

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

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Title

Factors that influence the implementation of TB guidelines at King Cetshwayo district.

Background

- **Tuberculosis was the second leading infectious cause of death globally in 2020 after COVID-19.**
- **Effective TB control depends on adherence to the WHO guidelines, which countries adapt to their local contexts and health system needs.**

Problem statement



- **Countries adapt WHO TB guidelines to local contexts (WHO, 2023), yet little is known about the drivers of effective implementation in South Africa's King Cetshwayo District, and TB remains a persistent public health challenge.**
- **Therefore, this study seeks to investigate the factors influencing the implementation of TB guidelines in public healthcare facilities in the King Cetshwayo District, identify barriers, and inform strategies to strengthen TB service delivery and improve patient outcomes.**

Methods

- **This study employed a quantitative descriptive research design, and data were collected using Likert-scale questionnaires from N=40 Operational and HAST managers at selected PHC facilities in the King Cetshwayo Health District.**
- **Sampling was through census sampling.**
- **Data were analysed using SPSS version 31 to generate statistical results.**

Results

- **The study results demonstrated a strong agreement with the statements below: Respondents were aware of the latest updates to the TB management protocols, $M = 3.60$, $p < 0.001$.**
- **They were well-prepared to train others in the use of TB management guidelines, $M = 2.55$, $p > 0.001$.**
- **They believed that following TB guidelines improves patient outcomes, $M = 4.20$, $p < 0.001$.**
- **Respondents believe that all TB staff should be regularly trained on the latest TB management guidelines $M = 4.43$, $p < 0.001$.**

Results



- The study revealed that healthcare workers did not receive adequate training on the new TB guidelines in the past 5 years ($M=2.43$, $p<0.001$).
- Study revealed that there is no system in place to monitor and evaluate the implementation and compliance of TB guidelines ($M=2.68$, $p>0.001$).
- There was a moderate level of agreement with the statement that staff in the facilities were well-oriented about changes in the TB guidelines ($M=3.05$, $p>0.001$).

Interpretation

- Findings suggested that although healthcare workers may be knowledgeable about TB guideline updates, they may lack sufficient confidence, mentorship skills, or formal preparation to effectively transfer this knowledge to colleagues.
- Inadequate training amongst HCWs may compromise the quality and consistency of TB care, contribute to deviations from recommended practices, and ultimately negatively affect patient outcomes.

Interpretation

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- This finding highlights a clear recognition among healthcare workers that guideline-based practice contributes to improved quality of care, treatment success, and better patient management as,
 - Respondents displayed a positive attitude towards TB program.

Interpretation

- **Monitoring and evaluation of the TB program is one of the critical components that positively affect the success of the TB program.**
- **The absence of robust M and E systems may limit the ability of healthcare institutions to identify implementation gaps, provide corrective support, and ensure adherence to national TB guidelines.**

Programmatic / Policy Implications

There is a special need for:

- **Identification of the implementation gaps, provision of corrective support, and ensuring adherence to national TB guidelines**
- **Engage on skills audit to identify HCWs that are trained on the TB program.**
- **Facilities to develop a strong M and E system within the TB program.**

Conclusion & Key Take-Home Messages



- **A special need for capacity-building amongst HCWs in a structured way, that will meet the standards of training-of-trainers programs and supportive supervision within facilities.**
- **Routine audits and monitoring frameworks must be a day-to-day activity to improve compliance and programme effectiveness, especially at a grassroots level.**
- **TB guidelines implementation requires a coordinated programmatic approach, which requires accountability from all levels of care.**

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**THANK
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