LearnTB

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TB: The Problem in India

- Over 5 million suffer from TB in India
- More new TB cases than any other country
  \((WHO\ Global\ TB\ Report\ 2006)\)
- Leading cause of mortality in India- 1,000 die daily
- 14% under TB treatment have developed resistance due to non-adherence to drugs
LearnTB: Solution through Education

- **Current DOTS**
  - Expensive
  - Drug supply and direct management & observation
  - Treating the problem after it occurs vs. preventing it

- **LearnTB**
  - Inexpensive, instructive paper curriculum
  - Targets school-aged children
  - Dissemination by local teachers and children themselves
  - Preventative, improves awareness in community
LearnTB: Our community partner

- Natpurwa, Uttar Pradesh
  - 150 families, 50% involved in prostitution
  - Asha Vidyalaya School with 85 students

- ASHA for Education
  - sets up schools and informal learning centers in underserved communities
  - Over 700 projects in India
LearnTB: The Innovation

- Prior educational models

- The curriculum

  - 10 lesson plan/ 3 weeks
    - 1. What is TB
    - 2. Mechanisms of disease transmission
    - 3. Symptoms & When to see a doctor
    - 4. How to prevent yourself from spreading TB to others
    - 5. The difference between TB infection and disease & How to test for TB
    - 6. Feelings about stigma
    - 7. How to care for oneself
    - 8. How to treat TB & Drug Resistant TB
      & The importance of adherence [Part 1]
    - 9. How to treat TB & Drug Resistant TB
      & The importance of adherence [Part 2]
    - 10. HIV & STDs

- Interactive and child-targeted with role-playing, comics, and crafts
LearnTB: Implementation

● **June 1:** Completion of curriculum pamphlets at MIT

● **June-Aug:** Travel to Natpurwa and run 2 sessions of 10 lesson curriculum
  - Train teachers to implement
  - In between sessions, team will convene in New Delhi to revise materials
  - Visit TB clinics and possible new partner communities

● **Aug:**
  - Organize community event around TB awareness
  - Leave ASHA teaching materials
  - Put materials online
LearnTB: Where are we now?

- Preparation of Materials
- Funding
- Summer Logistics
Questions?