

STATE OF TB INFECTION CONTROL IN GAUTENG PUBLIC HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

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BACKGROUND

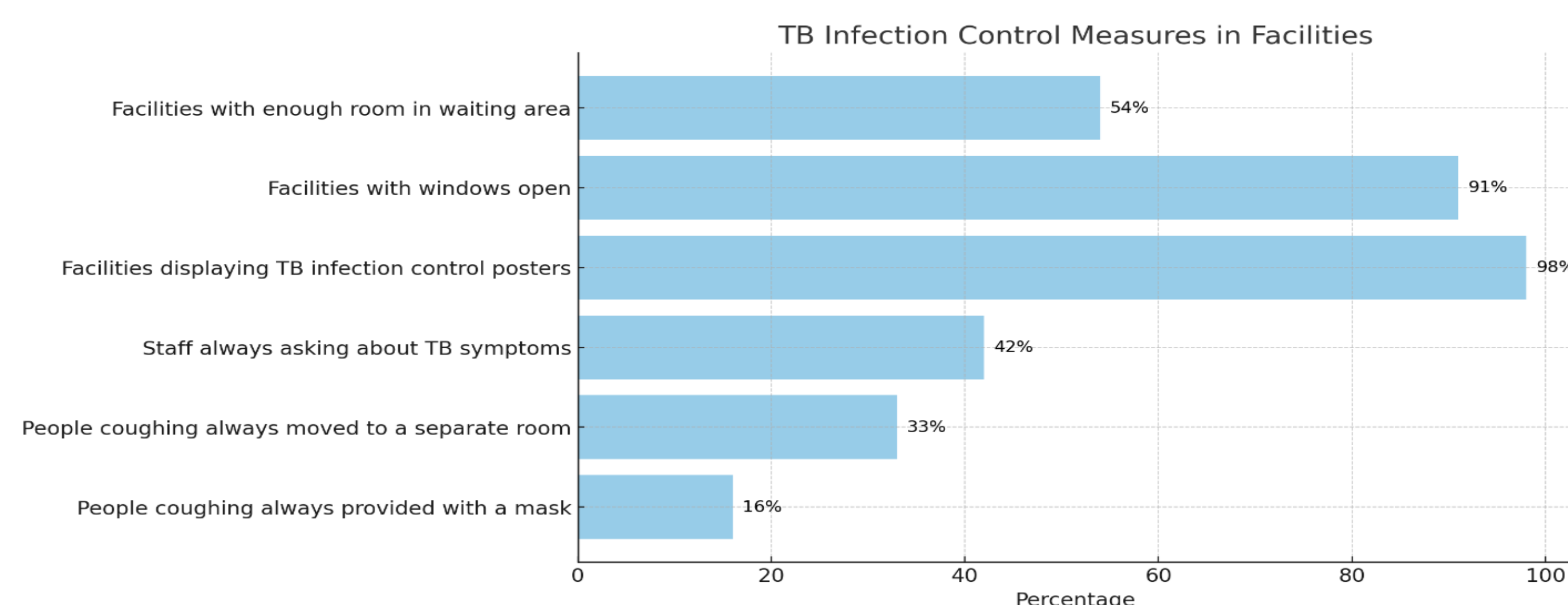
- Tuberculosis (TB) remains a significant public health challenge in South Africa, with high rates of HIV co-infection.
- The estimated TB incidence rate is 615 per 100,000 population.
- The Ritshidze project collected data to assess TB infection control measures in Gauteng public healthcare facilities.
- Better understanding of these factors may inform tailored responses for TB prevention, testing and treatment delivery to improve experiences for service users.

METHODS

The Ritshidze Model

- Ritshidze consists of community members gathering evidence on health service delivery and performing analyses to generate solutions, engage with duty bearers, and lead advocacy for high-quality person-centered care.
- Electronic surveys were conducted among 6,679 public healthcare users between July and August 2023, and 129 health facility observations were conducted.
- Data were analyzed descriptively and presented in frequencies and percentages

RESULTS



CONCLUSION

- Significant gap between policy and practice in TB infection control in public healthcare facilities in Gauteng.
- Basic measures like keeping windows open and displaying posters are generally followed.
- Critical measures like mask provision, moving coughing individuals to separate rooms, and screening patients for TB symptoms need better enforcement
- High-quality care is fundamental to successfully achieving TB-related outcomes.
- CLM offers perspectives on the day-to-day operations of public health facilities in South Africa.

How do we know if our clinics have good TB infection control?

- 1 Is there enough room in the waiting area?
- 2 Are you seen within 1 hour 15 minutes of arriving at the facility?
- 3 Are the windows open?
- 4 Are people in the facility waiting area asked if they have TB symptoms?
- 5 Are people who cough a lot or who may have TB given tissues or TB masks?
- 6 Are people who are coughing separated from those who are not?
- 7 Are there posters telling you to cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing?

SCORING SYSTEM:

- RED 3+ questions answered "no"
- YELLOW 1-2 questions answered "no"
- GREEN 0 questions answered "no"



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