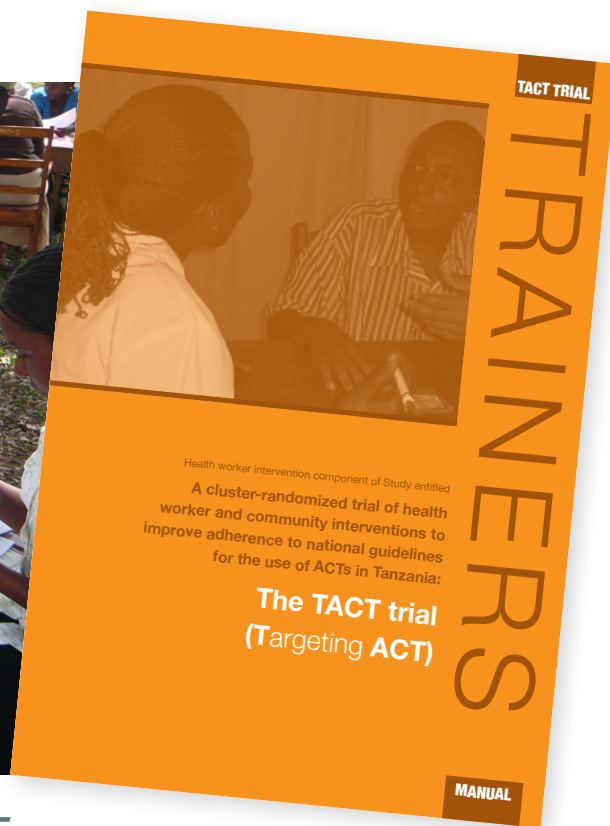


Resource 5: health worker trainer and trainee manuals and patient leaflet

(from TACT study in Tanzania)



www.actconsortium.org/StarterKitResource5

What are the health worker trainer and trainee manuals?

These manuals were used during the TACT trial of the ACT Consortium. TACT stands for 'Targeting ACTs (artemisinin-based combination therapy)' and aims to find the best ways to use rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs), so that:

- **patients with malaria do get treated**
- **patients without malaria do not receive an ACT but get treated for their likely illness.**

This is a resource for trainers to assist health workers to implement the WHO policy for management of cases of fever.

The training recognises the challenges that health workers must overcome when incorporating malaria RDTs into their long established practices.

Previously presumptive treatment – based on symptoms and not a formal, blood-based diagnosis – was the norm, but the new guidelines challenge this common practice.

What is the patient leaflet?

This leaflet explains to patients the purpose of malaria RDTs and models for health workers how and when the tests should

be used. The format is an A4 page folded leaflet in black-and-white with drawings and text. It can also be printed on larger sheets as a poster.

The leaflet follows a story which was constructed to illustrate five key points which formative research and participatory workshops found to be important:

- **fevers encompass more than malaria**
- **RDTs are available**
- **why tests are trustworthy**
- **experiment in not taking antimalarials after negative test results**
- **health workers should give information to patients.**

The leaflet was carefully pretested in five rounds with 43 pairs of community members in the study area. In the final round, respondents could interpret the overall messages of the leaflet, and understood an average of 97.3% of the 120 pictorial and text items of the leaflet.



Who is the target audience?

Front line health workers working in the public and private sectors, and patients attending facilities where RDTs are available.

What does this resource consist of?

One trainer manual, one trainee manual and one patient leaflet.

What language is this resource available in?

English, French and Portuguese. The leaflet was also pretested in Kiswahili but not in Portuguese.

What approach has this resource taken?

There were five steps in designing this intervention: formative research, review of existing evidence, a workshop to define the intervention, engagement with behaviour change theory, and the design, piloting and pretesting of materials. This involved fieldwork with a total of 19 health workers and 212 community members.

This training uses small group interactive training within the workplace. It enables change by developing the capacity of health workers to find feasible ways to adhere to malaria RDTs in order to change their practice for the long term.

Where has this resource been used?

Northeast Tanzania.

Was the development of this resource based on formative research?

Yes. The formative research suggested that RDTs were a potential source of conflict in the interaction between health workers and patients, but that health workers used various techniques to resolve this, including giving antimalarial drugs to patients whose malaria test result was negative.

Our reviews showed that evidence was mixed regarding the effectiveness of different methods and theories to support change in prescribing practices.

Has this resource been evaluated?

Yes. You can read more about how these materials were developed and evaluated at:

- Chandler C, Meta J, Ponzo C, Nasuwa F, Kessy J, Mbakilwa H, et al. **The development of behaviour change interventions to support the use of malaria rapid diagnostic tests by Tanzanian clinicians.** Implementation Science. 2014;9(1):83.
- Cundill B, Mbakilwa H, Chandler CI, Mtove G, Mtei F, Willetts A, et al. **Prescriber and patient-oriented behavioural interventions to improve use of malaria rapid diagnostic tests in Tanzania: facility-based cluster randomised trial.** BMC Med. 2015;13(1):118.

Can this resource be used in other contexts?

This resource has the potential to be used in different contexts. The use of content from these manuals for all non-commercial education, training and information purposes is encouraged, including translation, quotation and reproduction, in any medium*.

We suggest that before this resource is used or adapted in any way, formative research is done to understand the local context. This is important because the nature of malaria diagnosis and

treatment practices, as well as the knowledge and perceptions of health workers and community members, varies from place to place.

Based on the formative research, the resource may be adapted, tailored or changed in order to fit the intended audience and the specific context in which it will be used.

We suggest the resource is then piloted with its target audience in order to refine it before it is implemented. This will help to maximise the likelihood that the resources have the desired effects.

Once in place, we suggest this resource is evaluated in order to understand its potential impact and effects. You should also share the results as widely as possible in order to help guide and inform other communicators wishing to use the resource.

How should this resource be acknowledged?

Joint Malaria Programme, Tanzania & ACT Consortium, 2010, TACT Training Guide and Facilitator's Manual for Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Test. Available at www.actconsortium.org/TACTmanuals

Who should be contacted to request permission to make adaptations to this resource?

Hugh Reyburn, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine: hugh.reyburn@lshtm.ac.uk
Clare Chandler, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine: clare.chandler@lshtm.ac.uk

*How should this resource be used?

You are free to share, copy and redistribute these materials in any medium or format under the following terms:

Attribution: You must give appropriate credit by using the citation above, provide a link to this license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

Non Commercial: You must not use this publication for any commercial or income-generating purpose. No elements of this publication in part or in whole, may be used to promote any specific individual entity of product, in any manner whatsoever.

No Derivatives: Adaptation of the content of this publication is encouraged. Permission is required - please contact the investigator listed above directly.

No additional restrictions: You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.

Where can I find more information?

You can find out more information about the TACT study, including publications, training materials and videos at:

www.actconsortium.org/TACT

