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Tuberculosis and Haiti

- **TB Epidemic Statistics in St. Marc, Haiti:** According to Dr. Charles Patrick Almazor, PIH: About 50% of PLWHA in St. Marc will develop a TB infection. There were 236 cases of TB, 131 of whom were co-infected with TB and HIV/AIDS. On average, 10 of these cases are new each month.
- **TB Statistics for FEBS' Clients:** According to FEBS: The majority of PLWHA who seek help from FEBS have TB infection. It can be cleared with proper medicine and support. Currently, there are 3 clients under anti-TB treatment and 1 client under both anti-TB and ARV treatments.



- **US/UK Perspective:** According to ARCHIVE Research Environmental factors related to housing that may enhance the likelihood of TB transmission include the following:
 1. Exposure of susceptible individuals to an infectious person in a relatively small, enclosed space.
 2. Inadequate ventilation that results in either insufficient dilution or removal of infectious droplet nuclei.
 3. Recirculation of air containing infectious droplet nuclei.
 4. Duration of exposure.
 5. Susceptibility of the exposed person.
- **AIDS and TB in St. Marc:** According to FEBS Due to the lack of housing stability in St. Marc, medication adherence is far more difficult. Given the lack of treatment for opportunistic infections and the late onset of treatment, homelessness, accompanying malnourishment, and difficulty with adherence, dramatically increases death rates. Tuberculosis is a known opportunistic infection in the city of St. Marc for those living with AIDS.
- **Haitian Perspective:** According to Loune Viaud - Director of Strategic Planning of Operations, Partners in Health, Haiti Local Haitian perspective in the health sector recognizes the importance of adequate space and ventilation in order to prevent TB transmission. It is noted that many people in Haiti often fit too many people in small spaces or sleep four people to one room. In addition to overcrowding in homes, the housing units themselves are not spaced out adequately enough. It is extremely important that housing units be spaced far enough apart to allow proper ventilation and decreased contact between family units.

Another important aspect of housing for those infected with TB to both improve health and prevent transmission is access to adequate sanitation facilities. These include: latrines, potable water, and trash removal systems. Access to electricity would also be beneficial...