

1. Introduction

- People in our communities at risk of Tuberculosis bacilli (TB) are often described as those belonging to a growing number of children and adults underserved by health.
- As the pandemic took force, several outpatient services became at risk of becoming dormant as staff with enhanced respiratory skills were pulled into the main work force to provide specialist care in the Intensive Care Units.

2. Methods

- With consent from the executive board, an invite for expressions of interest went out to all nurses and midwives to take up the extraordinary opportunity to maintain the TB nurse service
- Joining forces with and gaining consent from the respiratory leads, the infection prevention and control team drew the management of the TB nurse service under their wing.

End TB Together- the clock is ticking!



4. Discussion

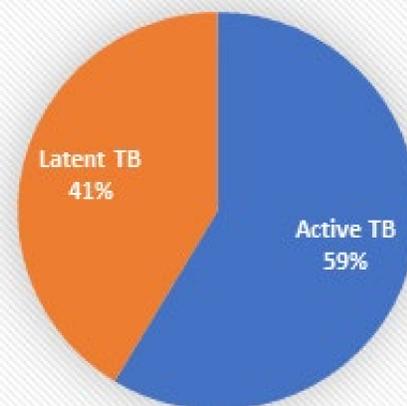
By finding the time to stand still, think outside of the box, share a vision and through the enablement of others, be trusted and supported to enact that vision, all things are possible.

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January 2020 - July 2021



Patient in the community treated with Active TB & Latent TB (2020-2021).

Active TB = 34
Latent TB = 24

3. Results

- With support from the Consultants in infectious diseases and respiratory, Public Health England (PHE) and established TB nurses up and down the country, a refreshed service flourished.
- Offering a “one stop shop” two registered nurses completed training to request chest imaging, learnt how to book clinics and invite patients, brought phlebotomy into the clinic space, and supported TB management in secure facilities.
- The “back log” of patients no longer exists, clinic appointments have been halved as imaging is done same day, improving patient experience and better use is made of finite resources. Education of patients, families and staff is at the heart of the service.

References

1. NICE Pathways last updated: November 05, 2020. <http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/tuberculosis>
2. Every Action Count .<http://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/secondary-care/infection-control/>
3. COVID-19: Provision of tuberculosis services update. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/C0973-covid-19-provision-of-tuberculosis-services-update-feb-21.pdf>