This presentation is dedicated to the patients who participated in this trial

Tuberculous meningitis is a devastating form of tuberculosis, killing or disabling over half of its sufferers

This is a randomised clinical trial looking at enhancing antimycobacterial treatment for tuberculous meningitis

The trial has been running in 2 hospitals in Southern Vietnam since April 2011

817 patients participated in the trial

These images represent a typical day in the life of our clinical trial



Receiving patients at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Ho Chi Minh City



On the way to ward rounds





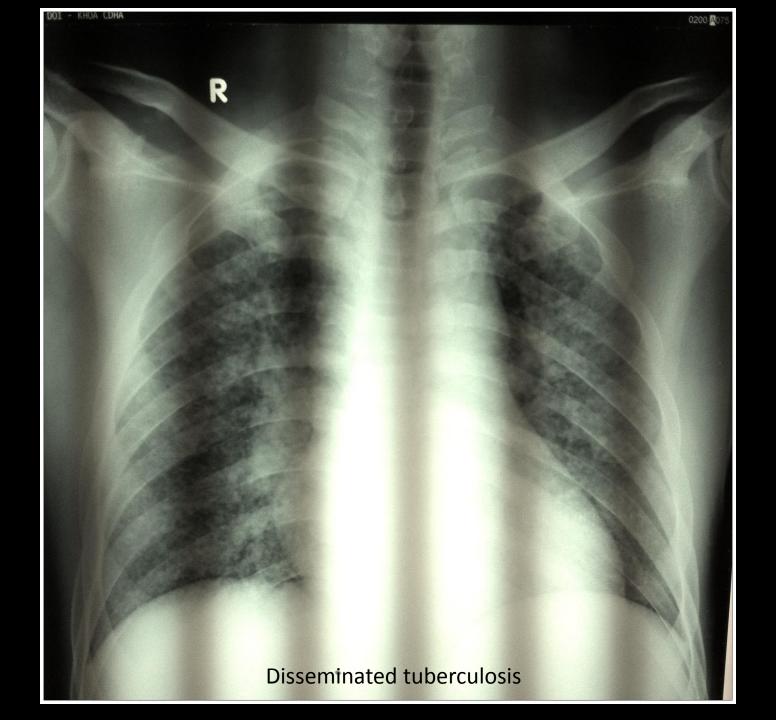




Diagnosing patients

In the absence of sensitive and specific tests diagnosis is often presumptive





Large tuberculoma in the brain



Lumbar puncture





Treatment

All patients receive standard anti - tuberculous treatment

and are randomised to additional levofloxacin and rifampicin — or placebo





On the way to the other study site; a 7 minute motor-bike ride



Pham Ngoc Thach National Hospital for Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases









6th nerve palsy; typical for TB meningitis



Treatment







An adverse event



Adverse events are recorded in the CRF



Intensive care ward





Discussing patient management



Obtaining informed consent



After ward rounds back to the office



PHAM NGOC THACH HOSPITAL – OUCRU Research Office



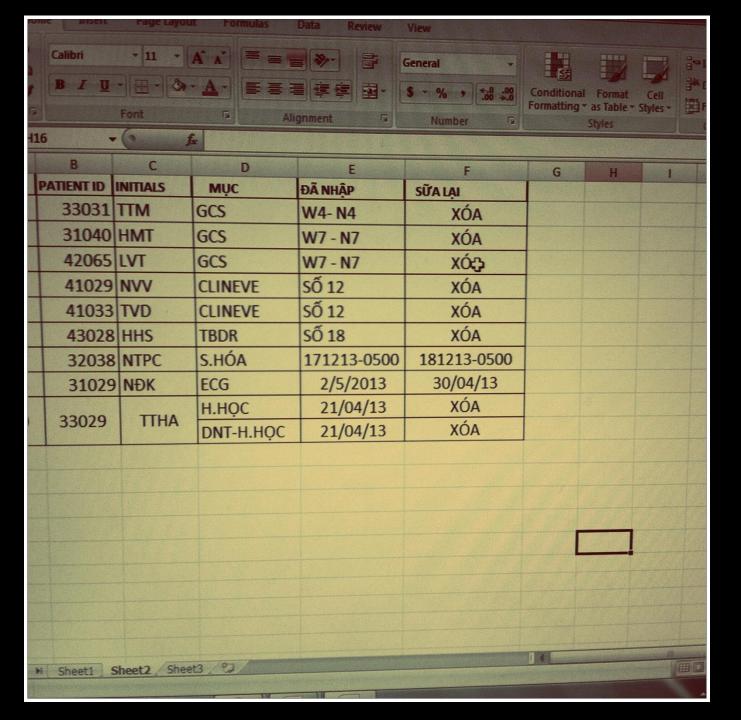
wellcometrust



Room 100







Real-time data entry



CRFs



We send reports regularly to the Ministry of Health and ethical review boards



An independent monitor checks data collection and data-entry processes regularly

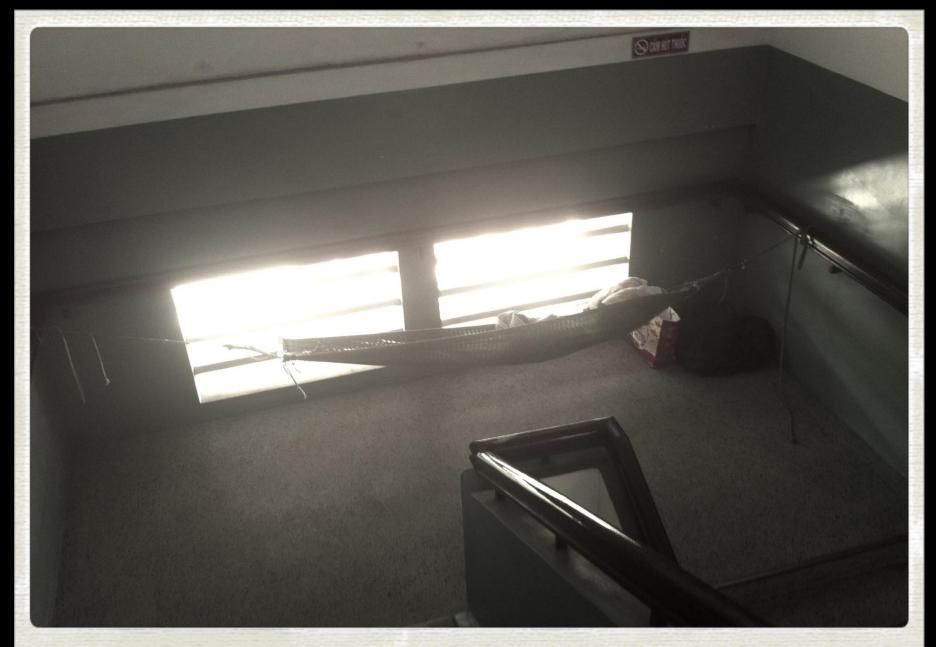
Archive housing source documents





Office lunch





Hospital staff relaxes after lunch





Our Clinical Trials Unit supports us in many ways.



During 9 months patients return monthly for follow-up

This patient is hemiplegic

This patient was diagnosed with multi-drug resistant TB meningitis and was comatose for 3 months.

After 9 months of 2nd line treatment only slight residual paraplegia remained.





Sample transport



File transport

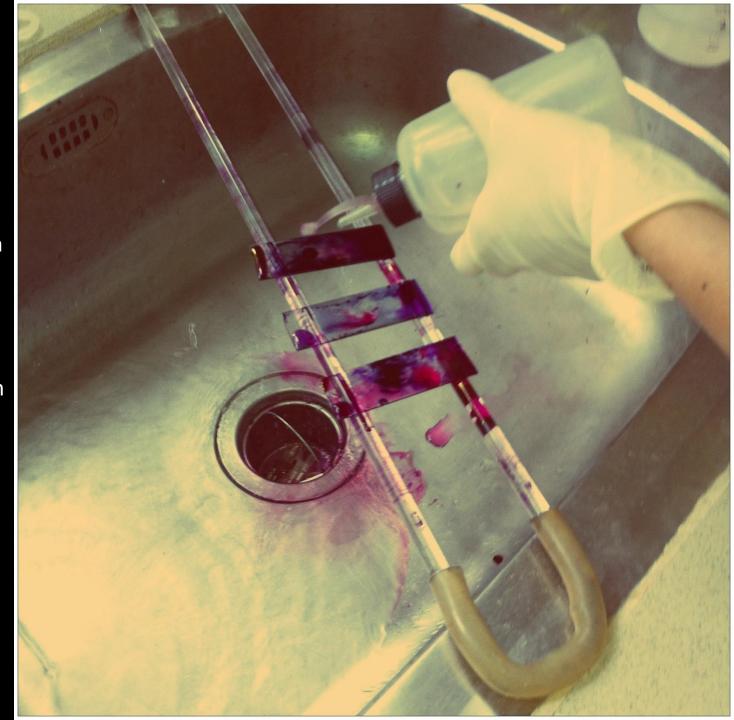


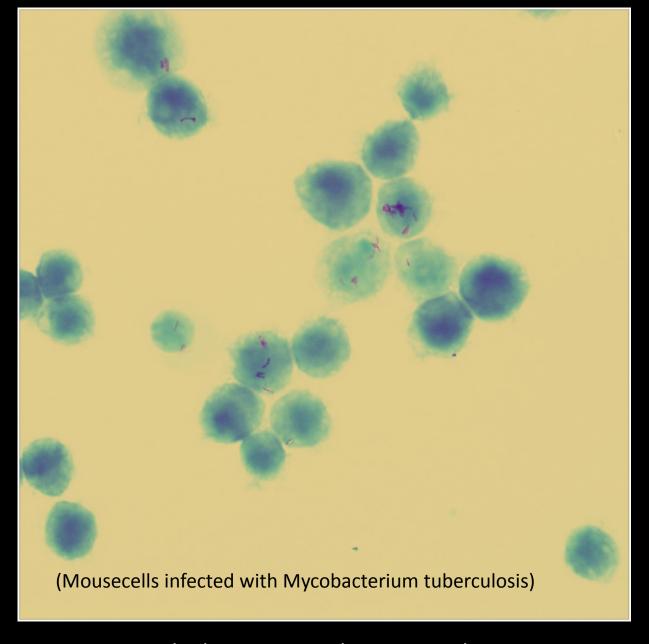
Patient transport



Classical Ziehl-Neelsen staining to detect Acid Fast Bacilli.

It is very insensitive on cerebrospinal fluid





We are looking into novel staining techniques to improve diagnosis

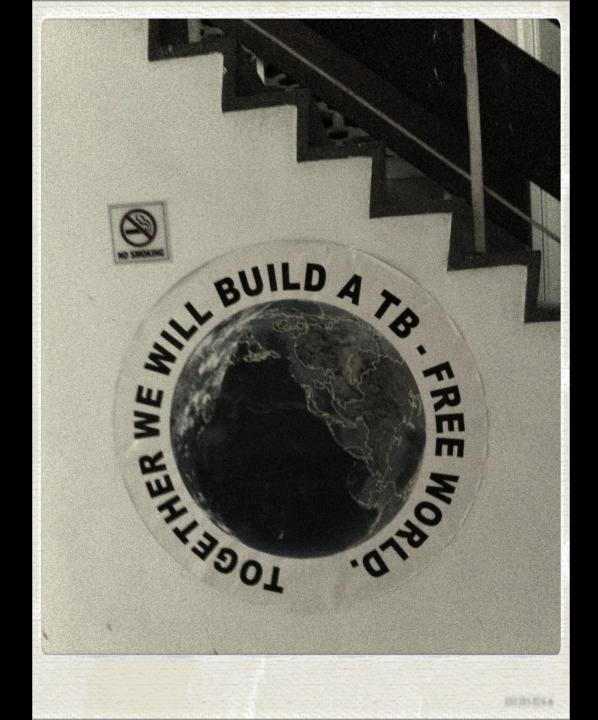


The overall blinded mortality in this trial is 25%.

We will unblind the data in March 2015, after the last patient has finished follow up.

We hope to be able to show a benefit of intensified treatment to have an impact on global mortality of this disease.

Vietnam ranks 12th of 22 high burden tuberculosis countries in the world



This trial is run by: The Oxford University Clinical Research Unit 's '05TB' study team Hospital staff of the Hospital for Tropical Disease and Pham Ngoc Thach hospital

With special thanks to:

Jeremy Farrar

The trial is funded by:
The Wellcome Trust
The Li Ka Shing Foundation

Slideshow and images: Doortje Heemskerk

Music: Thanh Tuyen 'Mua Rung'

Trial registration: ISRCTN61649292