African prevalence surveys – lesson learned and way forward

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Wealth of knowledge gained

- Insight in health seeking behavior
- Insight in under/over diagnosis specific groups
- Review current diagnostic algorithms
- New national strategies informed by key results TB prevalence survey
- More precise & reliable TB burden estimates for several countries - some adjustments (+ or -)
Spiral of innovation

Barcodes
Unique linker
PDA

Digital data collection

GeneXpert & digital CXR

TB or not TB?
Automatic reading
PACS
Capacity building/knowledge exchange

- Local capacity building for large population surveys
- Enhanced laboratory capacity (HR, structure)
- Enhanced radiological capacity (HR, structure)
- Usage of survey staff & equipment for other purposes
- Exchange visits between African countries
However:

- Measuring prevalence not incidence!
- Surveys are costly and long-term undertakings
- Risk of intervening with routine activities
- Need to ensure wider sharing of experiences & results
- Need to ensure ALL collected data are analyzed & published