Innovations in Kyrgyzstan: TB Sputum Transport Solutions

TB Sputum Transport Challenges

- Patients or relatives deliver most of their own TB samples
- Via public or private transportation
- Without proper infection control
- Only 15% of samples collected in primary healthcare facilities

Pilot: Private Transport Model in the Sokuluk District of Chui Oblast

Model:

- Inputs:
  - GPS tracking software
  - Smartphones
  - Training
  - Sputum transport boxes
  - Private transport company
  - Operator

Cost is approximately $3.2 per sample

Results:

- 52% Increase in TB Samples After 1 Year
- 5-Fold Increase in Samples Collected at Primary Health Care Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>TB Diagnosis</th>
<th>Treatment Monitoring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Conclusion:

This innovative private transport model makes transportation of biological samples safer and helps to assure universal access to TB lab services at the primary health care level.