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COSTS AT SCALE – A COST FUNCTION FOR HIV & TB SERVICES TO SUPPORT ALLOCATIVE EFFICIENCY ANALYSIS

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Background

- Simple transparent methods to transfer TB & HIV cost from one setting to another, particularly at scale
- Recent significant investments in developing cost models and datasets to support local analyses
- Do not account for the capacity of health systems when generating cost functions
 - rely on assume constant average costs when modelling scaling services
 - ignores economies of scale and scope
- We introduce a **mechanistic cost function designed to estimate the marginal costs of adding or integrating TB or HIV interventions within PHC**; explicitly accounts for capacity constraints
- Inform priority setting and resource allocation questions in time and data constrained settings
 - **Adding a new intervention onto the existing primary care platform**
 - **Scaling up any existing interventions**
 - **Integrating existing primary care services**

Aim

- Builds on published work that disaggregates site- and above-site level costs to capture effects of scale and scope
- Comprises terms differentiated by input type according to their behavior at scale
- Further disaggregates costs traditionally classified as fixed into fixed and semi-fixed
- Semi-fixed, remain constant until n reaches their respective maximum capacities, at which point costs increase to account for the additional facility or input required at that scale
- So, how does it work?

$$C = FP + \sum_i \left(\frac{n}{max_i} \right) FF_i + \sum_{i,k} \left(\frac{n}{max_k} \right) FK_{ik} + \sum_i VF_i \times n$$

FP – fixed program costs

FF – fixed facility costs

FK – fixed input costs

VF – variable costs

n – level of output/scale

max_i – maximum output per facility

max_k – maximum output per type of input

Max visits per facility



Max visits per staff

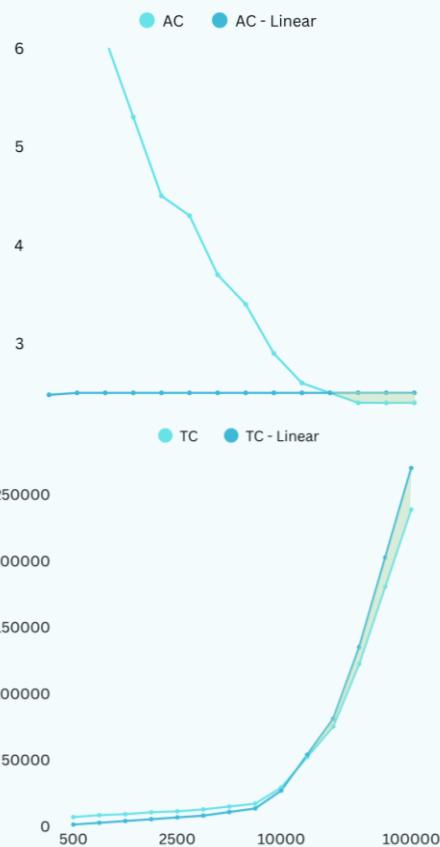
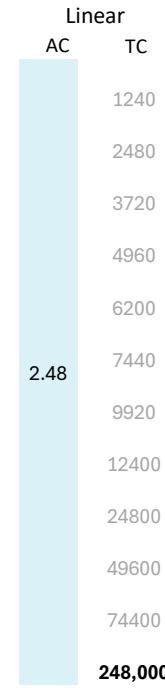


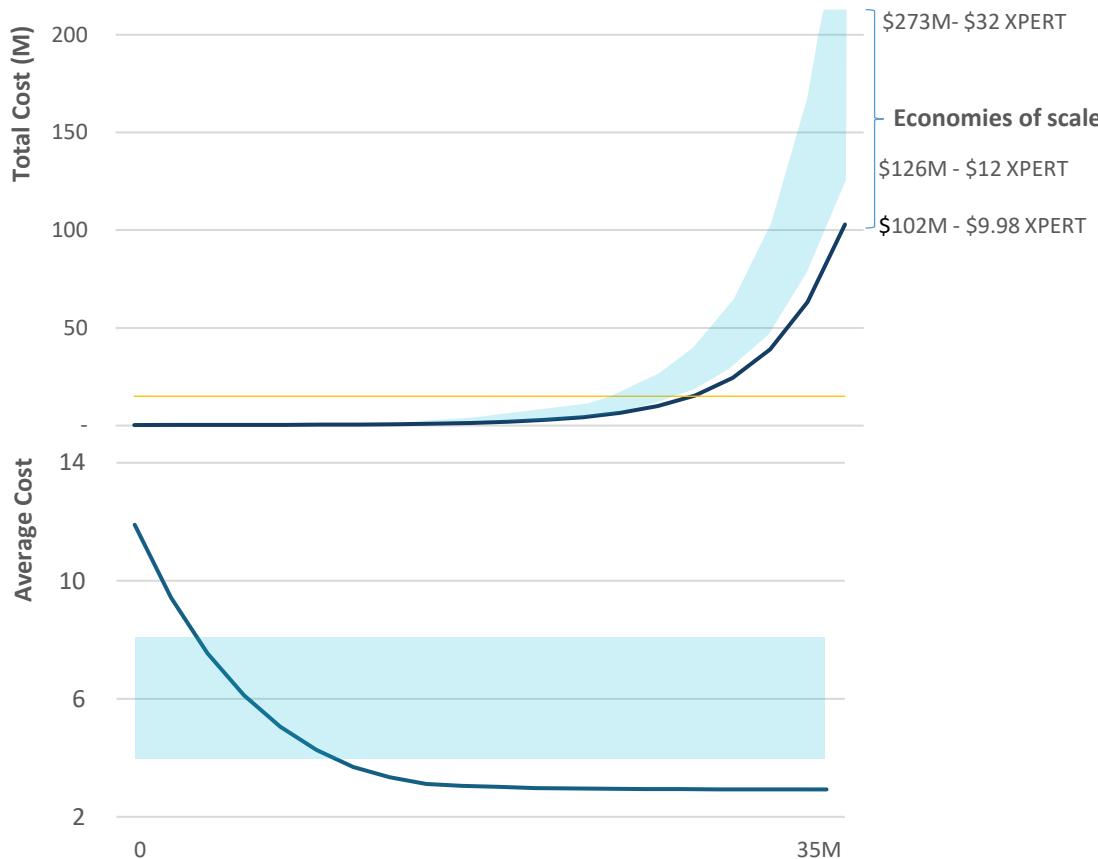
Facility level costs

Fixed Program (FP) - \$5,000
Fixed Facility (FF) - \$537
Fixed Staff (FS) - \$723
Variable - \$1.45

$$FP + \sum_i \left(\frac{n}{\max_i} \right) FF_i + \sum_{i,k} \left(\frac{n}{\max_k} \right) FK_{ik} + \sum_i VF_i \times n = C$$

Scale	FP	FF	FS	VC	Total cost	Average Cost
500				723	725	6985
1,000					1450	8433
1,500					2175	9158
2,000					2900	10606
2,500					3625	11331
3,000					4350	12779
4,000					5800	14952
5,000					7250	17125
10,000					10150	29250
20,000					11600	52240
30,000					13050	75230
100,000					29000	238,680





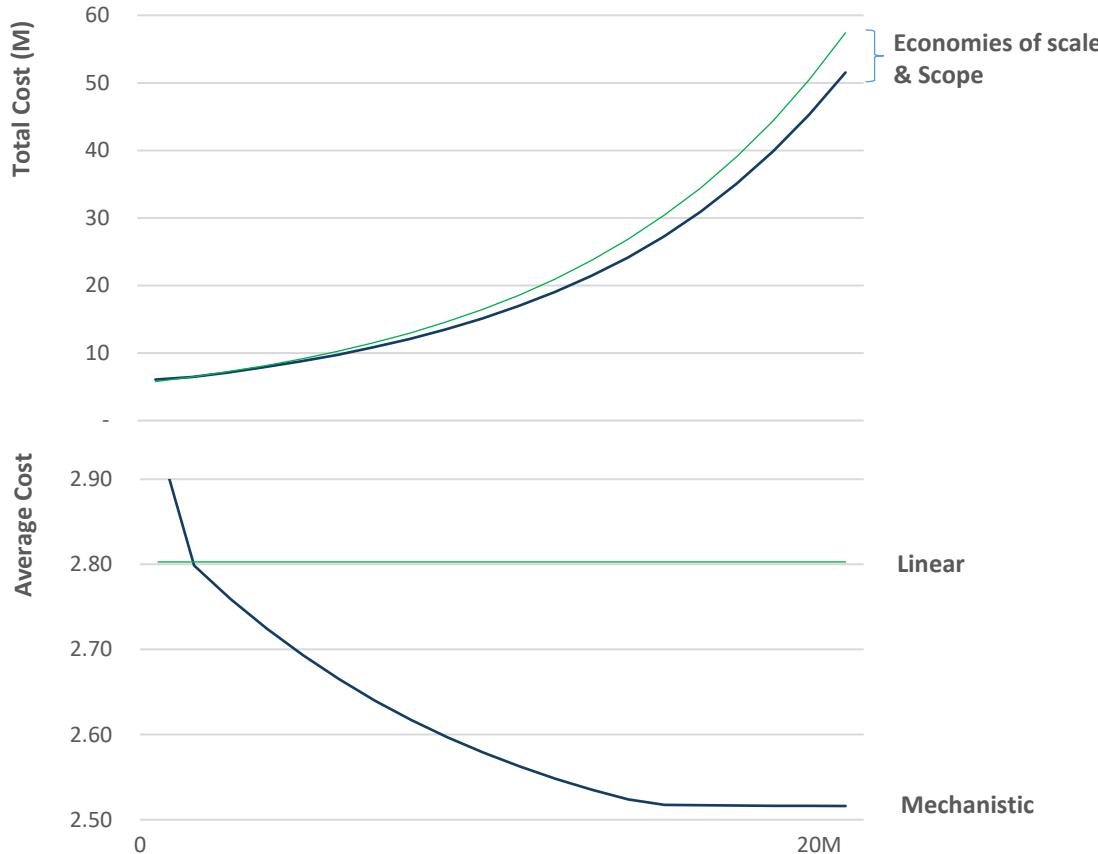
Use Case 1

Scale up of new service within the PHC platform (Xpert + ICF)

- Start from scratch → scale up to 90%
- All PHC visits receive WHO screening tool
- % receive XPERT

Disaggregate PHC and XPERT into fixed vs variable costs

- Max visits per facility, nurse, staff, equipment
- Fixed program costs
- Fixed facility costs
- Training
- Staff
- Equipment
- Variable costs – PHC visits and test



Use Case 2

Integration within PHC platform (Cervical cancer screening integration into Family Planning visits)

- Integrating into existing service – same staff that provides FP
- Coverage – national scale up (90%) given current utilization patterns

Disaggregate Family Planning costs into fixed vs variable costs with lower capacity given additional service times

- Max visits per facility, staff
- Fixed program costs
- Fixed facility costs
- Staff
- Variable costs – Family planning and screening

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