



## WHY THE STUDY?

- Gender impacts exposure and vulnerability to TB. Men bear a higher burden of TB compared to women, constituting a larger proportion of those missed by existing TB care services.
- Men's poor health-seeking behaviours is reinforced by societal norms around masculinity, which discourages them from seeking timely medical care.

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## WHAT WE DID

We used participatory methods to identify gender-specific interventions for systematic TB screening among men in Uganda. Working with 70 healthcare workers, TB survivors, policymakers and researchers, we used health-seeking pathways to outline ideal and actual health-seeking processes and identify barriers to TB care. Using the "stepping stones" approach, we then identified targeted interventions which would help link men with TB symptoms to TB services and care.



## OUR ANALYSIS

The insights obtained were synthesised during a co-analysis meeting with 17 participants, including representatives from each health facility, to develop consensus on proposed interventions.

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## WHAT WE FOUND

- The actual TB care pathways deviated from the ideal due to identified barriers within the healthcare system, and at individual and community levels.

To address those barriers, stakeholders suggested:

- Introducing male-specific services
- Integrating TB services that prioritise X-ray screening for men with a cough
- Developing training modules on integrated male-friendly services for healthcare workers
- Training and supporting TB champions to deliver health education to people seeking care
- Engaging private practitioners in TB screening



## WHAT THIS MEANS

This work is part of the wider IGNITE study (Improving TB case detection using a Gender-specific TB screening InTErvention in urban public health facilities in Uganda) which will pilot the proposed interventions to enhance TB care for men in Uganda.

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