Accelerating Uptake of Health Research Innovations into Policy and Practice

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Background

• A tiny minority of health research evidence goes into policy and practice.
• Using implementation of tuberculosis diagnostics we investigated the barriers and how to solve them.

Methods

• Health care audits, surveys, In-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and policy dialogues with healthcare professionals, service users, community leaders and policy makers.

Results

• 1119 respondents in 3 high TB burden countries
• Low coverage & underutilization of GeneXpert & LPA

Barriers in order of importance:

• Domestic under funding – low diagnostic coverage, shortage of supplies, understaffing, underservicing of test machines.
• Low knowledge and awareness – stigma
• Socio-economics (poverty) – unaffordability & inaccessibility
• Incompatible technologies to the available facilities & environment of application

Results: solutions

Fig 1: A four pillar model to translate research into practice

Conclusion: Successful translation requires consideration of the 4 pillars in early stages of Research & Development.

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