

Factors that Influence Health Care Workers' Implementation of Ineffective Tuberculosis Control Measures at Rural Public Hospitals of Vhembe District, South Africa

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ABSTRACT This paper explored the factors that influence health care workers' implementation of ineffective tuberculosis control measures at rural public hospitals of Vhembe district, South Africa. A qualitative approach of an exploratory design was used to collect data from fifty-seven focus group members of maximum variation that were purposively selected from a pool of health care workers in each hospital. Necessary approvals were obtained. Ethical principles of research and participants' rights were observed. The study revealed that health care workers in rural hospitals are faced with numerous challenges such as lack tuberculosis control guidelines; inadequate tuberculosis control training; inappropriate designs of buildings; inadequate material resources; inadequate human resources; inadequate management support; incorrect tuberculosis control attitudes; and inadequate tuberculosis control knowledge. Hospital managers supported by the department of health should craft strategies to deal with these challenges with an aim of improving health care workers' working conditions.