Panel 3: Access to improved TB prevention, diagnosis and treatment for people living with HIV and the threat of TB drug resistance

Paul Nunn,
Stop TB Dept., WHO
TB prevention

- Starts with ensuring access to timely TB diagnosis and treatment - TB case finding – and appropriate care
- Direct prevention of TB is possible, once active TB excluded, with isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT)
- Prevention of transmission - Infection control
Intensified TB case finding, diagnosis of TB and IPT provision among PLWHA, 2006

- Screened for TB (44, 52%)
- Diagnosed with TB (58, 58%)
- Started on IPT (25, 38%)

(Number of Countries reporting; % of total estimated HIV+ TB patients accounted for by those Countries)
Diagnosis of TB

- Usually depends on sputum smear
  - Less sensitive in PLH
- Needs expanded availability of culture
- Greater availability of chest X-ray
- Needs new tools
- New, molecular tests available, but principally for drug resistance
Treatment of TB

- Drug susceptible TB – usually straightforward for PLH
- Barriers include:
  - Access, especially for women
  - Drug interactions
  - Drug resistant TB – insufficient experience of 2nd line TB drugs and ARVs
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

© WHO 2006. All rights reserved
Countries with XDR-TB confirmed cases as of February 2008

Based on information provided to WHO Stop TB Department - February 2008
Drug resistance

- Outbreaks likely happening in Africa, and we are not aware
- HIV linked MDR-TB appearing in Eastern Europe
- Risk of dying from MDR and XDR-TB significantly raised in PLH
Conclusions

- Treatment literacy key for health of PLH, and for community pressure to improve services
- Universal access for HIV services should include TB services
- Strengthen TB laboratories in Africa
- Infection control needed in health care facilities, workplace clinics, prisons, refugee camps, shelters etc
- Urgent development and deployment of new tools