



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Improving Sputum Smear Follow up at 2 Months Among Clients With Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Bundibugyo General Hospital

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Introduction

- ▶ Ugandan MoH TB Prevention & Treatment Guidelines (2018), stipulate that all people with *P-BCs* require sputum smear Follow up *at 2, 5, and 6 months* during anti-TB treatment to establish treatment outcomes.
- ▶ At Bundibugyo hospital, baseline data showed only 40% of the *P-BCs* had their sputum smears tested at 2 months of treatment.

Methods

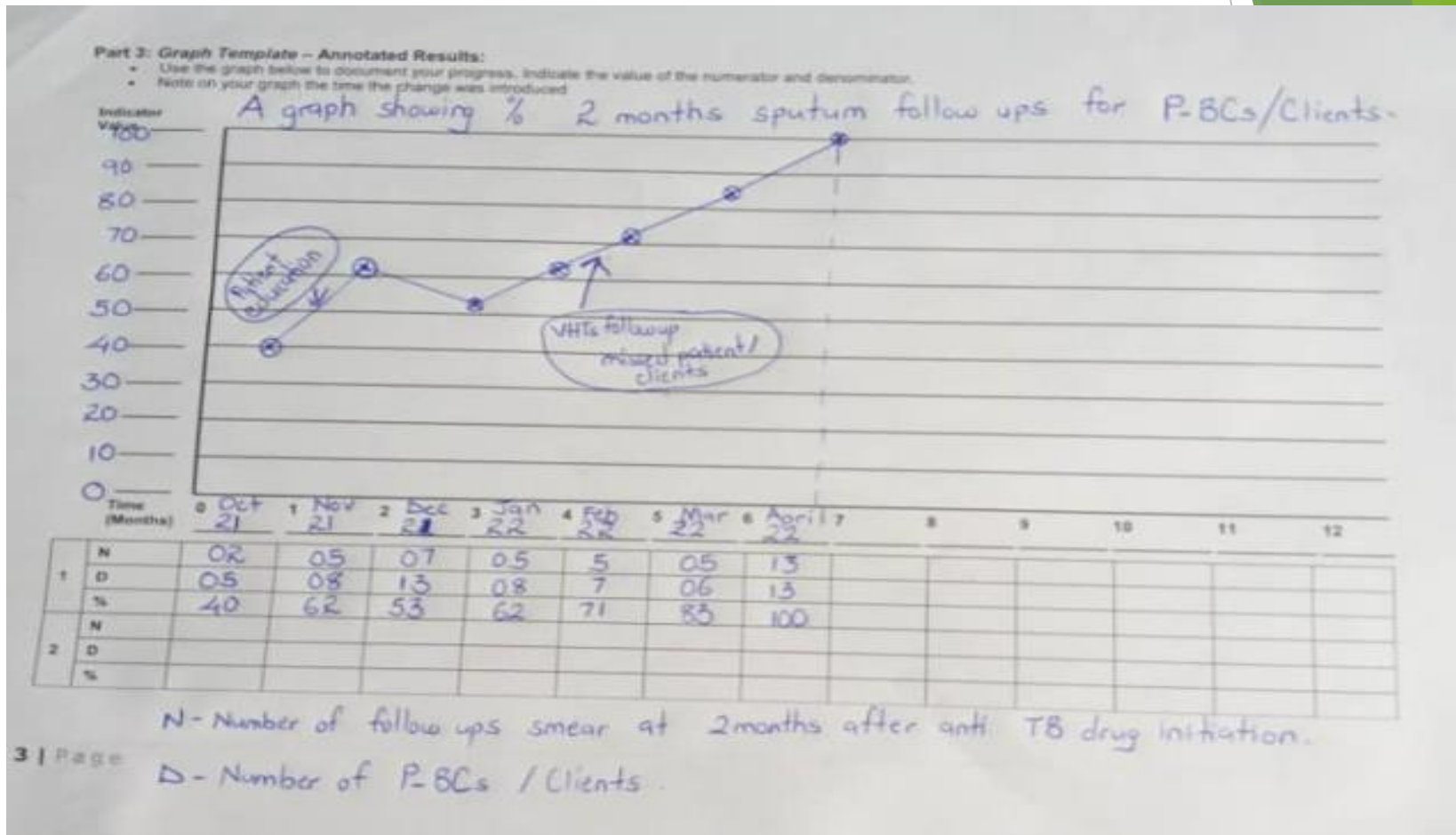
- ▶ With support of coaches from Baylor Uganda and Bundibugyo District, the TB clinic work improvement team conducted a root cause analysis to establish the reasons for low sputum smear follow up at 2 months.
- ▶ The reasons were:
 - TB clinic staff were not generating lists for follow up at 2 months
 - Increased turn around time for the lab results next day
 - VHTs not engaged in the quarterly data review meeting
 - Delayed return of clients for their scheduled appointments
 - Non communicated self transfer

Using the PDSA cycle the following changes were tested

- ▶ Health education of clients on TB treatment cascade
- ▶ Fast-tracking follow-up results from the laboratory
- ▶ Follow up of clients who missed appointments using the Village Health Teams.
- ▶ Monthly data collection and updating primary data tools.

Results & Discussion

Proportion of clients with sputum follow up at 2 months increased from 40% in October 2021 to 100% in April 2022



Results & Discussion cont'd

Discussion

- ▶ Sputum monitoring at 2 months is crucial for decision making on continuity on TB treatment for persons with bacteriologically confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
- ▶ Client-focused interventions once implemented can facilitate improved patient outcomes.

Lessons learnt

- ▶ Onsite Quality Improvement coaching and support supervision facilitates functionality of facility Quality Improvement.
- ▶ VHTs role is paramount to improving the quality of care.

Conclusion & Recommendation

- ▶ Client-focused strategies using a CQI approach enhances the performance of sputum smear follow up and should be scaled up at lower level health facilities.

Thank you