



PHOENIX Study

Suggested Talking Points for PHOENIX Study Participants:

(See CP/CRAG TB/HIV Factsheet for more info)

Preventing and Treating TB

- TB is spread when a person with active TB sneezes, coughs, laughs, or sings.
- The spread of TB can be stopped, and families and communities can be protected from it.
- All members of the family have an important role in preventing TB and helping family members with TB complete treatment, get cured, and return to a healthy life.
- TB is preventable and curable but must be diagnosed and treated promptly and properly.
- One of the best ways to prevent TB is to offer preventive therapy to people who are not yet symptomatic but have been exposed to TB.
- The risk of TB transmission can be reduced through a combination of timely, effective therapy for people with TB, and antibiotic treatment (called *TB preventative therapy*) for their close contacts.
- TB treatment is safe, simpler, and shorter than ever before.
- People with active TB who are on effective therapy and maintain good drug adherence feel better quickly, and are less likely to transmit TB to others.

Drug-resistant TB

- When TB-causing bacteria reproduce, some may naturally change (mutate) and become resistant to anti-TB drugs.
- Drug-resistant TB often develops when treatment is irregular or interrupted.
- Drug-resistant TB can be transmitted from person to person and is difficult to treat.
- MDR-TB (multi-drug-resistant TB) is resistant to at least isoniazid and rifampin, the two most potent TB drugs. These drugs are used to treat all persons with TB.
- The spread of MDR-TB can be prevented among household contacts with TB preventive therapy.