COVID19 & TB preventive therapy: the time scale up 3HP is now!

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TB and COVID19 Biological interactions

- TB infection & disease may
 - Increase susceptibility to COVID19
 - Worsen COVID19 outcomes
- COVID19 may
 - Increase risk of progressing to TB disease in TB infected persons
 - Worsen TB treatment outcomes
 - Exacerbate post TB lung disease



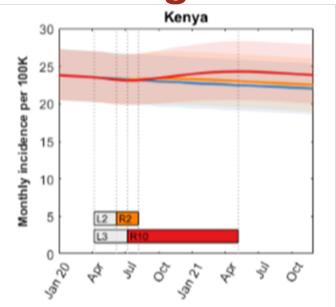
Impact of COVID19 response on TB services

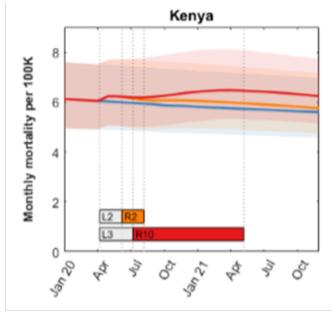
Reduction in number of

- Diagnostic tests for TB
- Patients treated for TB
- Contact investigations
- Persons living with HIV and household contacts starting TB preventive therapy



Impact of COVID19 responses on TB control in high-burden countries

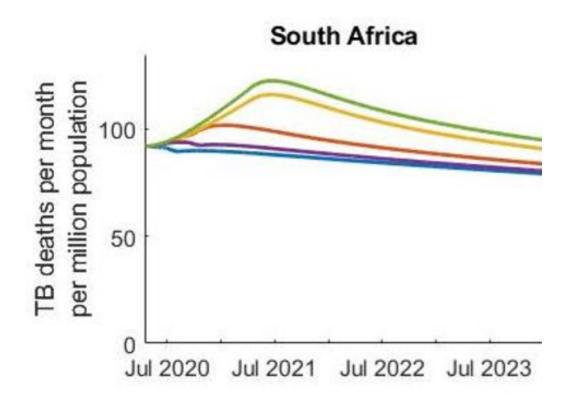




- The COVID-19 lockdowns may impact on TB in high-burden settings, by limiting access to TB diagnostic & treatment services
- Globally, a 3-month lockdown and a protracted 10-month restoration could lead to an additional 6.3 million cases of TB & 1.4 million TB deaths between 2020 and 2025

(Cilloni et al, medRxiv preprint, 2020)

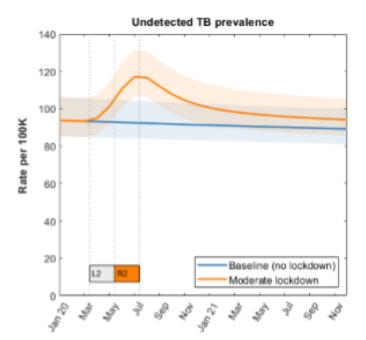
Impact of COVID19 responses on TB mortality in South Africa

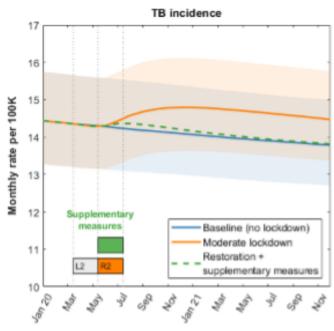






Impact of COVID19 responses on TB control in high-burden countries

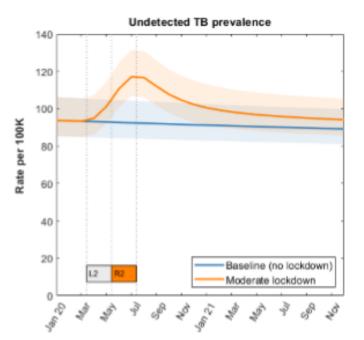


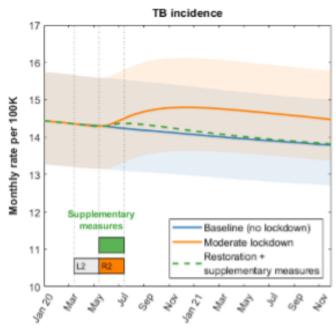


- To reduce the impact of COVID19 on TB, requires strengthening
 - Access to quality assured TB diagnostic, treatment and preventive therapy services
 - Infection control measures
 - Active case-finding & contact tracing
 - anti stigma measures



Impact of COVID19 responses on TB control in high-burden countries





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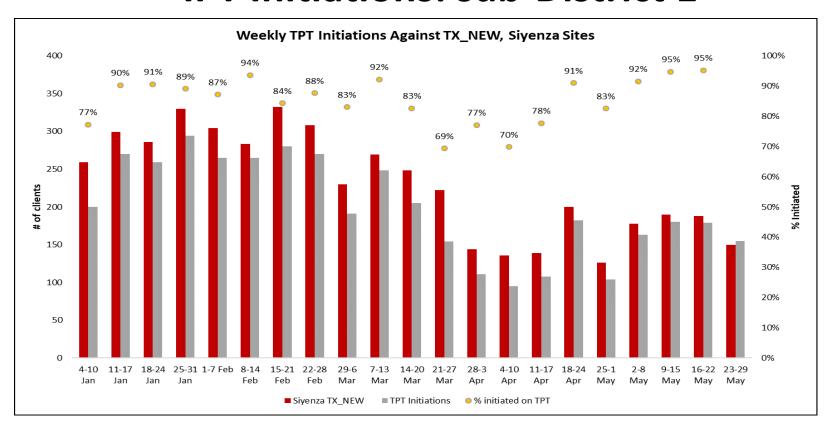
IPT uptake in SA during COVID19





Data as at 29 May 2020

IPT Initiations: sub-District 1



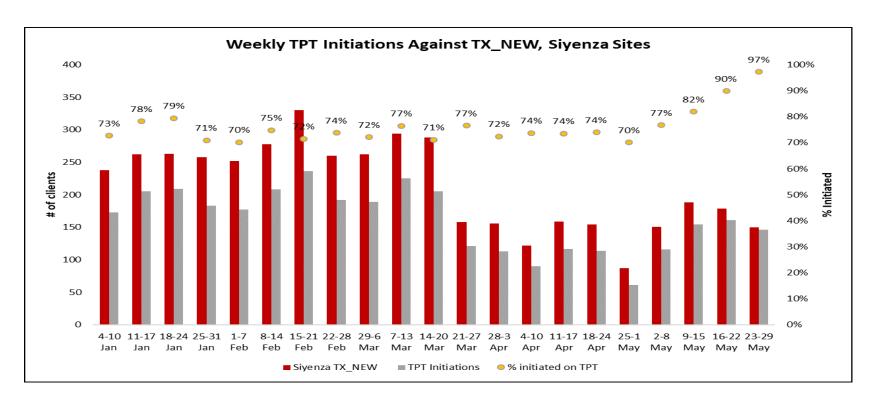


The target is to ensure that at least 80% of new initiations are started on IPT.





IPT Initiations: sub-District 2





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3HP a potential game changer

- WHO prioritized scaling up TB preventive therapy as part of the End TB Strategy
- 3HP a potential "game changer" for TB prevention in HBCs
 - Shorter
 - Less toxic
 - Better adherence
 - Higher barrier to resistance
 - At least similar efficacy
 - Less burden to health programmes to implement
 - Safe with EFV-based regimens





South Africa's plans for scaling up 3HP

- Stationary developed and training being conducted
- 3HP will be available in select clinics from July
- 2020: Scale up of 3HP will begin in 4 Global Fund supported districts across 4 provinces
 - Aim to start ~1 million PLWHIV on 3HP
- 2021: 3HP will be scaled up to include 23 districts in Global Fund, PEPFAR and Phuthuma supported districts









Conclusion

- COVID19 responses can potentially worsen TB control
- COVID19 may increase the risk of developing TB and worsen TB treatment and long term outcomes
- Strategies to help mitigate the impact of COVID19 on TB control include
 - Integrating COVID19 & TB services
 - Including scaling up 3HP
 - Addressing impact of COVID19 on ART delivery
- 3HP for TB prevention among PLHIV & contacts is a potential game changer
- South Africa is poised to roll out 3HP