43. Magic bullet? Data-driven insights on the impact of community workers on case detection and treatment outcomes

Saturday, 01 November 2014, 09:15 - 11:15
Room 116

Type: Symposium
Track: Nurses and Allied Professionals (TB, HIV, Tobacco and Lung Health)
Topic: Strategies to improve patient care and treatment services

Description:
Community workers are often invoked as a solution to expand the reach of cash-strapped TB programmes worldwide. In the age of active case finding, armies of volunteers, minimally remunerated community activists and village liaisons are being trained in a wide range of TB tasks. The resources invested in scaling-up CBDO.ts are significant, but discerning the results has been more challenging. This session delves into the yield from 7 different programmes and offers powerful insights into what does and doesn’t work.

Target audience:
TB programme staff, donors, technical agencies, activists and civil society.

Objectives:
1. To invite critical reflection on the effectiveness of volunteers and community outreach workers
2. To report on rigorously conducted evaluations in 4 countries
3. To understand the methodological challenges to disentangling attribution
4. To learn best practices for unpacking the added-value (if any) of community workers

Keywords:
Community volunteers; cost effectiveness; yield; DOTS; return on investment; evaluation

Coordinator(s):
Ellen Mitchell (Netherlands)

Chair(s):
Kate Macintyre (Kenya), Charlotte Colvin (USA)

Presentations:
09:15 - 09:40 Assessment of cost-effectiveness of community-based TB care in Namibia
Kelsey Vaughan (Netherlands)

09:45 - 10:05 Time trend analysis of the impact of CB DOTS on case detection in Mozambique 2009-2013
Conjera Juliana (Mozambique), Dario Sacur (Mozambique)

10:10 - 10:30 Comparison of the effectiveness of Global Fund, TB REACH and TBCARE community volunteer models for boosting case detection in Nigeria
Adejumo (Nigeria), Onuka Okorie (Nigeria)

10:35 - 10:50 Methodological challenges in measuring the impact of community volunteers and extension workers on case detection
Ellen Mitchell (Netherlands)

10:55 - 11:15 Results of an RCT to boost the effectiveness of CDOTS watchers referral and case detection in Cambodia
Tonsing (Cambodia)