



THE TB SAMPLE REFERRAL SYSTEM (TSRS) TRAINING

Module 3

Design and communication structure of the Sample Referral system

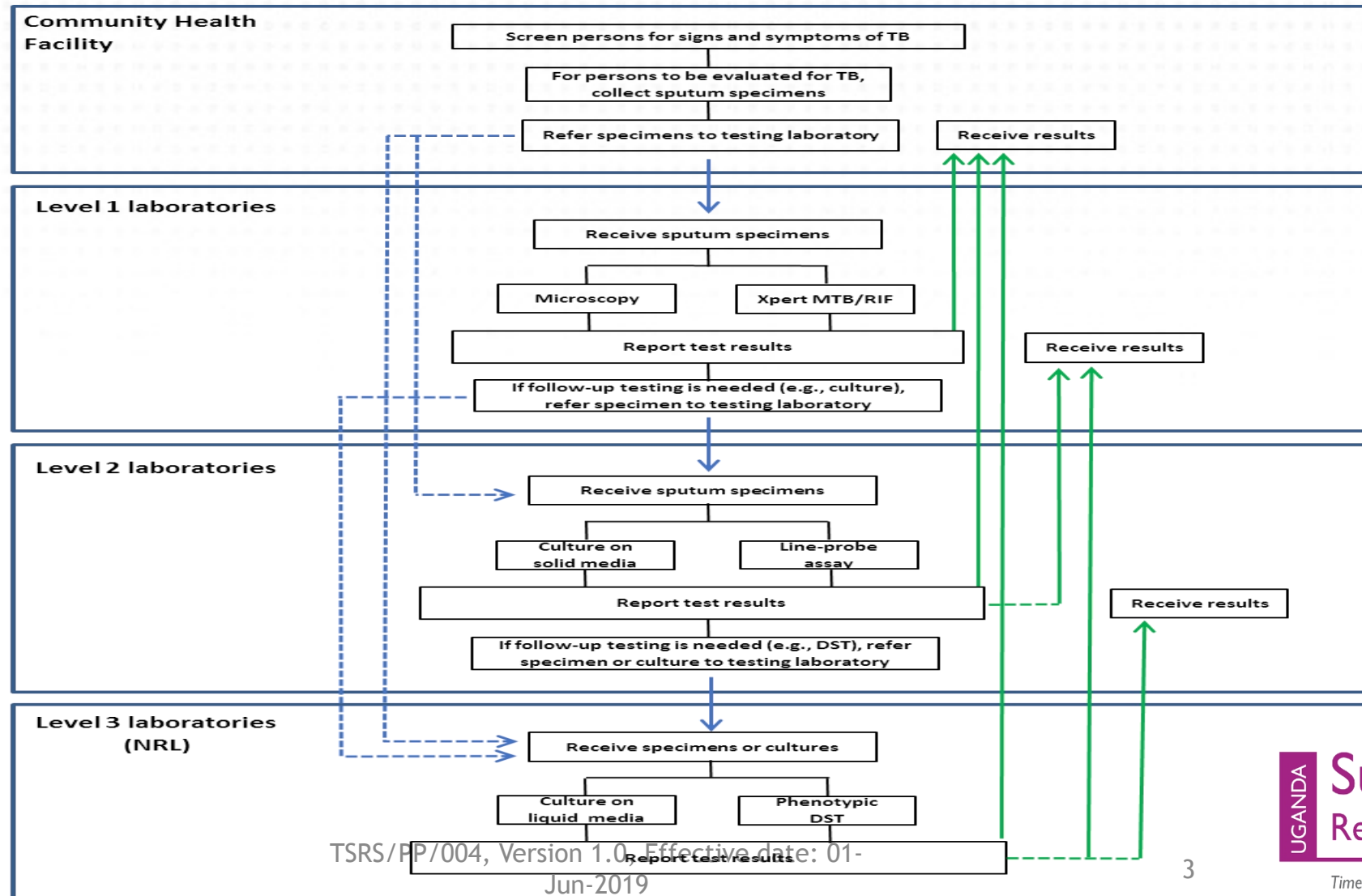
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NAME OF PRESENTER

OUTLINE

- Design of the TB Specimen Referral System(TSRS)
- An intergrated sample referral system - the Ugandan Hub transport system model
- Communication Structure in the TSRS
- Roles of stake holders in the Hub transport system

Structure and Design of a TB Specimen referral System



An Integrated Specimen Transport System –The case of Uganda (The Hub system)

- A hub is a laboratory situated within the health laboratory network with enhanced capacity for providing more lab services with better quality
- The hub is the main point in the health lab network that facilitates transportation of samples and result return
- Each hub has full time dedicated motorcycles and their riders, each rider follows a well laid out schedules for visiting health facilities

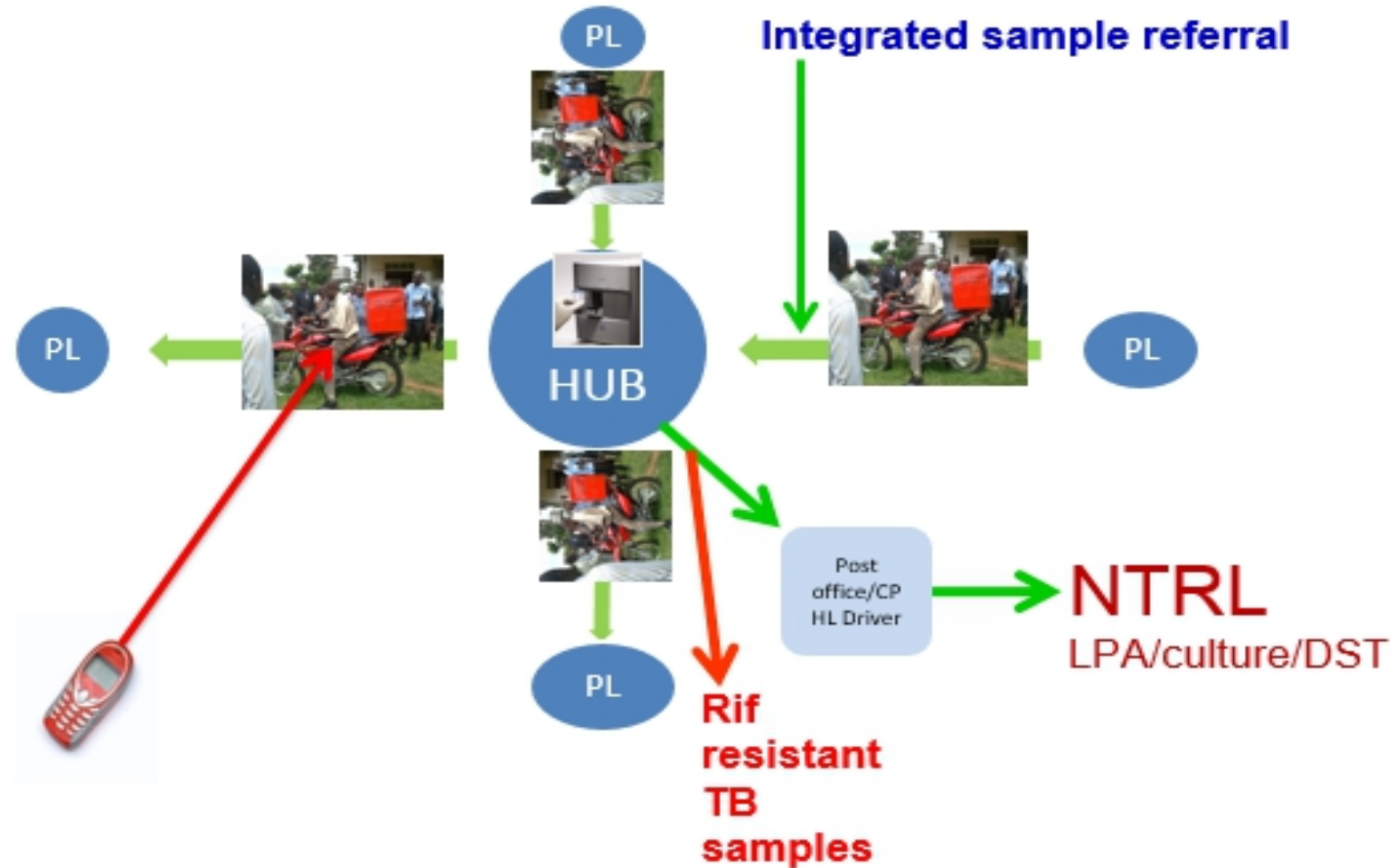
Purpose of the Hub Transport System

📖 To facilitate investigation of disease outbreak, surveillance and research

📖 To transport samples from peripheral health facilities to appropriate testing laboratories, track and return results

📖 To distribute relevant commodities

Collection HUBs to improve access to the peripheral centers

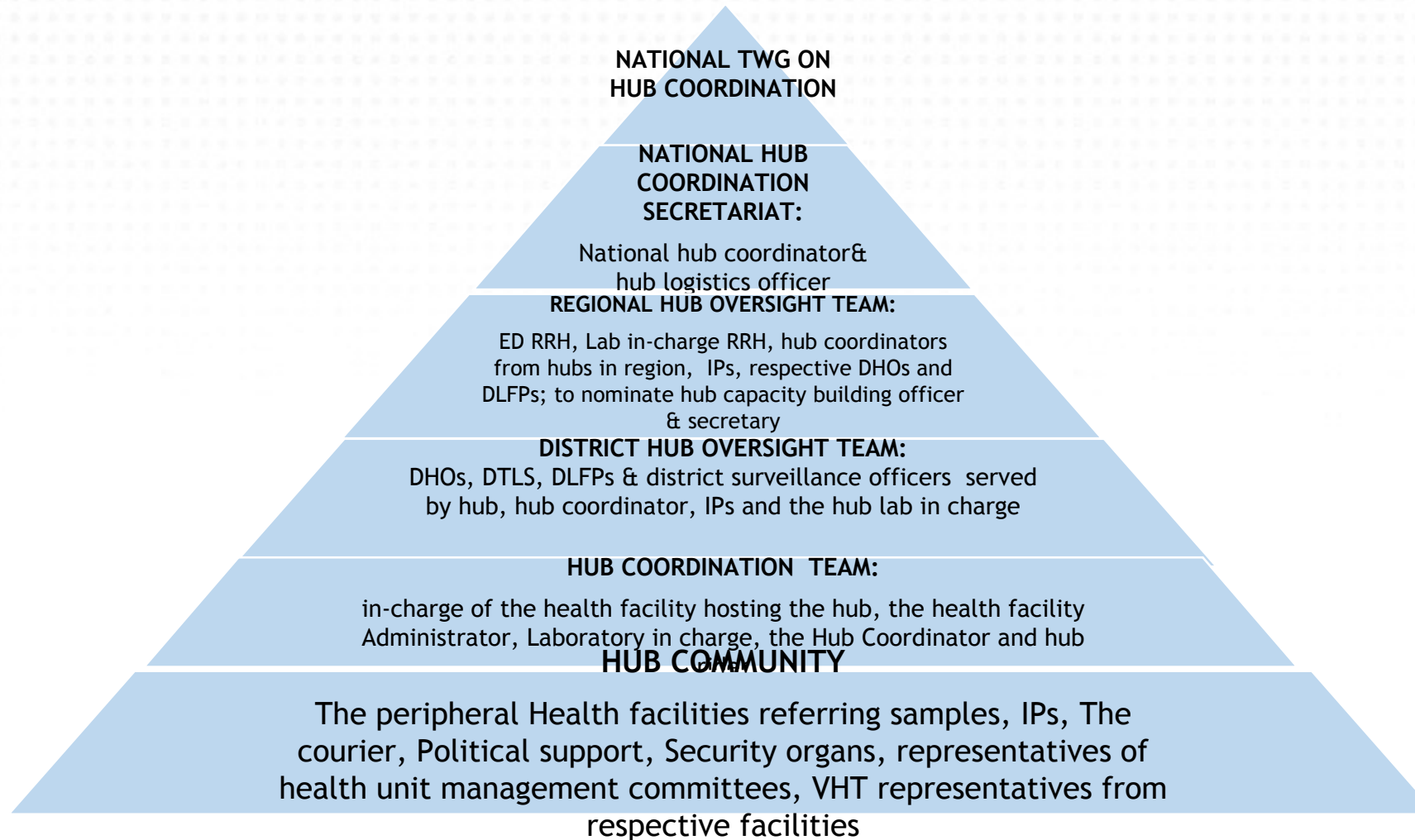


Functions of the Transport Hub (laboratory)

- 📖 To provide routine and referral testing services
- 📖 To provide training, mentorships and technical support
- 📖 To package, transport and track referred specimens for timely return of results to facilitate clinical diagnosis
- 📖 To coordinate Implementation of Lab QA system

Communication Structure in the TSRS and the roles of stake holders in the Hub transport system-Ugandan scenario

Communication Structure in the hub transport system



Exercise

1. Mention all the communication means that can be employed in hub communication, their advantages and disadvantages.

Roles of the National Technical Working Group

- Mobilize resources for the sample transport network
- Provide guidance to hubs and implementing partners when planning and budgeting for the hubs
- Harmonize operations of Implementing Partners
- To oversee hub operations during the transition period from one implement partner/project to another

Roles of the National Specialized Reference Labs

- Test samples referred for specialized testing and provide results within the acceptable turnaround time
- Produce and distribute proficiency testing panels to the hubs and peripheral laboratories
- Provide quarterly feedback reports, and technical support/to the hubs

- Provide quality improvement guidelines through operational standards

The Roles of the Regional Hub Coordination Committee

- Provide technical oversight to the hubs in the region
- Provide training, mentorships and support supervision to the hubs
- Coordinate partners' support
- Coordinate the quarterly hub meetings within the region

Roles of the District Hub Coordination Committee

- Coordinate partner support to ensure hubs are adequately funded
- Provide oversight function and the supervision of the sample transport network activities
- Conduct regular monitoring of the sample transport network activities

Roles of the District Hub Coordination Committee cont'd

- Hold quarterly stakeholders' meetings for sharing lessons learnt and good practices
- Works with stakeholders and district local governments to provide human and material resources necessary for running the hub
- Mobilizes political and community support

Role of the Courier

- Ensure timely dispatch of samples and return of results, keep records and packages well organized and maintain effective communication with partners
- Maintain records of samples/commodities sent and results packages returned
- Maintain open communication with CPHL, and district/hubs teams about the results delivery status
- Provide room to temporarily store samples/ commodities prior to transportation when required

Roles of the Implementing Partner

- Provide resources for infrastructure, equipment, additional personnel and to the hub lab to enable it provide specialized lab services to sites within its catchment area
- Provide funding support for day to day operations of the hub
- Provide support for mentorship and support supervision, and for quarterly performance review meetings

Roles of the Implementing Partner (cont'd)

- Build capacity in all sites for sample collection, and handling for all sample types
- Provide comprehensive insurance to the hub riders

Roles of the Community

- Report on suspected outbreaks immediately
- Provide moral support for the sample and results transport network
- Provide security for the hub rider and the health facilities
- Provide feedback on the functionality of the sample and results transport network

Role of the Hub Health facility

- Provide overall supervision/oversight of the hub and related activities
- Appoint an officer to the position of Hub coordinator and support him/her to execute their function
- Coordinate with other stakeholders in planning for hub activities
- Support laboratory in-charge in ensuring the hub laboratory executes minimum tests for referred samples

Role of the Hub Health facility cont'd

- Manage sample transport network resources which include;
 - 🌐 Hub Motorcycle (maintenance, repair and security)
 - 🌐 Fuel
 - 🌐 IT equipment (computer, printer, scanner, internet modems, phones)
- Review and approve hub reports from the hub coordinator

Assessment

1. List the key stake holders in a TB sample referral system?
2. Which role (S) does each of the key stake holder mentioned above play in the TB sample referral system?

Summary

- A well mapped and effective communication plan is very key in a TB sample referral network
- It very important that each stake holder is aware of their responsibilities in the TB sample referral system and who to communicate to

References

- GLI TB training package
<http://www.stoptb.org/wg/gli/trainingpackages.asp>
- Global tuberculosis report 2019,
<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/329368/9789241565714-eng.pdf?ua=1>
- GLI guide to TB specimen referral systems and integrated network
http://www.stoptb.org/wg/gli/assets/documents/GLI_Guide_specimens_web_ready.pdf
- Guidelines for the Uganda national health laboratory hub and sample transport network
<http://cphl.go.ug/sites/default/files/2019-06/Hub%20Guidelines.pdf>

Acknowledgments

