

## TB Defaulters: TB Treatment gave me back my Life



Thuc was admitted in 2010 in the hospital of Gogrial. Few weeks after his admission, he was told that some of his cattle got lost. He was so worried about the news that he took permission to leave and went back to his village to find his cows: “When I left the hospital, he says, “I felt better so I took some medicines with me and

thought that was enough to cure my TB. In the end though, I didn’t bother to finish my treatment.”

For the following three years, Thuc’s conditions worsened, he lost so much weight that he could hardly walk and he was coughing day and night. In 2013, his son Peter thought his father might die. Since April 2013, Thuc has been under TB treatment again. Before going back to a hospital, Thuc explains, he went to several traditional healers, in the hope they would be able to treat his cough. One of them did a cut on his throat with a blade: “He told me that after my throat had bled a bit, I would be healed. I bled, but nothing happened and my cough got worse and worse. It was so strong that I wasn’t able to sleep anymore.” The healer asked him for some money: Thuc soon realized that this was not going to work.

Since he started treatment in Lounyaker hospital, Thuc’s cough has already improved. When he first arrived, he was coughing day and night, now he’s able to eat something. AAA TB officer Paul Kiprotich asks Thuc if he would still run away from hospital, should they tell him his cows are lost again.

“I won’t run away now. I’m far too weak and learnt my lesson!’ he says with a smile “And I thank AAA for that. When I go back to my village and hear people coughing, I’ll tell them to come here and be cured straight away.

Traditional healers are a waste of time and money.”

By ARKANGELO ALI ASSOCIATION - AAA