

PC-71453-12 Household TB screening and HIV testing

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Background: ZAMSTAR (Zambia South Africa TB and AIDS reduction Trial) is a community-randomised trial of 2 interventions to reduce the prevalence of TB at community level. One of the interventions under trial is household level TB-HIV collaborative activities and 8 sites in Zambia have been randomised to receive this intervention.

Method: Three communities with household interventions were selected. TB index cases were used as entry points to the household. Household members were enrolled after written informed consent. TB-HIV education was conducted as well as HIV counselling. TB screening was done using a symptom screen; those with symptoms were referred for sputum examination and chest X-ray. HIV testing was done either at home or the clinic.

Results: Over the 3-month period, 90 households were recruited with 287 adults members consenting for the intervention. Of these, 211 (73%) were counselled, 81 (38%) were tested for HIV and (72%) were HIV positive. Out of 124 adults screened for TB, 4 (3%) smear positives cases were diagnosed.

Conclusion: Household intervention contributed to identifying infectious TB cases (3%) and may improve HIV testing uptake.