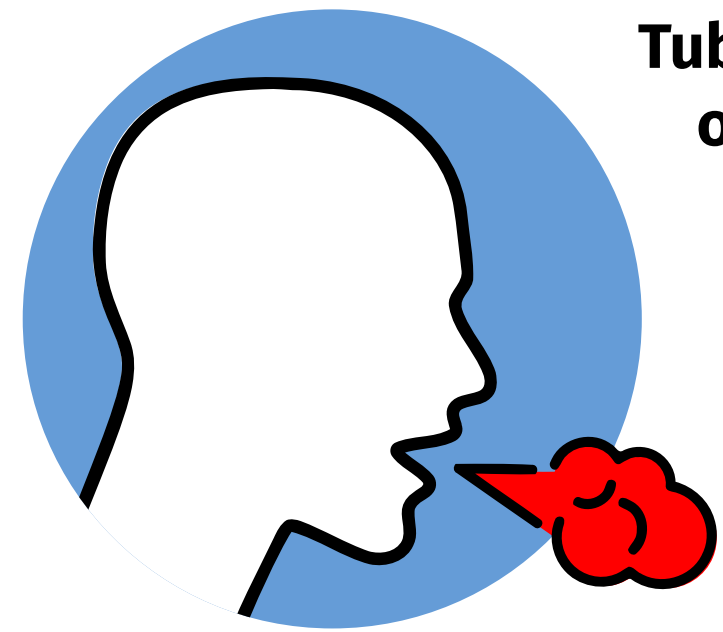


LET'S NOT FORGET ABOUT TUBERCULOSIS




Tuberculosis was the leading cause of death in South Africa in 2018, according to Stats SA. The areas where Asivikelane Health works have amongst the highest rates of TB infection in the country. The WHO reports that COVID-19 has slowed progress in South Africa's


TB prevention, where 48% fewer people with drug-resistant TB were detected in 2020 compared with 2019. Lockdowns and hesitancy by residents to visit clinics during the pandemic led to many patients not being treated and cured of TB, which has led to increased infections. **TB prevention remains critical, even as we continue to tackle COVID-19.**

This month Asivikelane Health asked residents about TB prevention measures at 45 clinics. Most clinics are practising two of the three preventative measures asked about: keeping windows open in the waiting area and requiring coughing patients to wear a mask. Of concern is the fact that more than half of residents say that clinics do not have a **separate waiting area for patients who are coughing.**

TB prevention must be prioritised by clinics, provincial and national government, starting with:

1. Increased clinic resources for TB screening and treatment
2. Separate waiting areas at clinics for coughing patients
3. More educational resources for TB symptoms and screening.




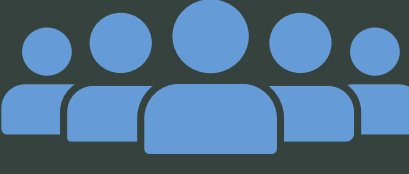
 EC HEALTH DISTRICTS	AT YOUR MOST RECENT CLINIC VISIT...			
	...WERE WINDOWS IN THE WAITING AREA KEPT OPEN?	...WERE COUGHING PATIENTS TAKEN TO A DIFFERENT WAITING ROOM?	...WERE COUGHING PATIENTS ASKED TO WEAR A MASK?	...DID YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU COUGH CONTINUOUSLY FOR MORE THAN 2 WEEKS, YOU SHOULD GO TO THE CLINIC?
BUFFALO CITY (25 CLINICS)	●	●	●	●
OR TAMBO (10 CLINICS)	●	●	●	●
NELSON MANDELA BAY (10 CLINICS)	●	●	●	●
Residents that said YES:	60% or less	61 – 75%	75 – 89%	90% or more



This month Asivikelane Health grew to cover 45 clinics, with the addition of 10 clinics in Nelson Mandela Bay and 10 more in Buffalo City.

Spotlight on Nelson Mandela Bay

Baseline results for the 10 Nelson Mandela Bay clinics added this month show that **waiting times are long** and almost half of the residents say that **clinics do not offer dedicated youth and adolescent health services** known as 'happy hour'. The recent labour strike at NMB clinics may have resulted in longer queues. We will engage NMB clinics on these issues and continue to track their service delivery.

 50% % RESIDENTS ASSISTED WITHIN 2 HOURS	 45% % RESIDENTS WHO SPENT MORE THAN 3 HOURS AT CLINIC	 87% % WHO SAID MEDICINE WAS AVAILABLE AT CLINIC	 57% % WHO SAID THEIR CLINIC DOES PROVIDE YOUTH-FRIENDLY 'HAPPY HOUR' HEALTH SERVICES
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