

Vuka! Let's unite towards a TB-free world!

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TB
Conference
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FIND THE MISSING MEN

UNIVERSAL TB TESTING IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT
PATIENTS AND COMPANIONS
BOTSHABELO HOSPITAL FREE STATE IN SA.

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BACKGROUND

- Men bears the highest burden of TB in SA (WHO)
- TB (tuberculosis) is the leading cause of mortality in SA
- > 1.2million woman in SA tested TB NAAT
- < 1million men test in 2025 (NICD/NHLS data dash board)

- Opportunity to reach population with undiagnosed TB:
 - Emergency department (ED's)
 - Represent important settings, but underutilized for TB testing and screening.
 - Serve many at risk individuals, who do not have access to other health care service
 - Men less likely access health care
 - Approximately 65% of women live with HIV go to clinics, often because of pregnancy, children.

- Results describe an observational study examining TB testing yield among patients and companions.

MAIN OBJECTIVE

- To identify high risk men with undiagnosed TB in ED's
 - More men come to ED's due to injury, assault, motor vehicle collision.
 - Men accompany friends, family members and colleagues.



METHOD

Participants

Unselected adults above 18yrs

Patients and companions

Regardless of symptoms or risk factors

Phase 1

Men only

Phase 2

Men and female patients and companions

*UBACC method

Potential participants able to understand information

*UBACC method a 10-item rapid screening tool to assess a potential research participant's ability to provide informed consent

METHOD

Assessments

Clinical history

Weight, height, BMI and HIV counselling and testing

Single spot sputum collected with coaching

TB testing (BD Max)

TB positive (linked to care 24hrs)

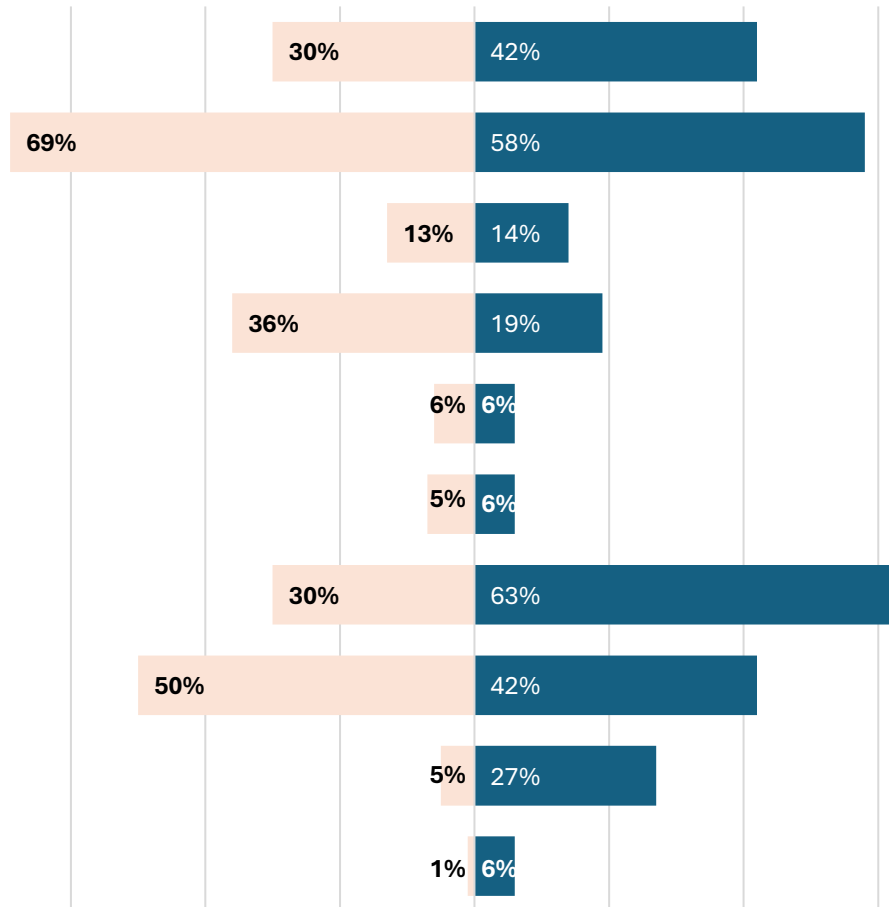
TB positive

- in -person follow up at 2 weeks,
- telephonically at 8 weeks.



RESULTS

- Screened n=1384 and Enrolled n= 834
- Participants n=742 (results). *(100% were able to produce sputum specimen)*
- Female (n=264) Male (n= 478)



In ED as patient

In ED as companion

WHO symptom screen positive

Living with HIV

History of prior TB

Close TB contact

Current smoker

Alcohol misuse (AUDIT C)

History of incarceration

Mining history

Male and Female similar risk factors.

- WHO symptoms screen positive
- History of prior TB
- Close TB contact

RESULTS

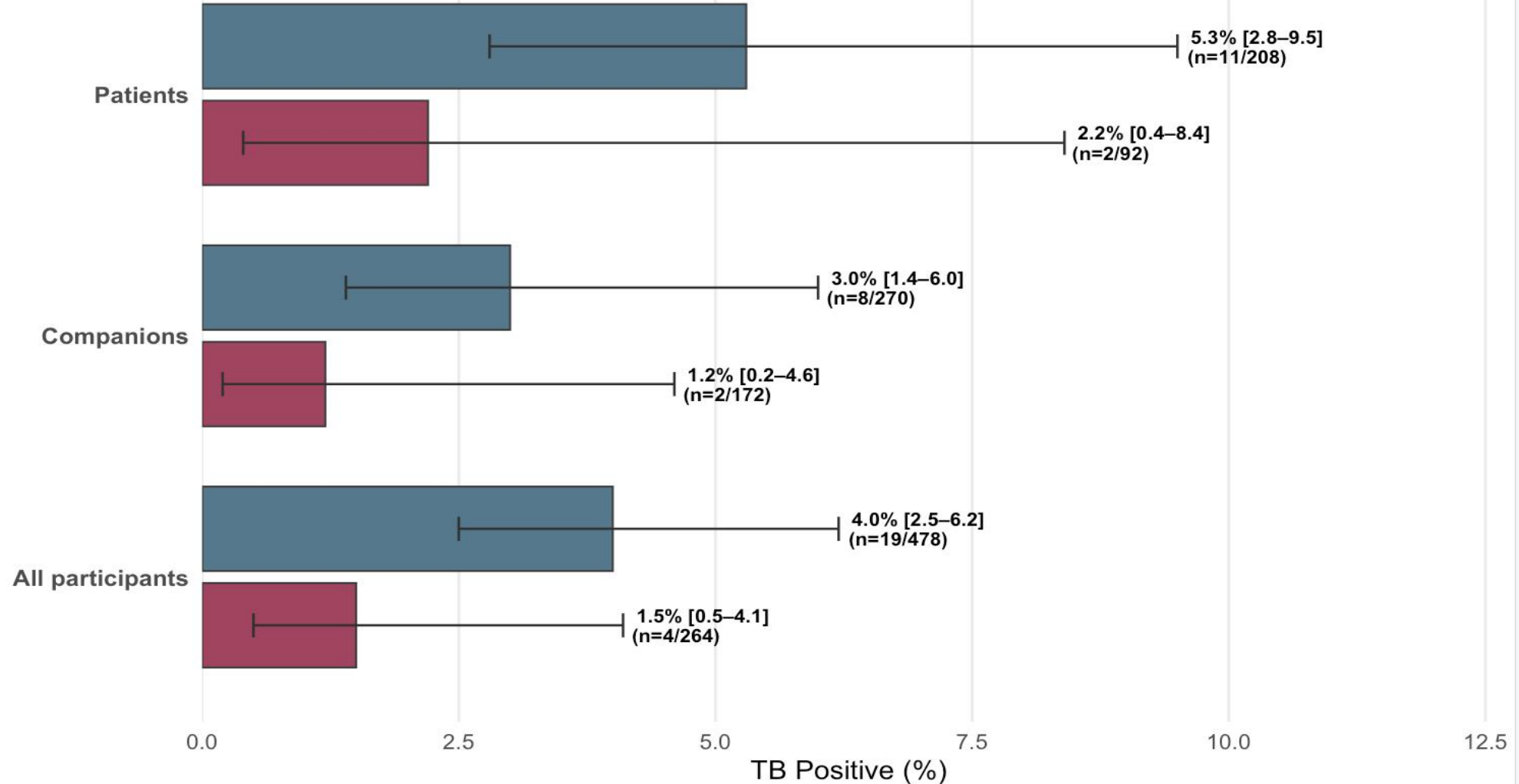
MTB Detected	(N=23)
Patients	57%
Companions	43%

	Symptomatic	Asymptomatic
Patients	8% (n=1)	92%(n=12)
Companions	20%(n=2)	80%(n=8)

MTB YIELD RESULTS

Sex Female Male

Overall testing yield 2.7% | Men 4% (95% CI 2.5 – 6.2) | Women 1.5% (95% CI 0.5 – 4.1)



CONCLUSION

01

Asymptomatic participants can produce sputum through coaching

02

MTB yield is 2 times higher in men compared to women

03

**ED's settings are missed opportunities.
Key public initiative to reach TB hidden infection especially in men.**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

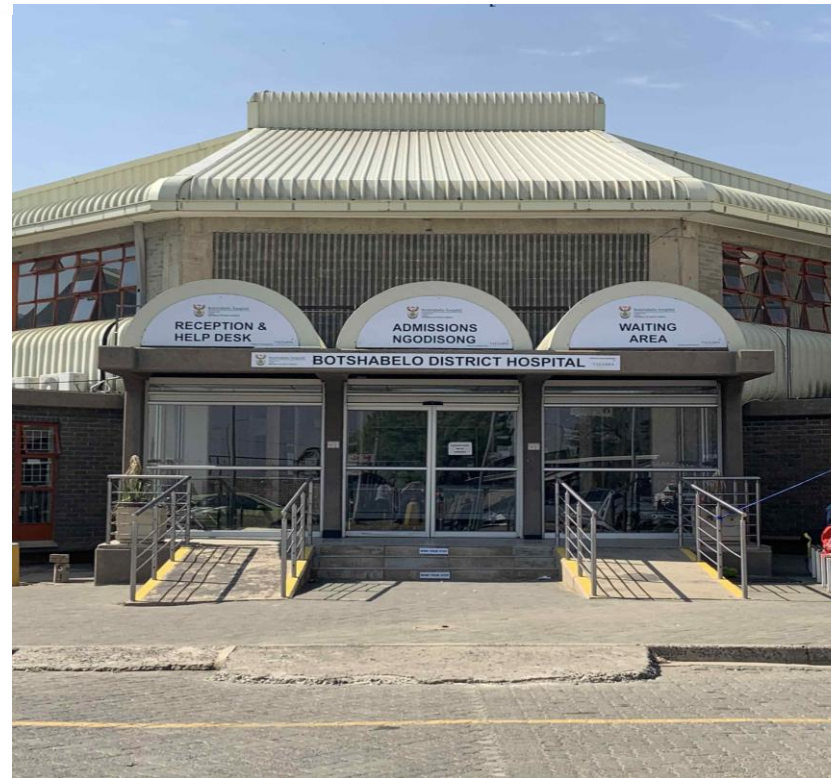


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