



THE TB SAMPLE REFERRAL SYSTEM (TSRS) TRAINING

Module 7

REPORTING OF PATIENTS RESULTS

xXth -xXth MONTH YEAR

NAME OF PRESENTER

OUTLINE

- Approaches to results reporting
- Benefits of electronic reporting
- Critical results reporting
- DR TB profiling

Exercise (10 minutes)

1. Discuss the benefits and limitation of a Paper based and Electronic/mobile delivery of results.

Approaches to results reporting

Two mechanisms can be employed:

1. Paper based

- Results may be reported using the same system for transport of samples e.g. the National Sample and Results Transport Network.

2. Electronic or mobile delivery of results.

- e.g. Online NRL dashboard, Email, SMS or SMS printers

Electronic Mechanisms

1. Online NRL dashboard

- Establishment of an NRL dashboard where results are uploaded by the NRL for access by the referring facilities.

2. Email

- NRL maintains email contacts of referring facilities.
- Electronic results emailed upon authorized.
- Clinicians acknowledge receipt for each batch of results sent.

Electronic Mechanisms-cont'd

3. SMS

- Can be used to report critical results.
- Results sent by this mechanisms are coded to ensure confidentiality.
- Normal reporting used to sent additional result.

4. SMS Printers

- Portable printers installed at referring facilities.
- Linked to NRL LIMS.
- Used to print text messages of results sent by NRL

Benefits of Electronic Results Dispatch

1. Reduces lost to follow-up rate of patients
 - Results are sent in <24hrs from results availability.
2. Improved treatment outcomes
 - treatment initiation is timely.
3. Better information management
 - Minimizes result loss
 - Improved accessibility to results
 - Reduced errors associated with manual/paper based reporting
 - Timeliness of reporting hence reduced diagnostic time

CRITICAL RESULTS REPORTING

- Immediate notification of critical results needs to be done.
- Documentation of all relevant information to be maintained.

Examples of critical results

- Gene Xpert Rifampicin Resistant Results
- Pre XDR TB
- XDR TB Results

Planning for result reporting

- Return of results should be planned for in the design phase of the specimen referral system.
- DR Patient profiling to be incorporated in NRL LIMS

DR TB Profiling

- Key to TB patient management.
- Results profiled on a monthly basis for each sample sent.
 - Aids in timely identification of patients not sending samples for treatment monitoring.
 - Provides adequate information for use in DR TB cohort reviews
 - Results can be trended and erroneous results easily detected.

Assessment

1. What are the two mechanism that can be employed in reporting result?
2. State the advantages and disadvantages of the above mechanism
3. What is the importance of DR-TB profiling
4. With examples, define the term “critical result”.

summary

- TB profiling is very key in ensuring monitoring of the treatment as it helps in assessing patients treatment progress, a reminder of when samples should be collected for analysis and when to request for a new test or repeat of DST
- Use of both electronic and paper mechanism or one of them as a backup can avoid interruption of result services incase one mechanism is not functioning

References

- GLI TB training package
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- 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
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- 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

