



Dedza CCG members pose for a photo after the meeting

TB tests and treatments increasing as CS-CLMA intensifies its campaign in Dedza and Kasungu

Reported By Fortina Kazembe

TB tests and treatments increasing as the Citizen Science Community Led Monitoring and Advocacy (CS-CLMA) Project intensifies its campaign around selected health facilities in Kasungu and Dedza districts according to reports presented at the Community Consultative Group (CCG) meetings held in the aforementioned respective districts on 22nd and 23rd June 2023.

On TB tests in Dedza it was reported that *Smear* increased from 119 to 171, *TB Lam* increased from 168 to 339 and *GeneXpert* increased from 65 to 150 representing an overall improvement in the general uptake of TB services. Kasungu reported a total of 4,111 though with a decrease from 4,971. However 365 and 935 people living with HIV (PLHIV) underwent TB tests in the current and last quarter respectively.

In Dedza TB treatments have also improved comparing to last quarter from



M & E Officer Tayana Tembo

95 to 153, people accessing TPT has increased from 5 to 11 but the number of those accessing 3HP or 1HP has decreased from 187 to 148. In Kasun-

gu the number of people receiving TB treatment has also increased from 108 to 172 and for those accessing TPT has as well grown from 94 to 189.

“In (Kasungu) the number of people who managed to access 3HP or 1HP has highly improved from 243 to 364,” commented the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer from the Malawi Network of Religious Leaders Living With or Personally Affected by HIV (MANERELA+) at the Kasungu Boma CCG meeting. The MANERELA+ and the Network of Journalists Living with HIV (JONEHA) are jointly implementing CS-CLMA project with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC) at 14 selected facilities in Kasungu and Dedza.

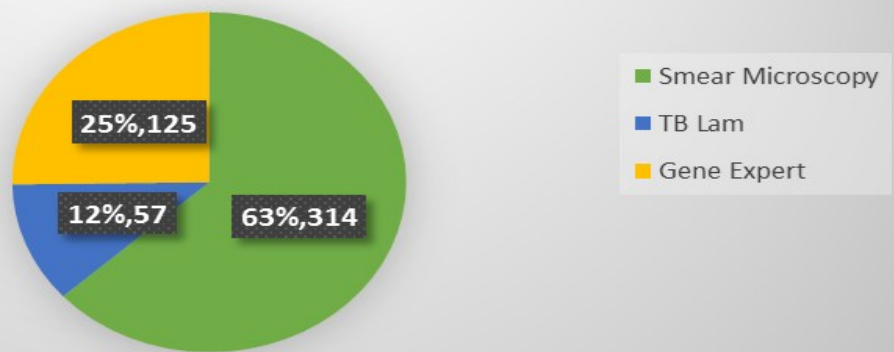
The CCG meetings in both Kasungu and Dedza noted that amid successes there were some challenges in the TB services such no clear documentation

on TB screening among PLHIV, low uptake of 3HP or 1TPT, access to TB treatment remains a challenge for PLHIV, stigma and discrimination around PLHIV or TB Patients and low adherence to TB TPT.

The PEPFAR Country Operational Plan of 2023 (COP 23) points out that the CLM by Civil Society Organizations and HIV and TB affected communities continues to play a pivotal role in identifying gaps and challenges on access and delivery of health services. The COP 23

says through quantitative and qualitative data collection, analysis and interpretation, civil society and communities are able to bring to light the challenges behind different program outcomes as well as provide recommendations for program improvement.

Percentage of Types of TB tests in Kasungu



Percentage of Types of TB tests in Dedza

