

Study protocol

The study was conducted at two Shoklo Malaria Research Unit (SMRU) tuberculosis clinics located on the Thai-Myanmar border. It specifically targeted adults who were newly diagnosed with pulmonary TB, participants were stratified into two groups based on their HIV status.

- Inclusion criteria:
 - Clinical and microbiological diagnosis of TB
 - Aged ≥ 18 years
 - Willingness to comply with study procedures, including staying in or near the SMRU TB clinics for minimum six months
 - Written consent form signed by participants
- Exclusion criteria:
 - Previous TB treatment
 - Known or suspected pregnancy
 - Detection of rifampicin resistance
 - Abnormal liver or renal function
 - Refusal to take a HIV test
 - Intention to receive TB treatment outside the study sites

During the enrolment process, suspected TB cases were evaluated using smear microscopy, GeneXpert testing, and sputum culture. Chest X-rays and tuberculin skin tests were also performed when necessary. HIV testing was then conducted in accordance with routine practices. Participants were then provided with information about the study in their native

language and were asked to sign a consent form. The selection process is outlined in the flow chart below.

