

# FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH LOW TB PREVENTATIVE THERAPY PRESCRIPTION RATES AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN RURAL SOUTH AFRICA

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## INTRO

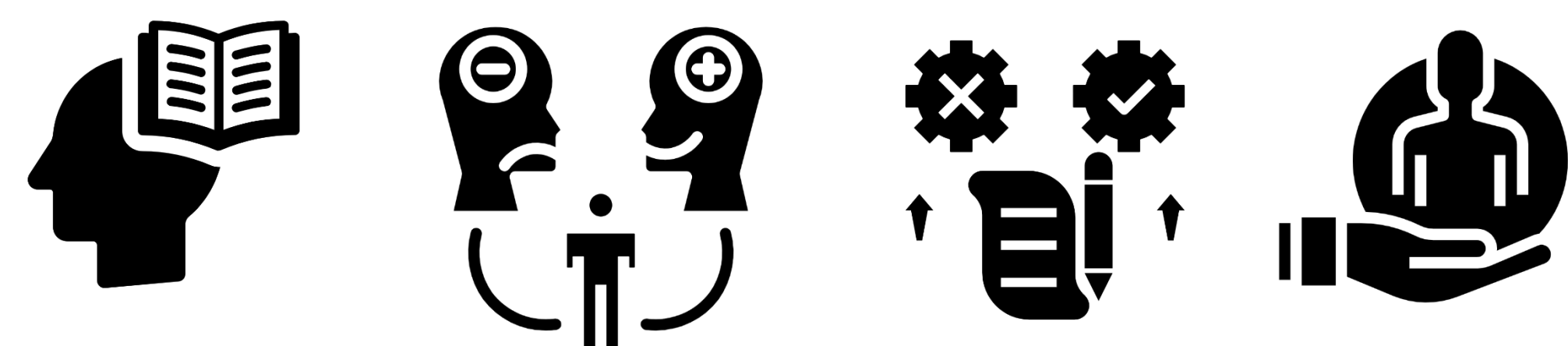
- South Africa's initial rollout of TB preventative therapy (TPT) has been successful in *reducing* TB mortality among people living with HIV (PLHIV).
- However, recent data suggests prescription rates have decreased.

## OBJECTIVE

- Identify factors associated with low TPT prescription rates among healthcare workers (HCWs) in rural South Africa

## METHODS

- Cross-sectional survey was administered Nov-Dec 2019
- At 14 primary health care clinics (PHCs) and a 350-bed rural district hospital
- HCW self-reported data on the following (KAPB) were obtained:



- Regression identified correlates of low prescription rates, defined as prescribing to <50% of eligible PLHIV

HCWs who believed their patients do not disclose TPT status were significantly less likely to prescribe TPT to PLHIV

Table 1 . Factors associated with low TPT prescription rates (n=54)

	Odds ratios (95% confidence intervals)	
	Univariate	Multivariate
<b>HCW Knowledge</b>		
Poor self-reported knowledge score	5.23 (0.85-32.08)	**
Poor knowledge of guidelines score	0.63 (0.06-6.51)	**
<b>HCW Beliefs on Patient Stigma</b>		
Stigma score	1.28 (0.40-4.11)	**
Poor patient disclosure score	4.17 (1.23-14.14)	<b>4.17 (1.23-14.14)</b>
<b>HCW Attitudes</b>		
Negative attitude score	2.91 (0.79-10.65)	**
Fear of adverse events score	0.93 (0.24-3.65)	**
<b>Patient Factors</b>		
Poor patient knowledge score	3.39 (0.66-17.25)	**
Poor patient attitude & practices score	2.36 (0.42-13.14)	**
<b>Organizational Level Factors</b>		
Poor training score	2.58 (0.63-10.55)	**
Poor time to counsel score	4.67 (0.39-55.48)	**
Poor INH supply score	4.67 (0.39-55.48)	10.10 (0.95 – 106.92)

## RESULTS

- Among 160 HCWs, median ( $\pm$ IQR) age was 39 ( $\pm$ 13) years, 76% women, 78% worked at PHCs.
- **35% (n=54) were prescribers**, including senior nurses (82%) & medical officers (19%)
- Having a **poor INH supply** trended towards significance on multivariate analysis (Table 1).

## DISCUSSION

- Strengthening HCW training about indications for and mortality benefit of TPT as well as stigma reduction is critical to enhancing TPT implementation in rural South Africa

