Engaging Communities in Tuberculosis Research: New Developments in Stakeholder Engagement

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Stakeholder engagement is becoming more widely recognized as a critical component of research.

**Potential Benefits of Stakeholder Engagement**

- Ensures that research questions and procedures are relevant, culturally sensitive, and appropriate
- Facilitates local ownership of research
- Takes into consideration the needs of vulnerable population
- Helps address the needs of all stakeholders
- Ensures adequate post-trial activities
- Improves recruitment, retention, adherence, and overall trial quality
Good Participatory Practice

- Framework guiding stakeholder engagement programs
  - Emphasizes shared responsibility for implementation

1. Site selection
2. Community mapping
3. Trial planning
4. Engagement planning
5. Communication planning
6. Issue management planning
7. Site activation
8. Development of a policy on research-related harms
9. Trial conduct
10. Informed consent process
11. Development of a policy on access to treatment and ancillary care
12. Site closure
13. Trial closure and results dissemination
14. Access to investigational products
Final Thoughts

• Stakeholder engagement practices and activities may vary from site to site, community to community
• The GPP-TB is a step towards shared standards for stakeholder engagement in TB trials
• Moving forward
  – Research on the impact of community engagement on trial outcomes
  – Adaptation of the GPP-TB based on the lessons learned from tuberculosis research programs
Thank you!
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