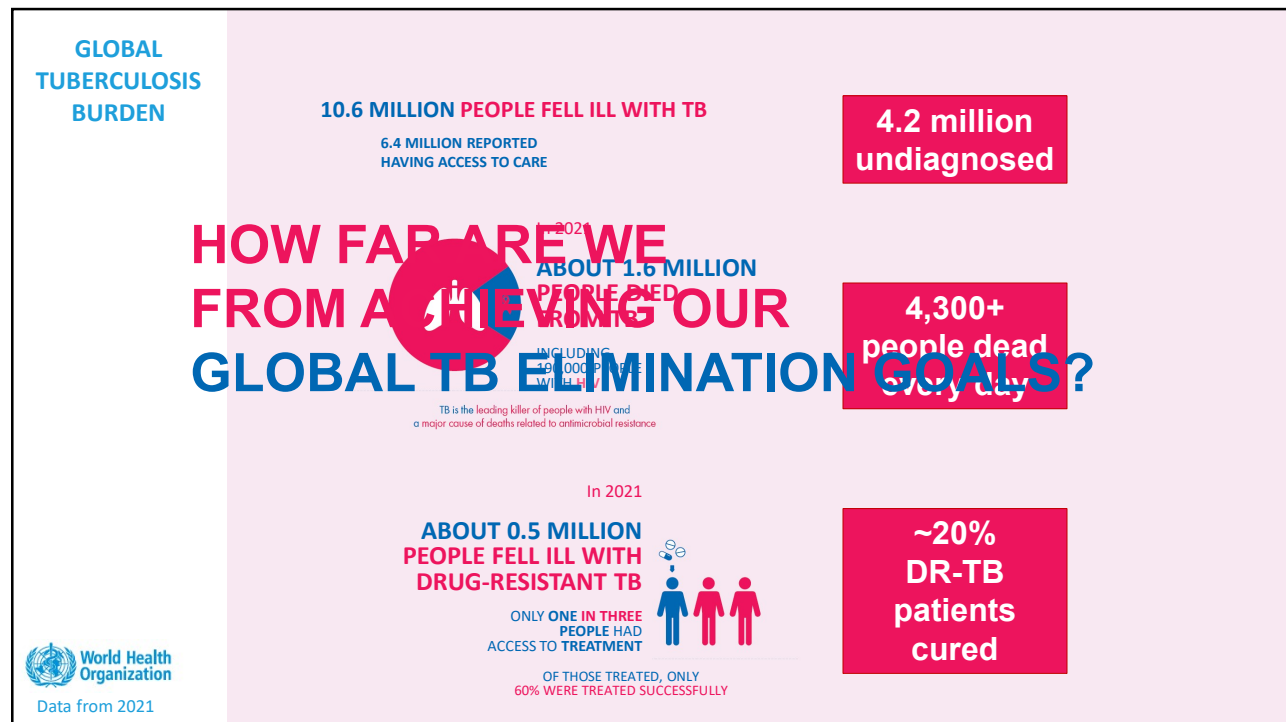
Screening patients with a portable "backpack" x-ray in
Mexicali, Mexico, 2021

This talk will demonstrate how understanding and addressing the social determinants of TB are critical in the struggle to eliminate TB and are the foundation of equitable healthcare delivery in communities.

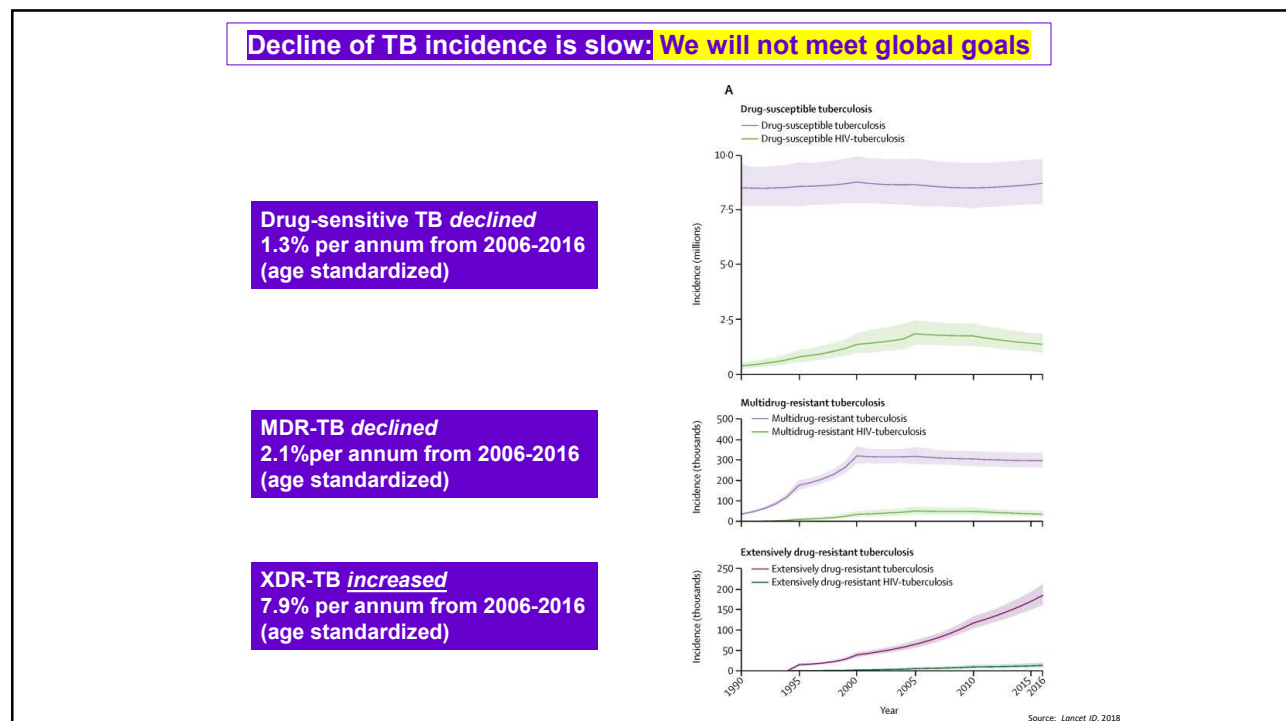
Objectives:

1. Describe the history of the social determinants of health in TB program development.
2. Describe how a recognition of the importance of addressing social determinants of TB as part of a broader health equity agenda will lead to better health outcomes.
3. Describe how comprehensive TB care delivery can serve as a platform for care delivery for other diseases

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Why are we in this situation?

Concern over cost led to an over-simplified global approach: the DOTS strategy

1. Political commitment
2. Diagnosis with sputum-smear microscopy
3. Standardized short-course chemotherapy
4. Regular supply of high-quality drugs
5. Standardized recording and reporting

**SIMPLE
EASY
LOW COST**



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**MISSING KEY
COMPONENTS
FOR CONTROL
AND ELIMINATION**

ill-suited for children

ill-suited for people with HIV

ill-suited for drug-resistance

Does not address poverty

Basic principles of epidemic control for TB

- Search actively for newly infected people among the contacts of current patients using a sensitive test (X-ray)
- Start therapy quickly for people with disease; give the safest, most effective multi-drug therapy in the shortest time
- Ensure adherence to therapy with supports
- Treat all contacts that do not yet have disease with post-exposure prophylaxis
- Ensure proper infection control

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Increasingly there is a consensus that TB rates will only be driven down through a comprehensive program that recognizes the biological and social dimensions of TB

2015

THE LANCET

How to eliminate tuberculosis

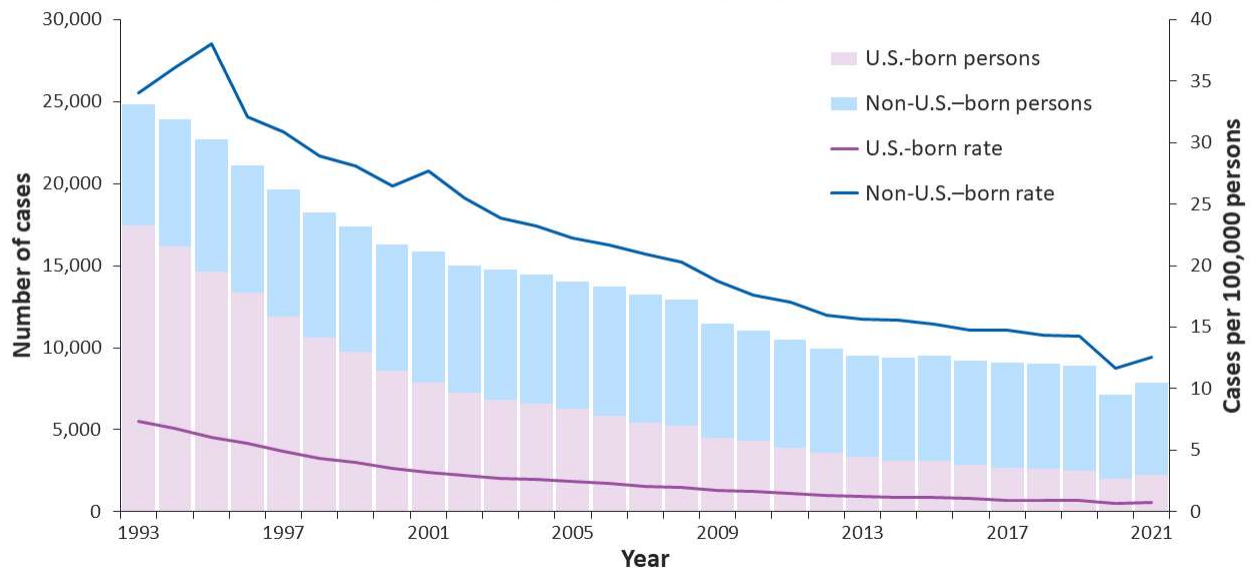
"Ending the tuberculosis epidemic requires the urgent deployment of a comprehensive package of effective, tried and tested interventions in low-income and middle-income settings. Failure to seize this opportunity now will constitute both a scientific and moral failure. Waiting another two centuries for a curable and preventable disease to disappear is not an option."

A Series by The Lancet



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TB Cases and Incidence Rates by Origin of Birth,* United States, 1993–2021



*Persons born in the United States, certain U.S. territories, or elsewhere to at least one U.S. citizen parent are categorized as U.S.-born. All other persons are categorized as non-U.S.-born.

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TUBERCULOSIS

THE QUINTESSENTIAL BIO-SOCIAL DISEASE

Photo: Pep Bonet/Open Society Institute

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- The situation of workers during the industrial revolution in England resulted in the push for the creation of a sanitary commission (1837), raising concern over the sanitary conditions of the laboring population (1842).
- This was not, in the words of Rene Dubos, “built on scientific doctrine.” Rather, it arose from the understanding that “illness was, in large measure, the penalty of bad living and social injustice.”

Photo: https://i.dailymail.co.uk/1s/2019/09/13/10/18434796-7459955-image-a-3_1568366450263.jpg

Source: Dubos R and J Dubos. The White Plague: Tuberculosis, Man, and Society. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press. 1996 [1952], p.209.

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Photograph of a Glasgow slum
by Thomas Annan, 1868

Photo source: <https://www.bl.uk/victorian-britain/articles/the-working-classes-and-the-poor>

- In *The Conditions of the Working-Class in England in 1844*, Friedrich Engels, the son of a Prussian textile mill owner who had been sent to Manchester England to supervise his father's factory, outlined the following reasons for disease:
 - Poverty
 - Air pollution (which he believed caused "inflammation")
 - Lack of sewerage
 - Lack of quality food with low nutrition ("food desert")
 - Overcrowded living conditions
 - Lack of access to physicians
 - Child labor
 - "atomization" of society where people don't help each other
- Later, similar ideas were raised by the great physician and father of the field of Social Medicine, Rudolph Virchow, on his *Report on the Typhus Epidemic in Upper Silesia*

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La Miseria
by Cristobal Rojas, 1886

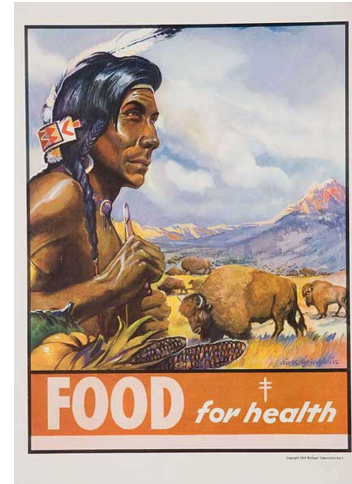
Sources:
1. Holmberg SD. The rise of tuberculosis in America before 1820. *Am Rev Respir Dis* 1990;142:1228-32
2. Dubos R and J Dubos. *The White Plague: Tuberculosis, Man, and Society*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press. 1996 [1952], p.203.

- During this 19th century, the period of the Industrial revolution, rates of TB grew to very high levels – 200 to 500 per 100,000 people
- The disease was said to account for the death of 25% of the inhabitants of Europe, and a similar number of lives in Massachusetts and New York.
- While there was some understanding that it could be passed from person to person and within families – that there was some biological basis to the disease, from the earliest period it was clear that TB, like many other diseases had a strong social dimension: **it was the interaction between the biological and the social that led to disease.**

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Food/Nutrition

- Thomas McKeown suggested that the drop in rates of TB between the mid nineteenth and mid-20th century was due to improved living conditions, housing, food.
- Papworth Village Settlement in England; social experiment 1918-1943; after being released from sanatorium people with TB disease were given employment, food, and medical care. They saw a *dramatic* decrease in TB incidence among children under five who were born in the settlement: zero cases in the intervention arm versus 1,217 cases (per 100,000 person years)
- During the WWII, rates of TB went up when there were food shortages
- Study of Russian and British POWs in Germany: British POWs received extra calories from the Red Cross (which included animal protein). Russian POWs had a 13-fold increased incidence of TB compared to British POWs



Sources:

1. T. McKeown, R.G. Record. Reasons for the decline of mortality in England and Wales during the nineteenth century. *Popul Stud*, 16 (2) (1962), pp. 94-122;
2. J.P. Cegielski, D.N. McMurray. The relationship between malnutrition and tuberculosis: evidence from studies in humans and experimental animals. *Int J Tuberc Lung Dis*, 8 (3) (2004), pp. 286-298;
3. Bhargava A, M. Pai, M. Bhargava, B.J. Marais, D. Menzies. Can social interventions prevent tuberculosis? the papworth experiment (1918-1943) revisited. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*, 186 (5) (2012), pp. 442-449
4. A. Cochrane. Tuberculosis among prisoners of war in Germany. *Br Med J*, 2 (4427) (1945), pp. 656-658

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- **Undernourished individuals are also more likely to have greater severity of TB.** In India patients who were severely undernourished had 11% more of their lungs affected on chest X-ray (95% CI: 4.0-13.3) and more lung cavitation (a rate of 4.6 times more; 95% CI, 1.5-14.1) compared to those with a normal BMI. (Hoyt et al, *PLoS One*, 14(3), 2019)
- A study in Latvia of 995 MDR-TB patients found that **those who were underweight were significantly more likely to be both smear and culture positive** compared to patients with a normal body weight (OR 2.2 for both). (Podewils et al. *Epidemiol Inf*, 139(1), 2010)
- **Patients who are underweight at time of diagnosis (defined as being 10% or more below ideal body weight) had a 19.1% chance of relapse**, compared to only a 4.8% likelihood of relapse among those who were not underweight when diagnosed with TB ($p < 0.001$). (Khan et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*, 174(3), 2006)
- A South African study found that **for every kg decrease in weight at the start of treatment, odds of survival decreased by 7.5% ($P < 0.01$)** among those with extensively drug-resistant TB. (Kvasnovsky, Cegielski, Erasmus et al. *J Acquired Immune Defic Syndromes*, 57(2), 2011)



Photo: Adapted from James Nachtway
TED.com

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Housing

- Chalmers (1913) showed that **in every age-group the rate of TB mortality in Glasgow was lower in bigger houses compared to smaller houses**; Similarly, Peters (1933) showed that **mortality was 340% greater in a one-apartment house than a four-apartment dwelling** (not directly even linked to overcrowding vs volume). (Stein, L. Tubercle 35(8), 1954)
- Chapman and Dyerly found an **association between the risk of tuberculin conversion in children living in the house of an infectious tuberculosis case and the number of cubic feet per person in the house** (Stein L. Br J Soc Med, Vol 6, 1952)
- From 1982 to 1991, **tuberculosis notification rates in London boroughs increased by 12 percent** for each percentage increase in the number of persons living in overcrowded accommodations. (Mangtani P, et al. BMJ, Vol 310, 1995)
- In the Bronx, New York, **children less than age 5 years living in severely crowded areas were about five times more likely to develop tuberculosis** (adjusted for HIV status) than children living in areas with limited or no crowding (Drucker E. et al. Lancet, Vol 343, 1994)

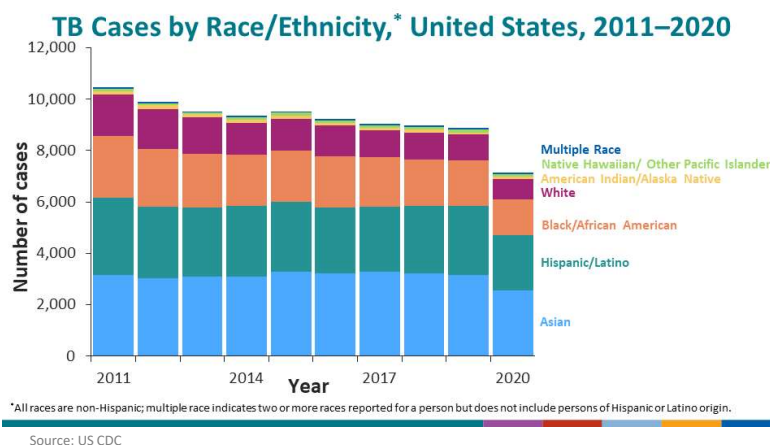


Picture: <https://www.loc.gov/resource/ds.06489/>

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Race

- In a study of the employees of the New York City board of education, race was the strongest risk factor for tuberculosis infection in each age group, after control for SES (Reichman LB, O'Day R. Am Rev Respir Dis, Vol 117, 1978)



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Poverty

- Retrospective study in Liverpool, England, that examined the notifications of all forms of tuberculosis by council ward over a six year period and correlating this with four indices of poverty found that the rate of tuberculosis was correlated with all measures of poverty. This link was independent of race or ethnicity. (Spence et al, BMJ, 1993)



Photo: BBC News/Getty

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Air quality



- Data on tuberculosis incidence, climate (i.e., precipitation, atmospheric pressure, relative humidity, temperature, and wind speed), and air quality (inhalable [particulate matter](#), [sulfur dioxide](#), and [nitrogen dioxide](#) concentrations) in Beijing from 2004 to 2016 were collected and systematically analyzed based on a structural equation model. The tuberculosis incidence was negatively correlated with the concentration of inhalable particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, or nitrogen dioxide.
- Meta analysis showed: Long-term exposure to PM₁₀, SO₂ or NO₂ is associated with increased odds of tuberculosis. (Zhang and Zhang, Annals of Epi, Volume 37, 2019)

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TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAMS

HAVE SHAPED THE
PARADIGM FOR
COMMUNITY-BASED
CARE-DELIVERY



Photo: Partners In Health/Russia

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Photo: University of Washington Library

1
SEARCH
for people
with TB
disease
and
infection
in the
community



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Active case finding using a sensitive diagnostic

1895



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Photo by

[Drammond Young, Edinburgh]

SIR ROBERT PHILIP, M.A., M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P.

Edinburgh Medical Journal

May 1937

THE EDINBURGH TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME

1887-1937.

FIFTY years ago, in 1887, Sir Robert Philip, then a young graduate in medicine, laid in Edinburgh the foundations of a scheme having from its beginning and as its ultimate goal an object no less ambitious than the control and extinction of tuberculosis in this and other civilised communities throughout the world.

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Active case finding using a sensitive diagnostic (x-ray) was a critical tool for finding active cases and stopping transmission of TB

- Was used in Edinburgh, Scotland, in the early 20th century.
- It was used in the US and Europe extensively in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s to drive down rates of TB. Large numbers of close contacts and other contacts of TB patients were screen and many cases were found
- This not only contributed to finding new cases, but to decreased mortality (early case detection)

Source: Golub et al. 2005

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2 TREAT TB disease correctly

USE THE CORRECT MEDICINES WITH LEAST SIDE EFFECTS OVER THE SHORTEST PERIOD OF TIME DELIVERED IN THE COMMUNITY

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Selman Waxman and Albert Schatz



1943 — **Streptomycin** isolated in laboratory by Selman Waxman and Albert Schatz, the graduate student working with him

1944 — Given to the first human TB patient in November 1944

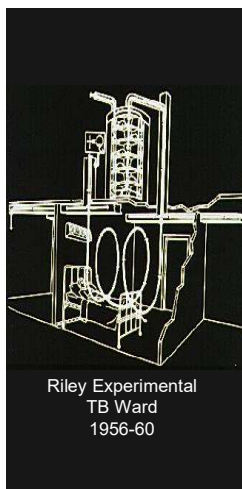
1948 — BMRC trials → **drug resistance to streptomycin** observed

1955 — BMRC drug resistance survey in UK → resistant strains transmitted

Multidrug regimens were needed

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Rapid diagnosis of TB, determination of resistance, and correct treatment regimens are critical to prevent transmission



When patients were started on an effective treatment regimen, they were less infectious even after as little as 24 hours of treatment

Relative infectivity of patients*:

– Susceptible TB

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------|
| • 61 <i>Untreated</i> | (29 GPs) | 100% |
| • 29 Treated | (1 GP) | 2% |

*all smear positive patients (people coughing up bacteria)

Source: Richard Riley, et al. Am J Hyg 1959; 70:185-196.
(reprinted as "classic" Am J Epidemiol 1995; 142:3-14)

Early treatment with the correct regimen will stop transmission

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Treatment at home is safe and led to good outcomes



Photo: Pep Bonet/Open Society Institute

When patients were started on an effective treatment regimen at home they had better outcomes

- 5 year study in Chennai (Madras) India showed that relapse rates of people treated at home was 7% versus 10% in the sanatorium.
- Also showed that the incidence of active tuberculosis and of tuberculous infections was no greater in the contacts of patients treated at home than in the contacts of patients treated in sanatorium, either in the first year or over the subsequent four years. The major risk to the contacts resulted from exposure to the patient before diagnosis.

Treatment at home/in the community is safe and effective

Source:
1. Dawson, Devadatta, Fox et al.
Bull World Health Organ, 1966.
2. Kamat, Dawson and Devadatta,
Bull World Health Organ, 1966.

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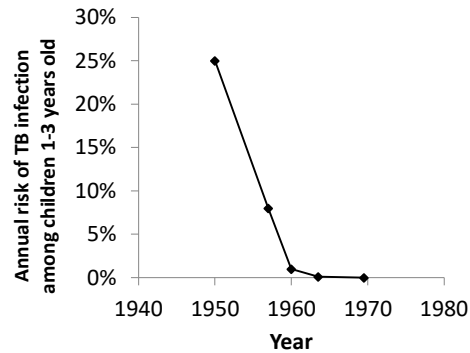
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PREVENT TB infection from becoming active disease

TREATING TB INFECTION IS
AN ESSENTIAL PART OF
STOPPING TRANSMISSION
AND DISEASE

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Preventive therapy and the decline in TB transmission in Alaska



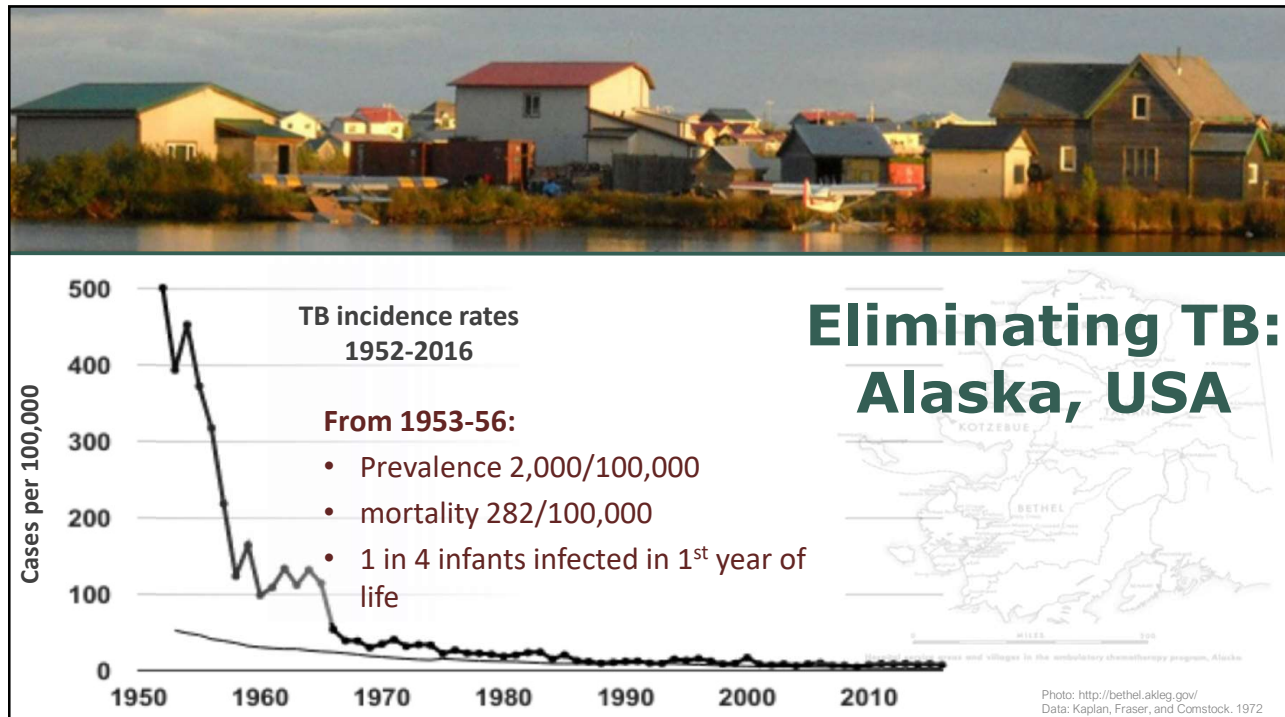
Between 1950 and 1960, the US Public Health Service built health facilities, started **active case finding**, **treatment of all forms of disease**, and **treatment of TB infection**

Kaplan, Fraser, and Comstock. Am Rev Resp Crit Care. 1972

~8 to 10% of contacts will get TB during the first two years after exposure to an individual with active disease

Today, it is estimated that ~20-30 million close contacts should receive treatment each year

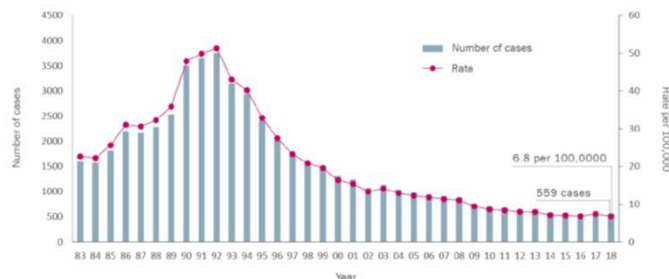
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Tackling TB in New York City (1988)



Community-based active case finding, treatment of all forms of TB, and treatment of TB infection (TB preventive treatment)

1983-1992:
Overall increase: 134%
Average annual increase: 11%

1992-2003:
Overall decrease: 70%
Average annual decrease: 10%

2003-2018:
Overall decrease: 51%
Average annual decrease: 4%



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Basic principles of community-based TB epidemic control



1. Search actively for people with new infection or disease among the close contacts of current patients or in high-burden community settings (using a sensitive test like x-ray)
2. Start the correct therapy quickly for people with disease; give the safest, **most effective** multi-drug therapy in the **shortest time**; deliver care to people in the communities where they live and work
3. Ensure adherence to therapy with supports and food assistance
4. Screen and treat all infected contacts that do not yet have disease with post-exposure treatment
5. Ensure proper infection control

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**PATIENT-CENTERED COMMUNITY-BASED
CARE DELIVERY IN WESTERN SIBERIA:
LINKING PRACTICE TO EQUITY**

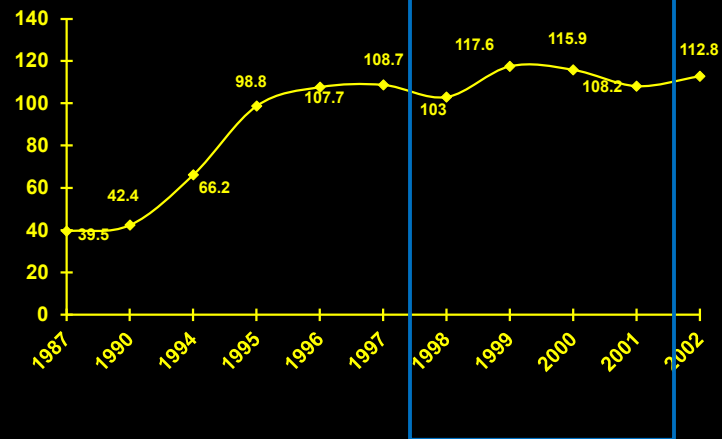


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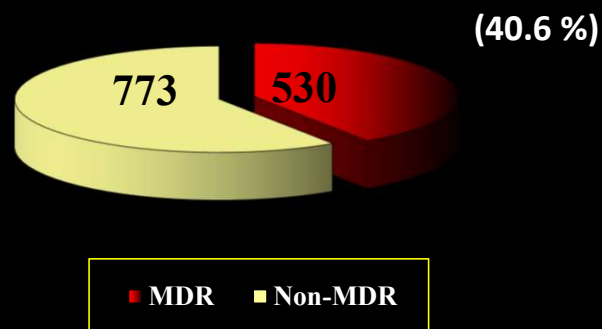
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TB Incidence per 100,000 – Civilian Sector

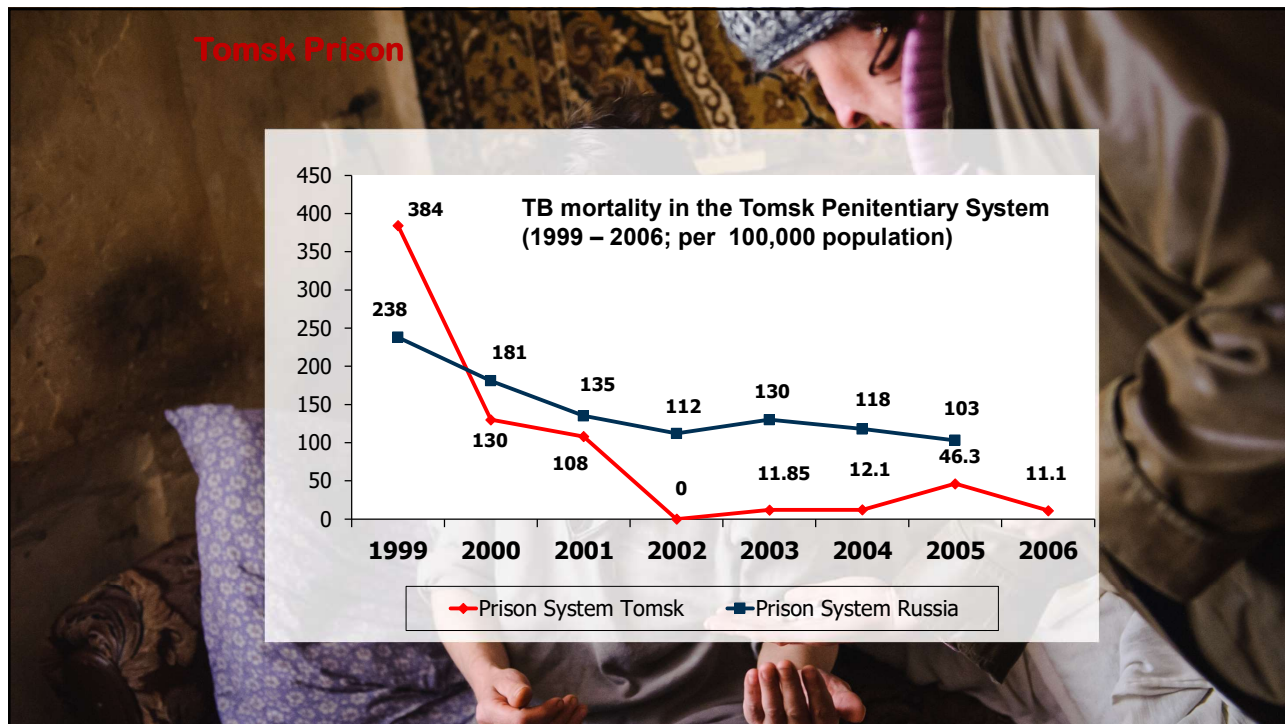


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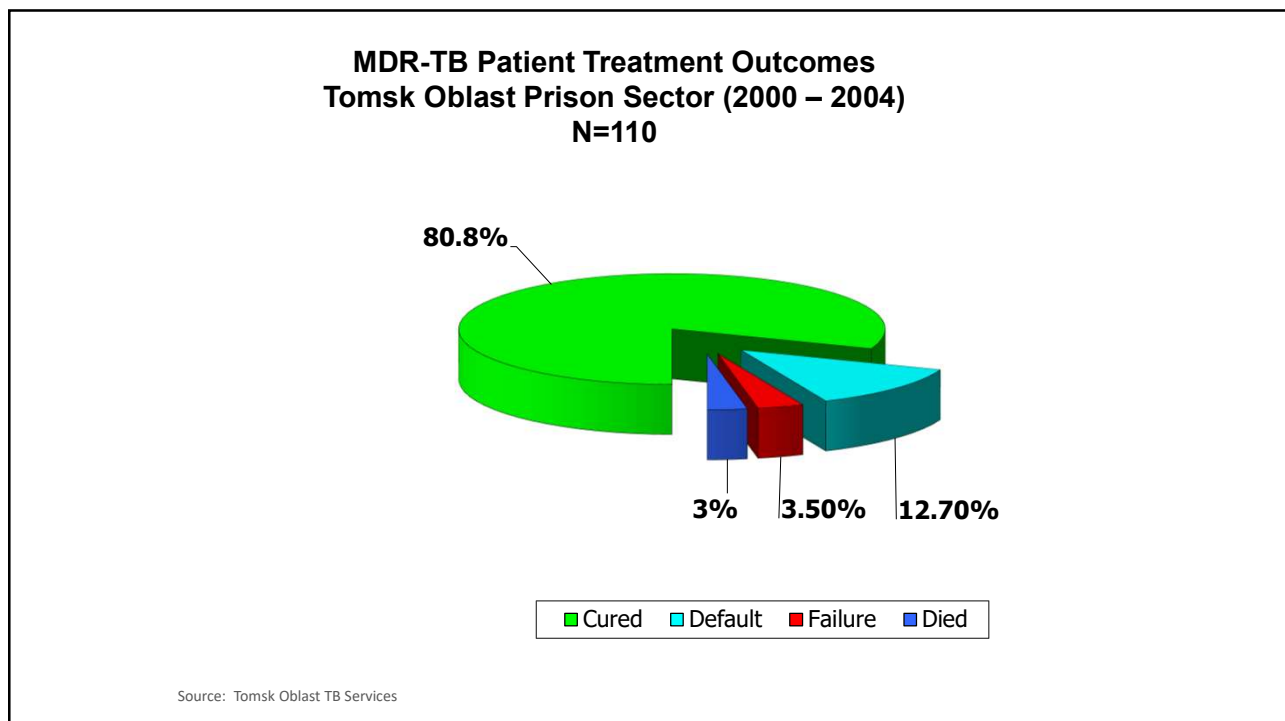
MDR-TB prevalence among all smear-positive new and re-treatment cases 2001, Tomsk Oblast (n=1303)



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Challenges faced by patients

- Poverty, poor living conditions, poor nutrition
- Alcohol and drug-use disorders
- Long distances between medical center and patients' homes in both urban and rural places (lack of transport)
- Other priorities: children, job, family problems etc.

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Programmatic Challenges

- 18-24 month-long course of treatment
- Twice-daily drug intake of 4-7 medications
- Side effects common: almost all patients experience side effects, and about 10% of patients experience severe side effects
- Some patients have severe comorbidities (e.g. diabetes and alcoholism), which worsen the tolerance of the medications

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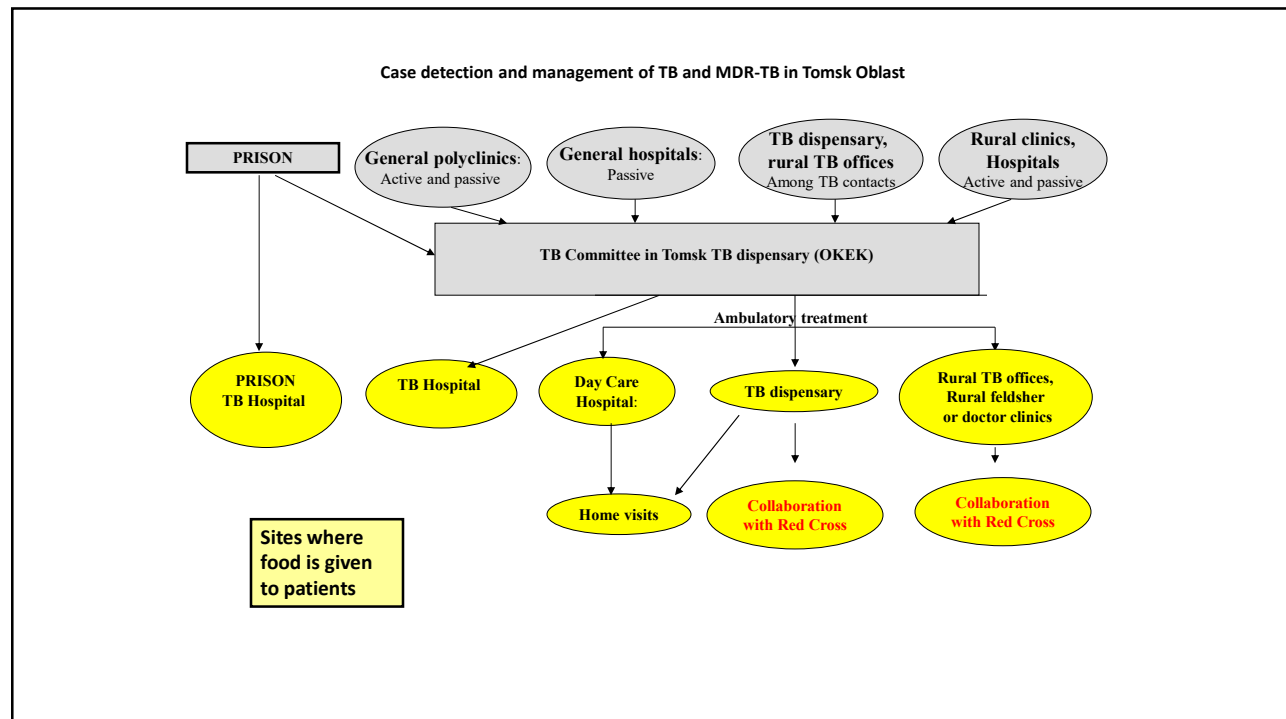


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PROGRAMMATIC SOLUTIONS

- Improvement of facilities AND choice of treatment site
- Food assistance for patients

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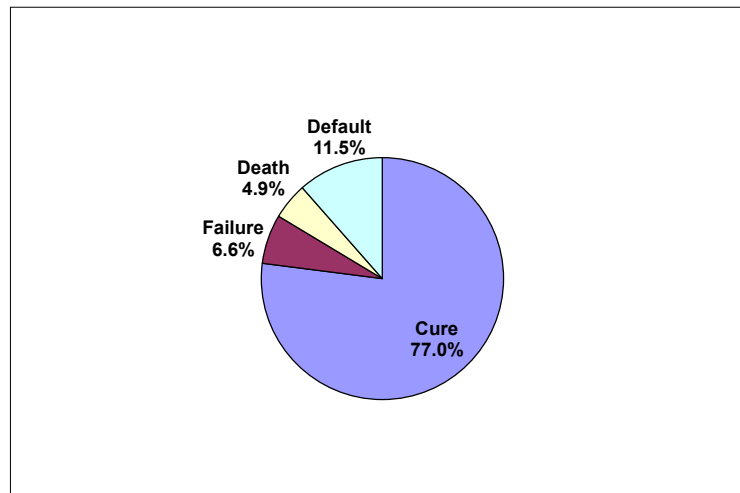
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PROGRAMMATIC SOLUTIONS

- Improvement of facilities AND choice of treatment site
- Food assistance for patients
- Transportation assistance for patients and health workers
- Food assistance for patients
- Improved adverse events management (provision of ancillary medications)
- Improvement of working hours at medical facilities to make it more convenient for patients
- Engagement of volunteers, enablers and incentives to support treatment
- Rapid search patients unable to take their medicines

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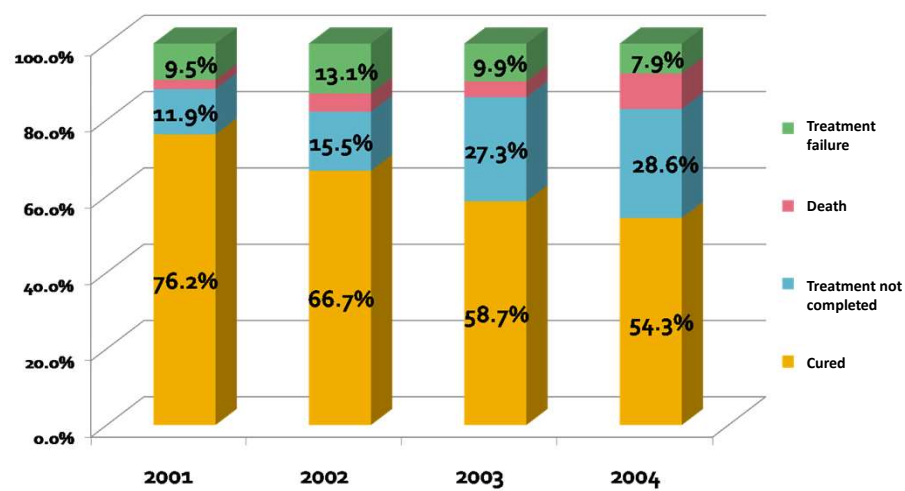
TREATMENT OUTCOMES OF FIRST COHORT (N=244)
TOMSK, RUSSIA



Source: Shin et al., IJTL 2006

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Treatment Outcomes, Civilian Sector
Tomsk Oblast, Russian Federation



Source: Tomsk Oblast TB Services, Analysis by Dr. D Taran, PIH Moscow

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TREATMENT DELIVERY**THE WAR ON TUBERCULOSIS:
DOTS IN NEWARK, NJ, USA****Am J Nursing, July 2010**

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When patients are the center of all of our efforts—when our attentions and resources revolve, like satellites, around them—we succeed, even though our treatments are imperfect.

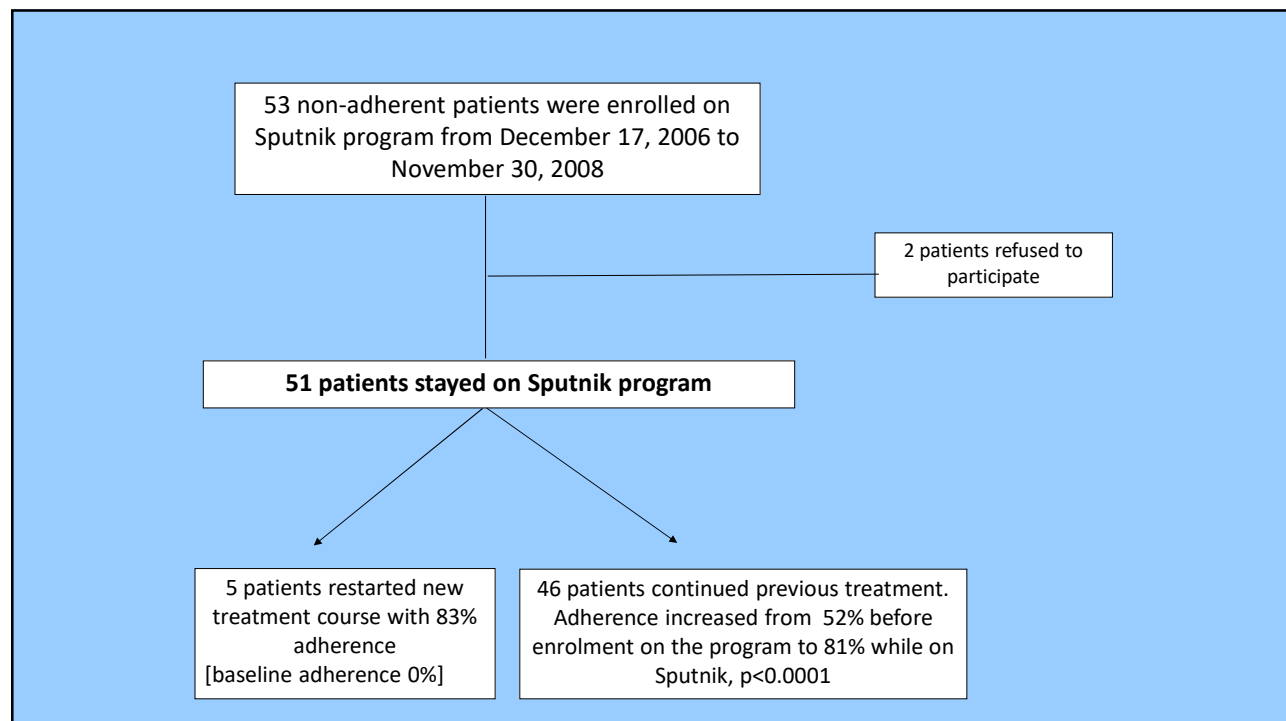
— Dr. Paul Farmer, PIH Reports 2014

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Accompaniment: “Sputnik” program

- Some patients require assistance to finish treatment
- Need a system of accompaniment to help overcome barriers to treatment (this is different from DOT)
 - Social supports
 - Nutritional supports
 - Family support
- One *Sputnik* will look after five to seven patients
- Changes the onus of responsibility for adherence from the patient (“non-compliant”) to the program (programmatic gap)

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Table 3 Treatment outcomes for all patients referred to the Sputnik program ($n = 53$) divided by MDR-TB vs. all others

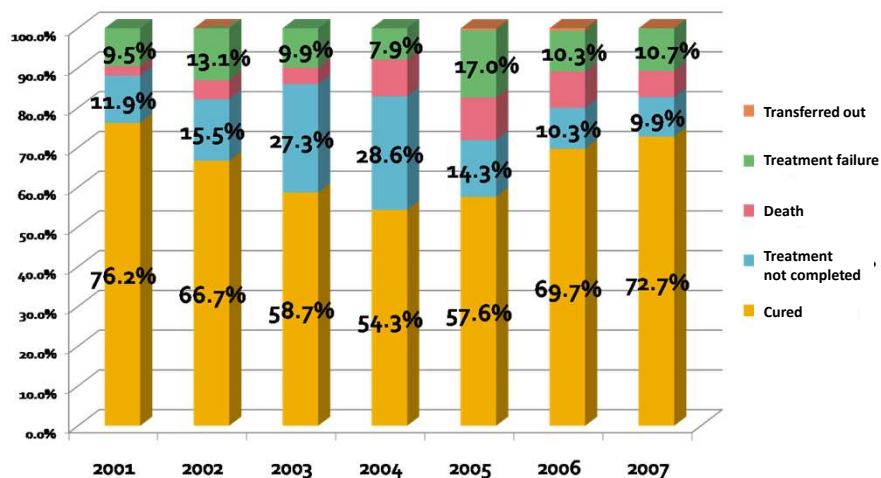
	Patients receiving treatment for MDR-TB ($n = 38$) n (%)	All other patients ($n = 15$) n (%)	Total ($n = 53$) n (%)
Cured/treatment completed*	27 (71.1)	9 (60.0)	36 (67.9)
Failure	2 (5.3)	1 (6.7)	3 (5.7)
Died†	2 (5.3)	1 (6.7)	3 (5.7)
Transfer out	1 (2.6)	1 (6.7)	2 (3.8)
Default‡	6 (15.8)	3 (20.0)	9 (17.0)

Note: No deaths were due to TB; most were due to violent crimes
 "Default" includes the 2 patients who refused to participate in the program

Source: Gelmanova et al., IUTLD 2011

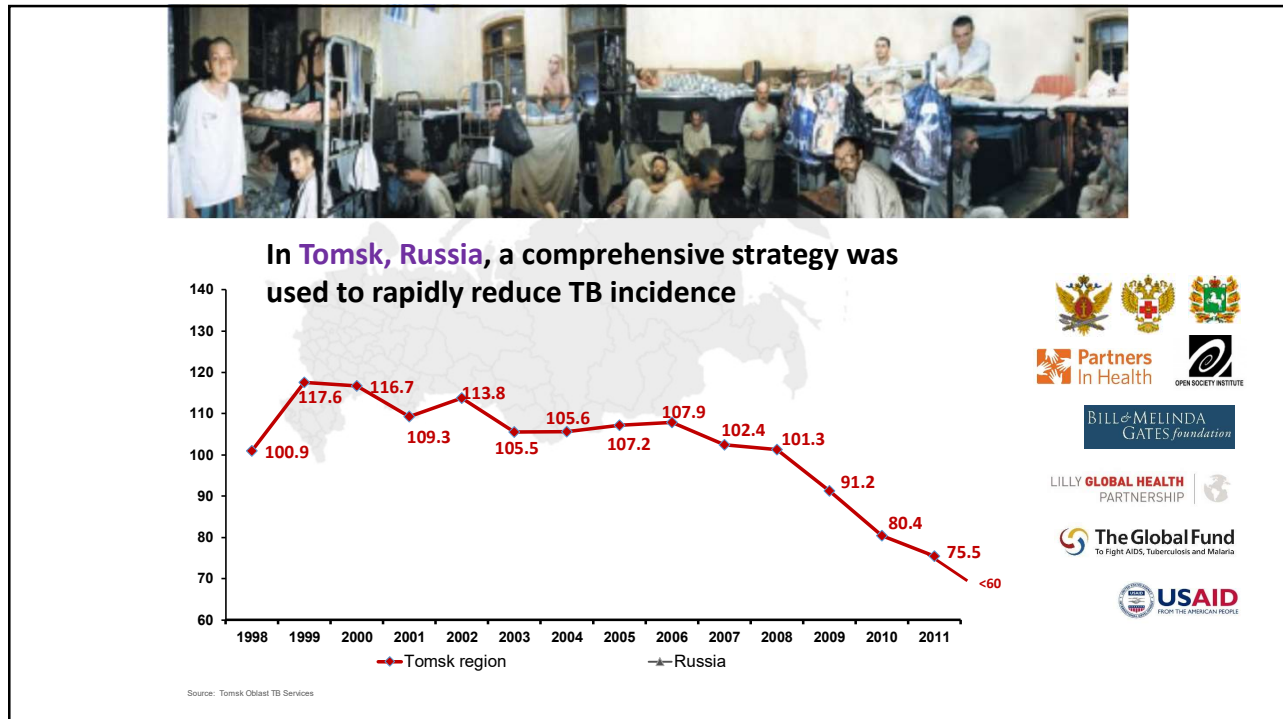
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Treatment Outcomes, Civilian Sector
 Tomsk Oblast, Russian Federation
 2001-2007



Source: Tomsk Oblast TB Services, Analysis by Dr. D Taran, PIH Moscow

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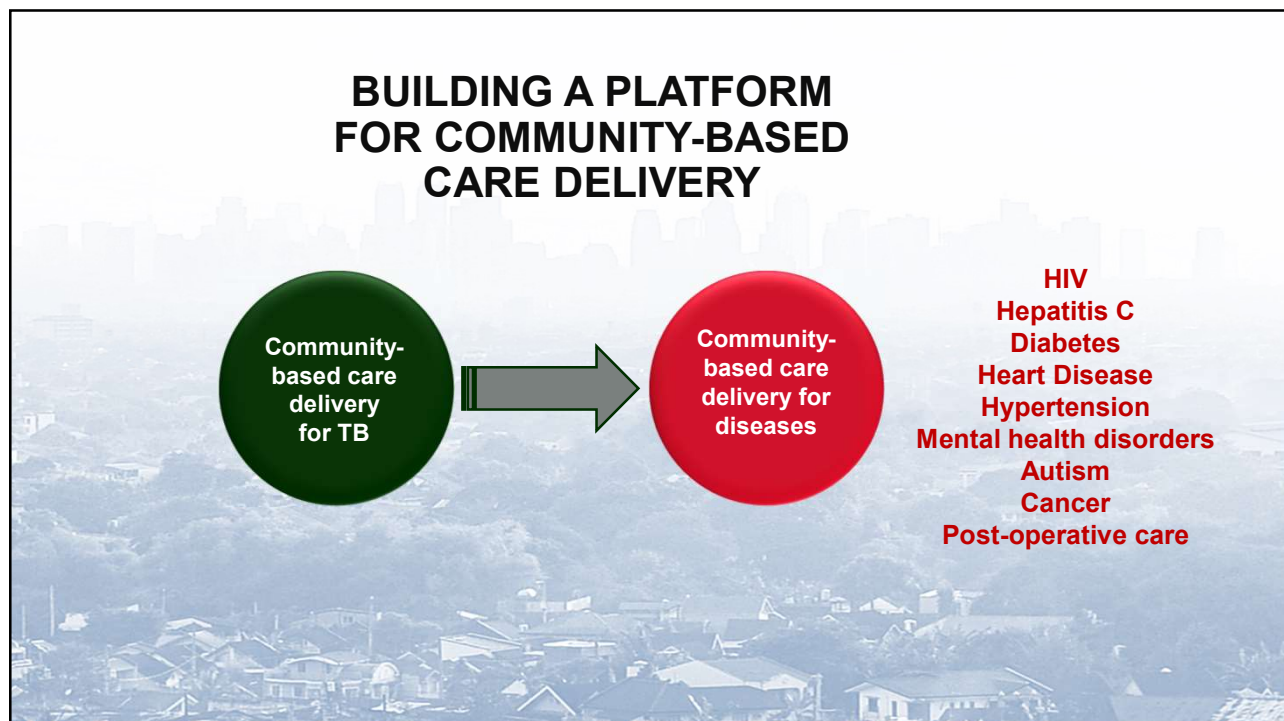


**CAN THE TB CARE
DELIVERY PLATFORM
BE A MODEL FOR
EQUITABLE CARE
DELIVERY FOR
OTHER DISEASES?**

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We have an opportunity to shift the global TB care delivery paradigm in a way that will simultaneously strengthen health systems

	Tuberculosis	Health systems strengthening/Biosecurity
SEARCH	Find people sick with TB or exposed to TB using effective tests (e.g. mobile x-ray; genetic tests).	Community-based screening platform to isolate cases, limit and contain exposure, and stop transmission in communities and place where people live and work.
TREAT	Rapid deployment of the correct medicine and support the sick. This requires testing of strains, access to medicines, and a system for community-based care delivery and adverse events monitoring.	Community-based delivery of treatment in order to prevent hospitals from becoming overburdened. This includes developing systems for home monitoring, creating “virtual hospitals”, and systems to support the sick.
PREVENT	Prevent people from being exposed to TB and treating people who have been exposed so that they do not become sick with TB. Providing supports that prevent disease and support treatment.	Develop systems to provide vaccines or preventive therapy, support social interventions that reduce disease.

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EXAMPLE:

**CAN THE
TB PLATFORM
BE USED TO
DELIVER CARE FOR
DIABETES?**



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Rising rates of diabetes are a concern for health systems

Number of adults (20–79 years) with diabetes worldwide

North America & Caribbean

2045 63 million
2030 56 million
2019 48 million

↑ 33% increase

- 1 in 6 adults in this Region is at risk of type 2 diabetes
- 43% of global diabetes-related health expenditure occurs in this Region

South & Central America

2045 49 million
2030 40 million
2019 32 million

↑ 55% increase

- 2 in 5 people with diabetes were undiagnosed
- Only 9% of global diabetes-related health expenditure for diabetes is spent in this Region

Africa

2045 47 million
2030 29 million
2019 19 million

↑ 143% increase

- 3 in 5 people with diabetes are undiagnosed
- 3 in 4 deaths due to diabetes were in people under the age of 60

Middle East & North Africa

2045 108 million
2030 76 million
2019 55 million

↑ 96% increase

- 1 in 8 people have diabetes
- 1 in 2 deaths due to diabetes were in people under the age of 60

South-East Asia

2045 153 million
2030 115 million
2019 88 million

↑ 74% increase

- 1 in 5 adults with diabetes lives in this Region
- 1 in 4 live births are affected by hyperglycaemia in pregnancy

WORLD

2045 700 million
2030 578 million
2019 463 million

↑ 51% increase

Europe

2045 68 million
2030 66 million
2019 59 million

↑ 15% increase

- 1 in 6 live births are affected by hyperglycaemia in pregnancy
- The Region has the highest number of children and adolescents (0–19 years) with type 1 diabetes – 297,000 in total

Western Pacific

2045 212 million
2030 197 million
2019 163 million

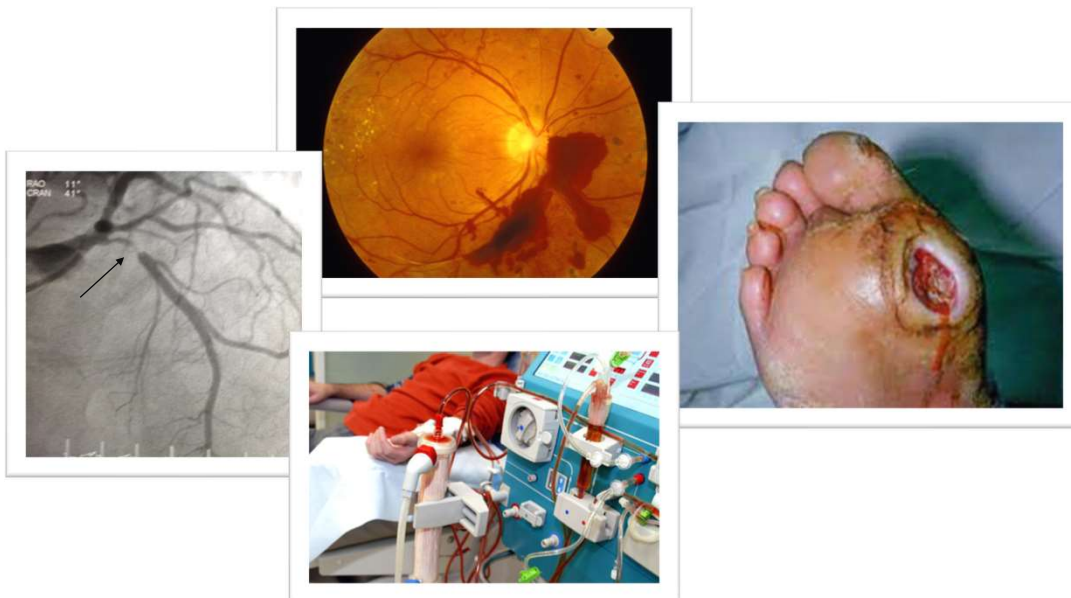
↑ 31% increase

- 1 in 3 adults with diabetes lives in this Region
- 1 in 3 deaths due to diabetes occur in this Region

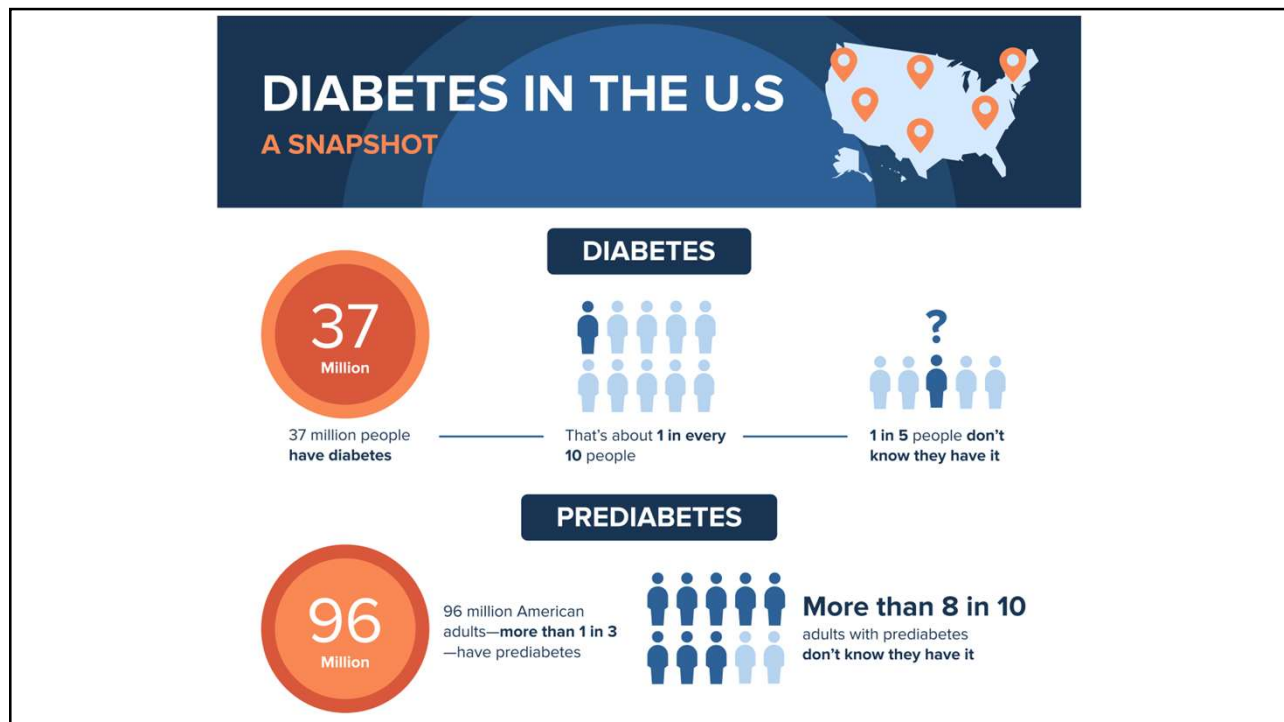
Source: International Diabetes Federation Atlas, 9th Edition, 2019

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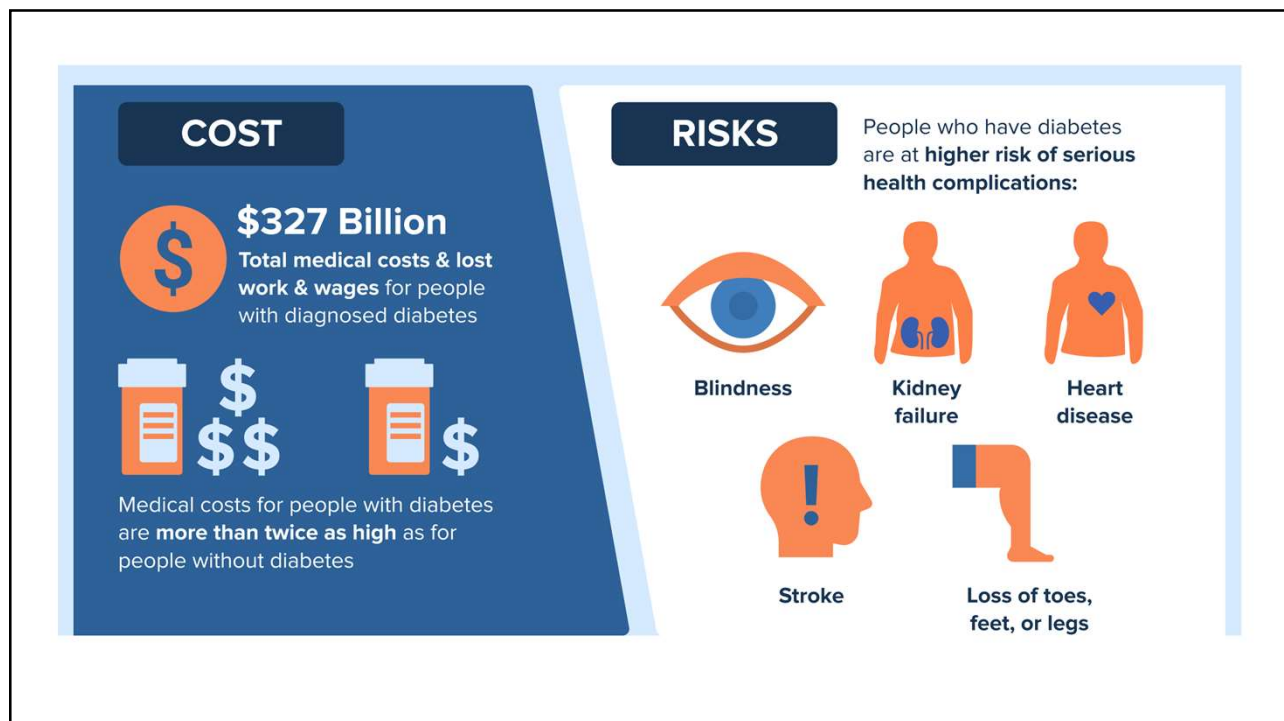
The cost of inaction:



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POVERTY & DIABETES

By Income Level

Adults with a family income below the federal poverty level (FPL) have the highest prevalence of diabetes.

US Adults 18 or Older With Diagnosed Diabetes, by Family Income Level, 2018–2019

Family Income Level	Percentage
Less than 100% FPL	14.1
100%–299% FPL	10.8
300%–499% FPL	7.8
500% FPL or more	5.6

Data source: 2018–2019 National Health Interview Survey.

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Data from Taiwan (2000–2005)

- Compared with their middle-income counterparts, the adjusted odds ratio (OR) for the poor population incidentally identified as having diabetes through hospitalization was 2.2 ($P < 0.001$).
- Poor persons with diabetes were less likely to visit any diabetes clinic (OR, 0.4; $P < 0.001$).
- The ORs for the poor population with diabetes to receive tests for glycated hemoglobin, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, triglycerides, and retinopathy were 0.6 (0.4–0.9), 0.4 (0.2–0.7), 0.5 (0.4–0.8), and 0.4 (0.2–0.9), respectively.
- **Poverty is associated not only with higher diabetes incidence but also with inequality of diabetes care in a northeast Asian population, despite universal health coverage.**

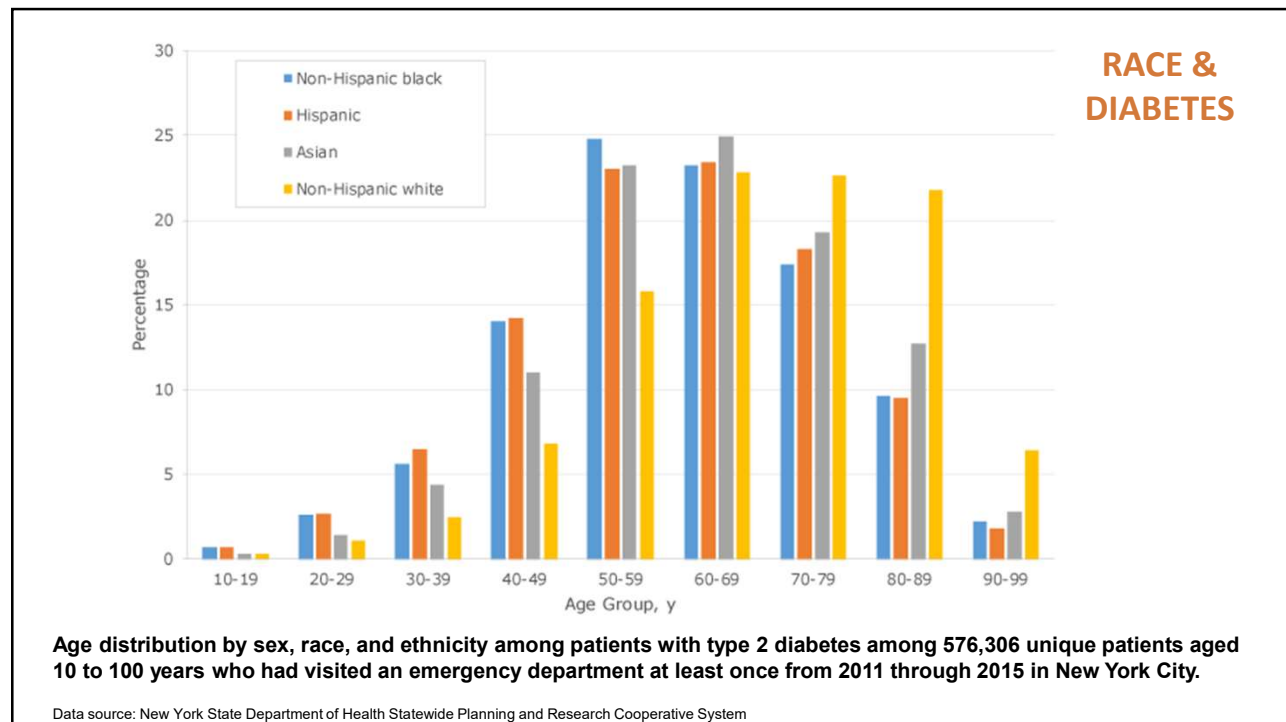
POVERTY & DIABETES



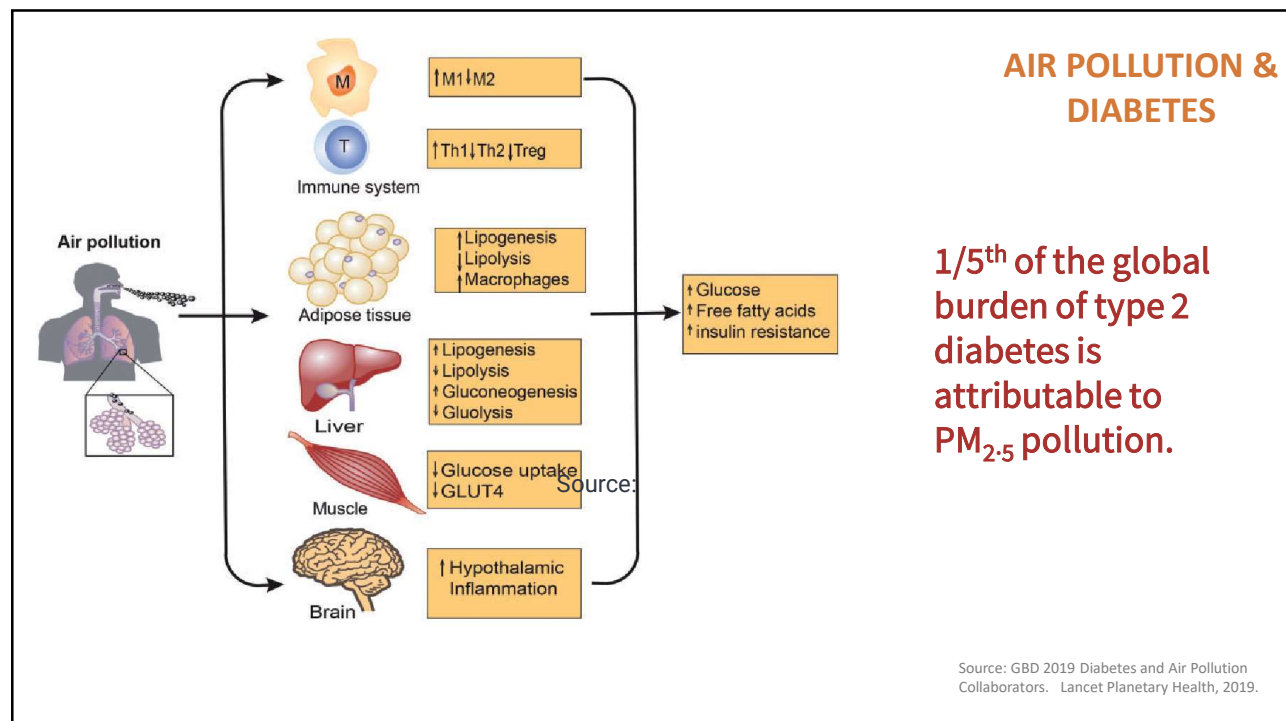
Photo: South China Morning Post/APF

Source: Hsu et al. Diabetes Care, Vol 35(11), 2012

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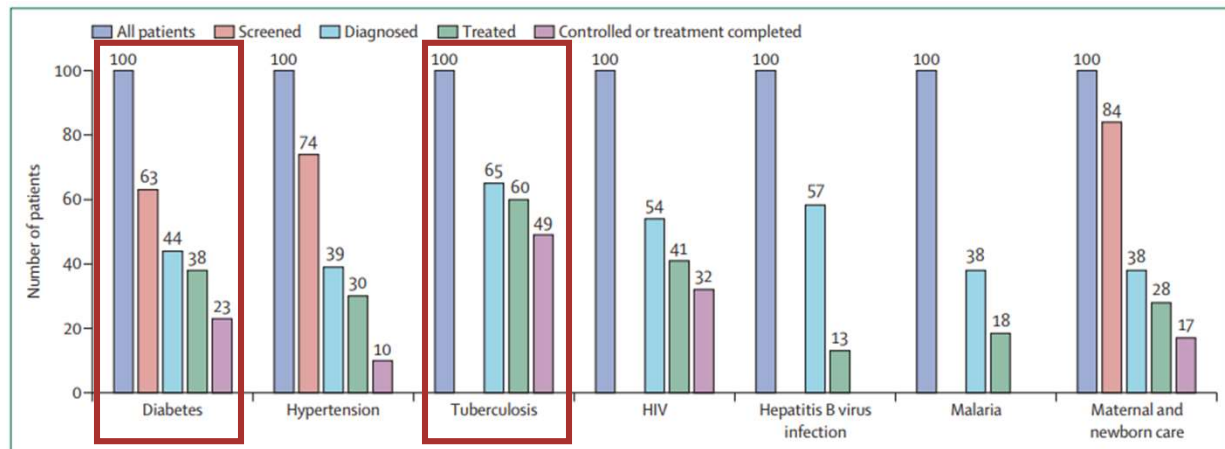


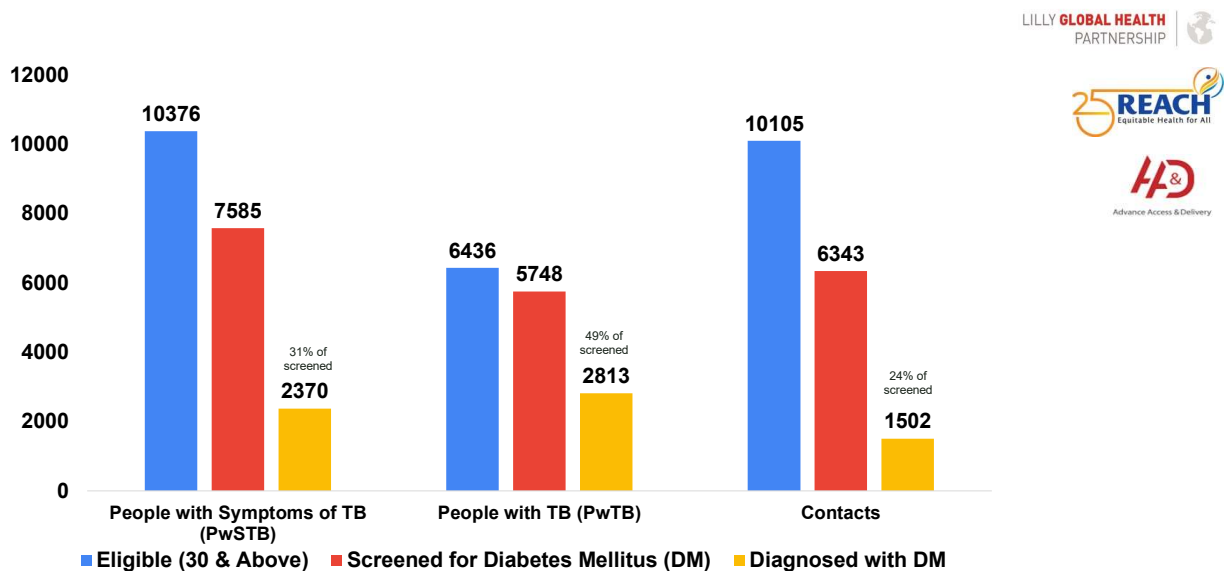
Figure 2: Cascade of care for different health conditions

Figure shows that the diagnostic gap is the largest gap for five of the six conditions. For hepatitis B virus infection, the only study is of Australia. Further details regarding the data shown are included in the appendix (pp 4-5).

Source: Lancet Commission on Diagnostics, 2021

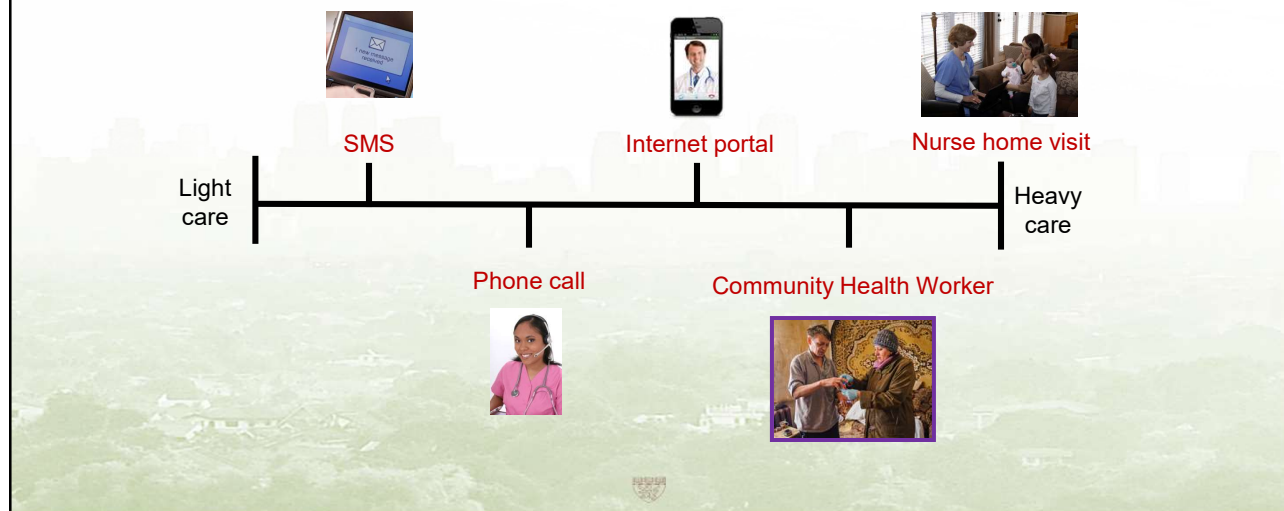
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Diabetes Screening in Chennai, India (2020-2022)



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**Delivering care across a spectrum for chronic diseases
will require changing the systems we use for care-delivery**

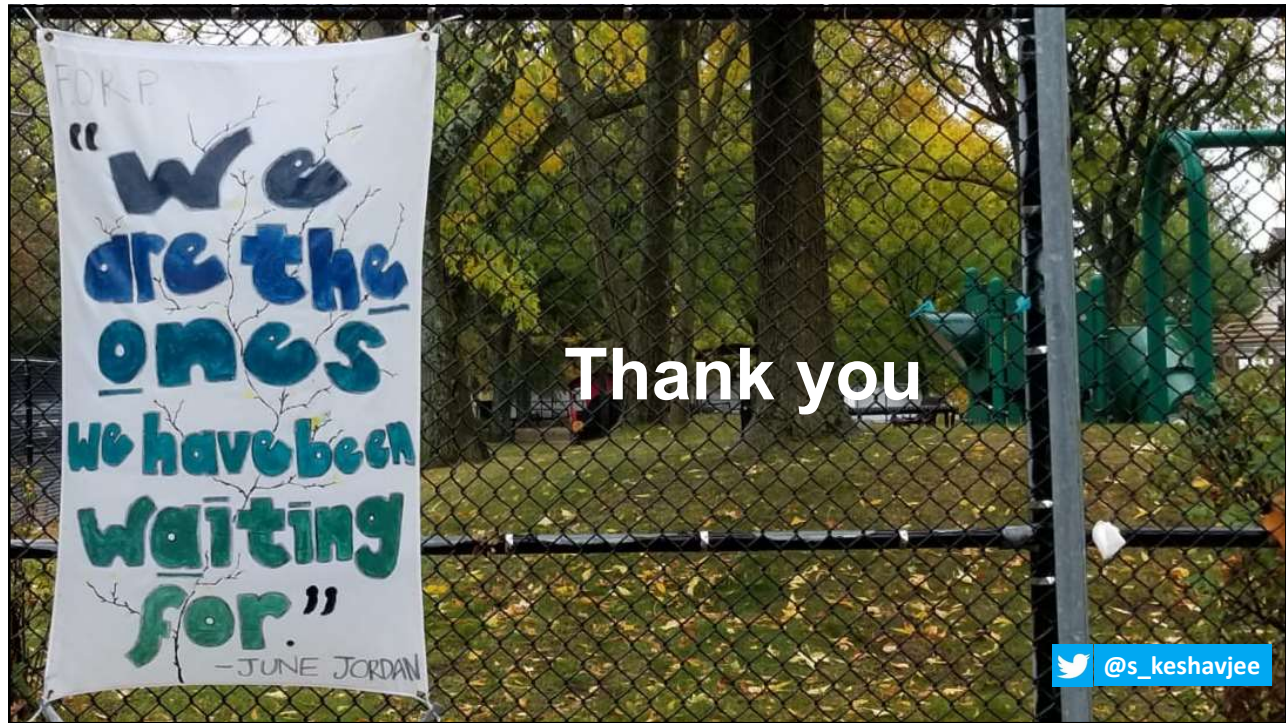


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Summary of key ideas

1. Systems designed to address TB have been shaped around the social determinants of disease and the recognition that TB and many other diseases are *bio-social* phenomena. This means that medicines alone are often not enough to stop morbidity and mortality.
2. Successful TB programs are designed around the patients and addressing their social needs. This not only supports equity in access and treatment, but leads to better health outcomes.
3. TB care delivery – with its focus on *search-treat-prevent* – can serve as a platform for care delivery for other diseases.

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