

Leveraging SwipeRx to Engage Pharmacies in the Fight Against Tuberculosis in Southeast Asia

SwipeRx is pleased to share data presented at the November 2022 Union Conference, highlighting the potential for pharmacies to help stop tuberculosis in Viet Nam. During the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic between June-July 2021, SwipeRx enabled USAID Support to End Tuberculosis to survey 381 pharmacy professionals across 9 provinces of Viet Nam. This digital survey is a great example of how SwipeRx technology is enabling global health partners to engage the highly fragmented pharmacy channel, during and outside of pandemics.



Findings from Viet Nam presented at the 2022 Union Conference include the following:



Pharmacies serve an average of **13 pharmacy clients per day** seeking care for a cough.



Pharmacy professionals report **limited knowledge** about TB. Only 43% correctly identified 4 common TB symptoms among 6 answer options in the survey.



More than half of the sample (55%) reported **no training related to TB** in the past 3 years.



82% report counseling clients about TB and 38% report referring presumptive clients, despite a lack of training and other support to motivate these practices.



Across Southeast Asia, SwipeRx collaborates with National TB Programs and global health partners to use insights like these to engage and educate pharmacies to end TB. Between January 2020 to October 2022, 17,186 pharmacy professionals have been educated about TB through accredited professional education courses deployed through SwipeRx in multiple countries. **Pharmacists who are educated about TB through SwipeRx are more likely to appropriately refer and provide TB information to presumptive clients and less likely to dispense cough medicine, compared to pharmacists who have not yet been educated about TB through SwipeRx according to evaluation data.**

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