

**The Union**

**International Union Against  
Tuberculosis and Lung Disease**  
*Health solutions for the poor*

# **Tuberculosis-Diabetes in India : Advocacy, Operational Research and Program Implementation**

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**International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease**

**Acknowledgements: Prof AD Harries**

# Outline

- Burden of TB and DM
- TB-DM success story: Advocacy and Operational Research leading to national policy change
- From Policy to Practice: Successes, challenges and research needs

# Burden of DM and TB: India

## Diabetes Mellitus: 2015

- 69.2 million people living with DM – more than half undiagnosed
- 1 million people die
- Escalating Epidemic (123.5 million by 2040)

*[IDF Diabetes Atlas 2015]*

## Tuberculosis: 2014

- 2.2 million new cases in the year – about one-thirds not notified
- 0.25 million people die
- Declining Epidemic (Slow)

*[WHO- Global TB Control 2015]*

**302,000 cases with TB-DM in 2012 (15% PAF)**

# INDIA

## International

World Diabetes Foundation

The Union

WHO

## National

NTP (RNTCP) / MOH

National program - Cancer,  
Diabetes, CVD & Stroke

National experts

(Oct 2011)  
Stakeholders  
meeting



(Nov-Dec 2011)  
Protocol  
Development,  
Ethics approval,  
Training



(Jan 2012)

**Bi-directional Screening**

(8 tertiary & 60 peripheral centers)



(Sept 2012)

**Results presented to stake holders**

# Screen DM patients for TB?

↓

Screen once a quarter when DM patients come to clinic

↓

Ask: “Has TB been diagnosed during the quarter”

↓

If no, screen for positive symptoms of TB

↓

Refer those with positive symptoms for TB diagnosis and care



# Example: Screening DM Patients for TB in India

<b>DM patients</b>	<b>Q2-2012</b>
Number seen in the quarter	12237
<b>Number diagnosed with TB in the quarter from elsewhere</b>	<b>74</b>
Screened for TB symptoms in the DM clinic in the quarter	6393 (52%)
Positive TB symptom screen	135 (2%)
Referred for TB investigations	128 (95%)
Number who reached TB diagnostic centre	?? 50%
<b>Diagnosed with a new episode of TB</b>	<b>11</b>
Total number with new TB and TB from elsewhere	85
Known to have started or to be on anti-TB Treatment	80
<b>TB cases per 100,000 DM patients seen per quarter</b>	<b>695</b>



# Challenges of screening

- Diabetes doctors not interested – extra work
- Low yield of new TB [NNS high]
- Poor sensitivity of sputum smear microscopy
- No structured recording systems in DM clinics

## NEED TO KNOW:-

- Are new diagnostic algorithms effective/efficient?
- How often to screen?
- Should a more targeted approach be used?
- Should we screen for latent TB?



# Screen TB patients for DM?

Is there is a known diagnosis of DM?

No known diagnosis - screen first with RBG

If RBG  $\geq 6.1$  mmol/l, screen with FBG

If FBG  $\geq 7.0$  mmol/l, then diagnose DM and refer to DM care





# Example: Screening TB patients for DM in India

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Number of patients with TB registered and enrolled	8269
<b>Number (%) with known diagnosis of DM</b>	<b>682 (8)</b>
Number needing to be screened with RBG	7587
Number (%) actually screened with RBG	7467 (98)
Number with RBG $\geq 110$ mg/dl and needing to be screened with FBG	2838
Number (%) screened with FBG	2703 (95)
<b>Number (%) with FBG <math>\geq 126</math> mg/dl (newly diagnosed with DM)</b>	<b>402 (5)</b>
<b>Number (%) with known and newly diagnosed DM</b>	<b>1084 (13)</b>
Number (%) with known / newly diagnosed DM referred to DM care	1033 (95)



# Screening TB patients for DM in India

- directive from India TB Programme to screen TB patients for DM and link them to diabetes care
- directive from India NCD programme to use glucometers to screen TB patients for DM



Dr. Ashok Kumar, M.D

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Project Director RNTCP



IMMEDIATE

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Directorate General of Health Services  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली - ११० १०८  
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 108

D. O. No. Z-28015/64/2011-TB  
Date: 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012

Subject: RNTCP – Screening of All TB patients for Diabetes Mellitus – Reg

Dear Dr. Jain,

It is estimated that India has prevalent 3 million TB cases and with annual TB incidence of about 2 million cases. As a consequence of urbanization as well as socio-economic development, there has been escalating epidemic of Diabetes Mellitus (DM). Available evidences and modelling studies indicate that 15-20% of all TB in India also suffer from DM and that diabetes worsens TB treatment outcomes- increased death, failure and relapse rates.

Central TB Division/ Dte. GHS in collaboration with The Union and WHO is implementing the pilot project since October 2011, to study the feasibility of bi-directional screening of TB and DM at 13 different sites in the country, which includes 8 tertiary care centres and 5 tuberculosis units (TU). The recent mid-term review of this pilot project has revealed that the screening of TB patients for DM is feasible under programme settings and the proportion of DM among the TB patients at TU sites is found to be nearly 7%. This necessitates the programme to screen all the TB patients for DM and link the TB-DM patients for necessary diabetic care which can improve their TB treatment outcome.

During later August 2012, this matter was taken up and discussed with DGHS/Gol who advised that since under NCD Programme of Dte. GHS/Gol the glucometers have been provided to all the health facilities including sub-centres in 100 districts where NCD programme has now been rolled out, the NCD Division/Dte. GHS to issue orders advising that all these health facilities in these 100 districts all the TB patients in their respective areas be screened for DM and where needed be appropriately treated for DM. Such arrangements will be continue as and when NCD Programme is expanded to other districts in the country.

In this regard, you are requested to kindly issue appropriate directives to all concerned authorities in 100 districts presently under NCD programme to incorporate and prioritize the screening of all TB patients (all ages) for DM, with copies to us and all concerned State/District TB officers.

With regards,

Dr. D.C. Jain  
Deputy Director General (NCD)  
Dte GHS/Gol, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110108

Yours sincerely,  
*Dr. Ashok Kumar*  
21/9/12  
(Dr. Ashok Kumar)

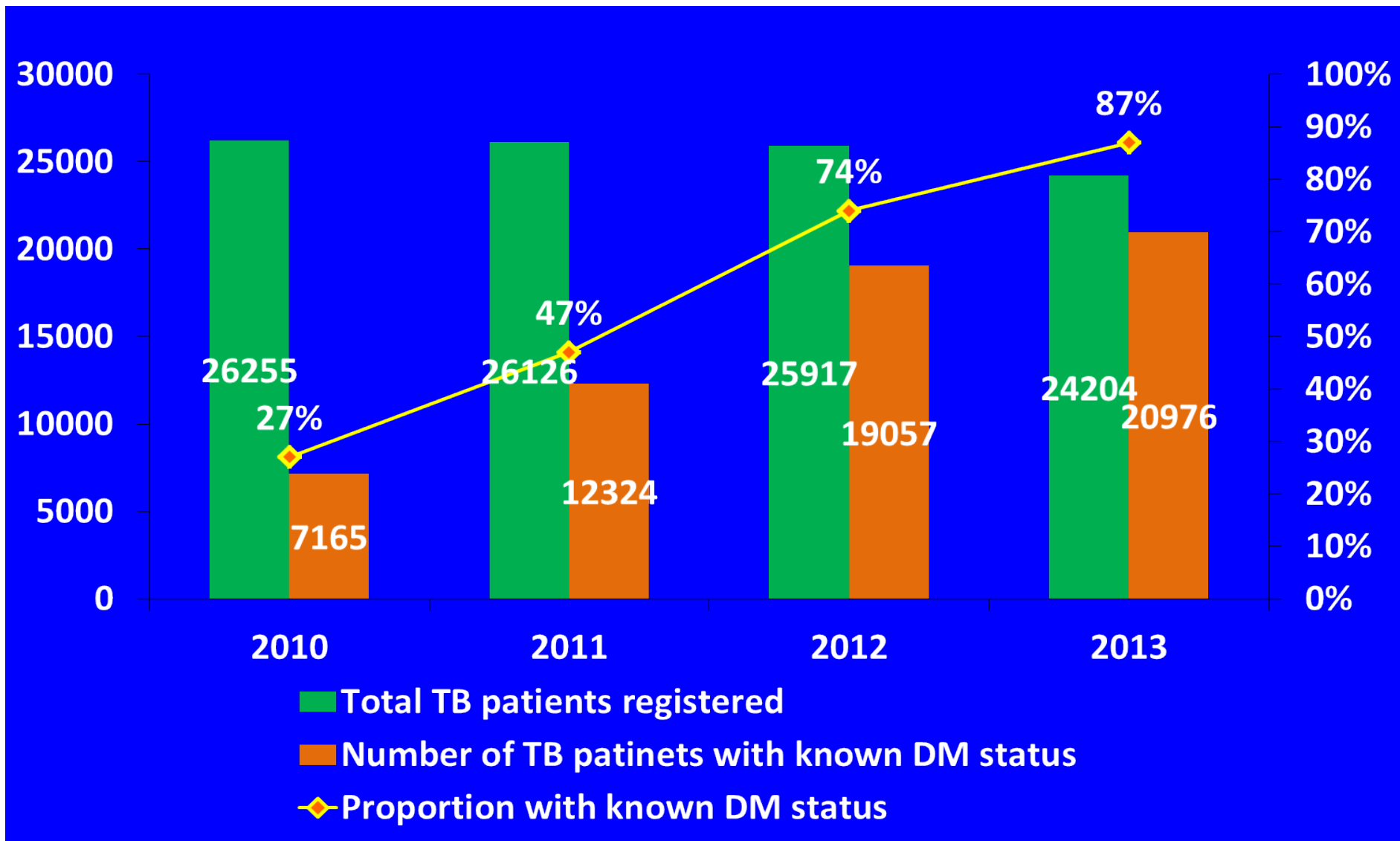
- Copy for information to:
1. PPS to DGHS / Gol
  2. PPS to Spl. DG (PH)/ Dte. GHS / Gol
  3. PPS to AS& MD / NRHM / MoHFW / Gol
  4. PPS to Jt. Secretary (PH) / MoHFW / Gol



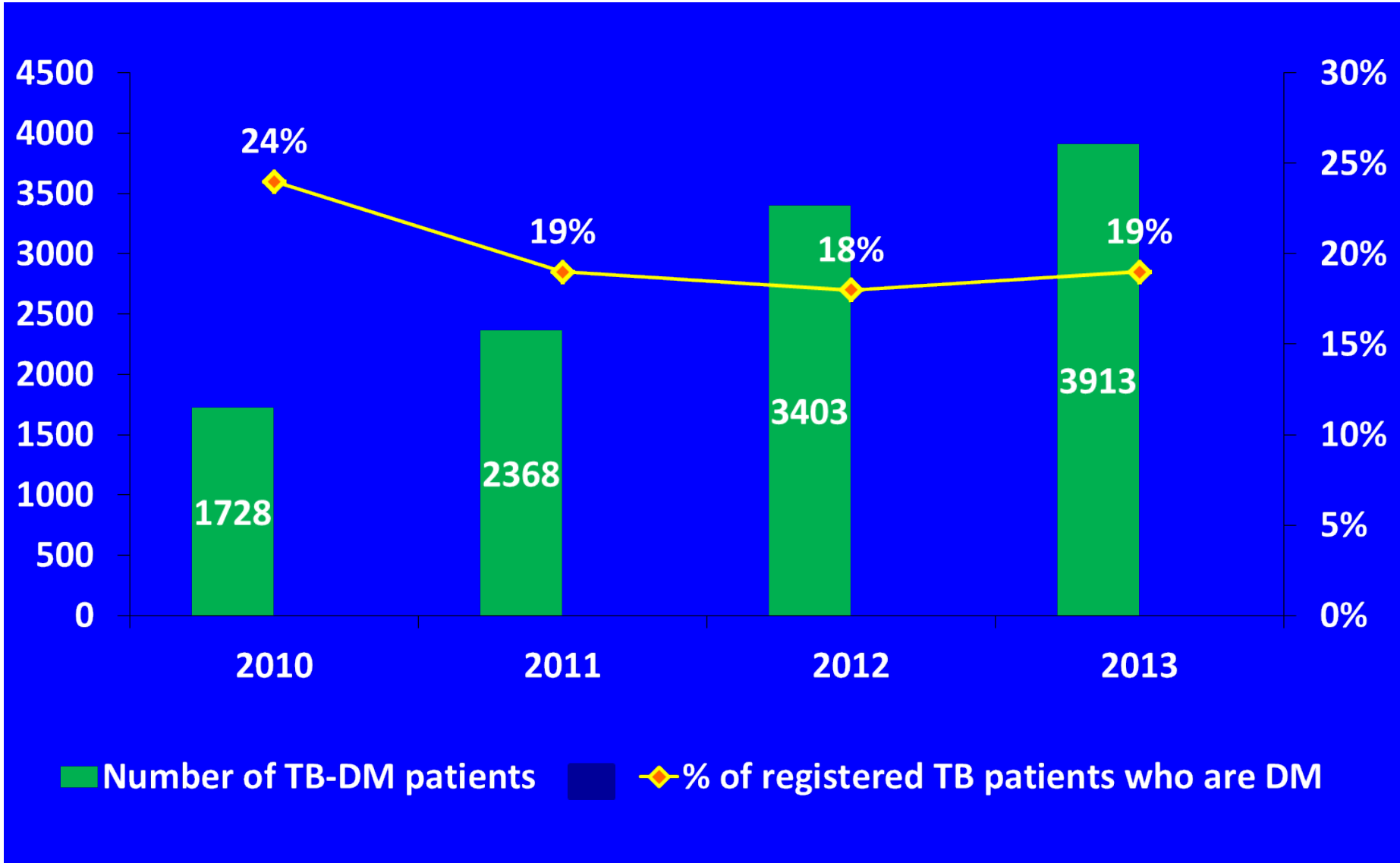
TB is fully curable with complete course of DOTS



# Trends in Number (%) of registered TB patients with known Diabetes Mellitus status in Kerala state, India, 2010-2014



# Trends in Number(%) of registered TB patients who have Diabetes Mellitus in Kerala state, India, 2010-2014



# Challenges to TB-DM integration

- Mismatch between TB and DM programmes
  - TB program: Nationwide, decentralised up to the community level
  - DM program: ONLY in 100/650+ districts; centralized
- Lack of uniform and standardized technical and operational guidance on DM
- Inadequate knowledge and skills of health workers
- Unavailability of system for continuity of DM care
- Frequent stock outs of DM diagnostics/drugs
- Poor DM data management (no cohort analysis; need electronic systems?)

# Challenges of screening

## When to screen

- At registration
- At end of initial phase
- At end of treatment

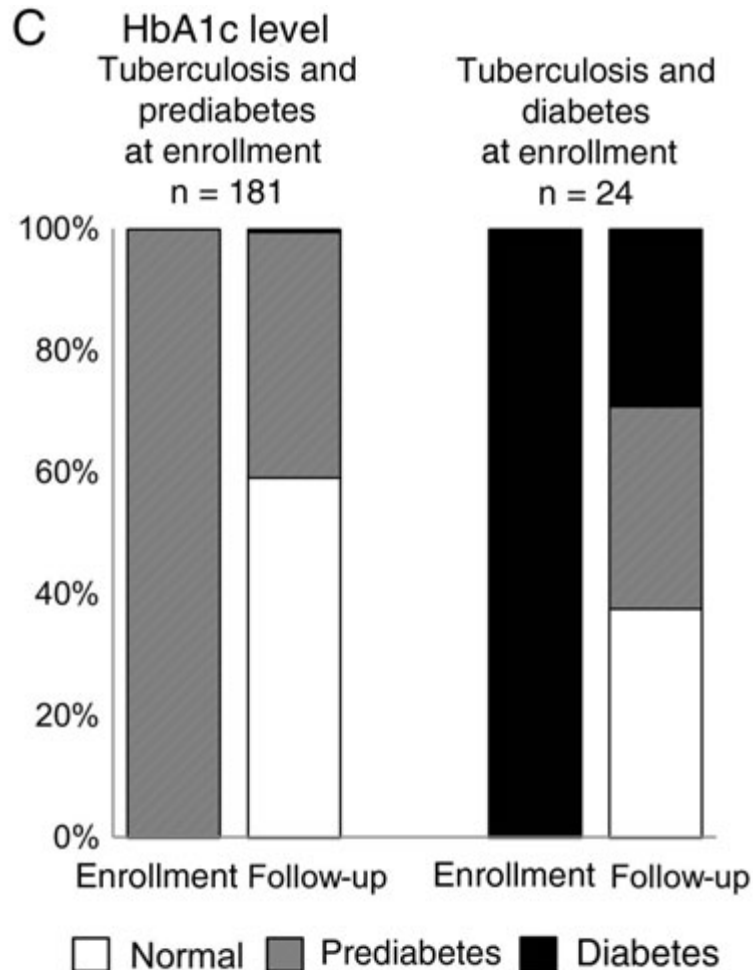
Need to balance false positive diagnosis against opportunity to act on glycaemia

## How to screen

- Clinical
- Urine dipstick
- Random Blood Glucose
- **Fasting Blood Glucose**
- **HbA<sub>1c</sub>**
- **OGTT**



# DM or Transient Hyperglycemia?



- Study from Tanzania
- Half of TB-DM patients become normoglycaemic by the end of treatment
- DM needs confirmation after TB treatment
- But, those hyperglycaemic at baseline (fasting glucose) had increased risk of death or treatment failure.
- So, screening at diagnosis is crucial

***Boillat-Blanco N et al. J Infect Dis. 2016 Apr 1;213(7):1163-72.***



# Screening presumptive TB patients for DM?

- Hospital-based cross sectional study from Puducherry, India
- 570 presumptive TB patients
  - 121 (20%) had DM: 52 newly diagnosed
  - 146 (25%) had pre-DM
  - 47% prevalence among TB patients
  - 15% prevalence among those without TB
- Early detection of DM and pre-diabetes

# DM-TB is “similar” to HIV-TB

## HIV-TB

- Increased TB cases
- Increased death
- Increased recurrent TB
- Increased failure

## DM-TB

- Increased TB cases
- Increased death
- Increased recurrent TB
- Increased failure

*Harries AD et al, Int J Tuberc Lung Dis 2011; 15: 1436 - 1444*



# Need to tackle the upstream issues

## HIV prevention/control

- Behaviour
- Condoms
- Male circumcision
- Early use of ART
- ART as HIV prevention

## DM prevention/control:

- Healthy diets
- Exercise
- Obesity
- Early detection of IGT



If TB, HIV and Diabetes can collaborate with each other so well,  
**Why can't we?**

# Acknowledgements

- Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme, India
- National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, India
- World Health Organization India country office
- World Diabetes Foundation