

To: Hiroshi Nakatani, Assistant Director-General, HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases

CC: Mario Raviglione, Director, Global TB Program
Malgorzata Grzemska and Annemieke Brands, Technical Support Coordination, Global TB Program & Secretariat of Stop TB Partnership Childhood TB Subgroup
Katherine Floyd, Coordinator, TB Monitoring and Evaluation, Global TB Program
Pamela Baillie, Assistant to K. Floyd, TB Monitoring and Evaluation, Global TB Program
Diana Weil, Policy, Coordinator, Strategy and Innovations, Global TB Program
Gottfried Otto Hirschall, Director, Department of HIV/AIDS
Meg Doherty, Coordinator of Treatment and Care, Department of HIV/AIDS
Daniel Low-Beer, Member, Health Metrics Network Executive Board

World Health Organization
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May 11, 2015

Open letter: Recording and reporting of preventive therapy in children

Dear Dr. Nakatani,

Thank you for your thoughtful response. We are pleased to hear that the World Health Organization (WHO) shares our view regarding the importance of promoting tuberculosis (TB) prevention in children through collection and monitoring of data. We are also encouraged to learn of efforts already under way to establish a Global LTBI Task Force to produce global estimates of TB infection in children, to track the number of children under five years old in the European and Americas regions screened and started on preventive therapy, and to include children in the top-10 list of priority indicators for the monitoring and implementation of the End TB Strategy. After careful review of the proposed indicators, we request that the following be considered for addition to the priority list of indicators:

1. Proposed indicators 5) LTBI treatment coverage, and 6) contact investigation coverage, be reported disaggregated by age (<5, 5–14, ≥15);
2. An indicator for completion of LTBI therapy should be added to the priority list of indicators. We note the positive step that the WHO European and Americas Regions are taking by already collecting data on the number of children under five years old screened and started on preventive therapy; we request that they also begin collecting data on the number of children completing preventive therapy; and
3. The HIV program's forthcoming *Consolidated Strategic Information Guideline for HIV in the Health Sector*, should also include an indicator disaggregated by age (<5, 5–14, ≥15) for completion of LTBI therapy among people living with HIV newly enrolled in HIV care and started on TB preventive therapy.

We look forward to your response, which can be directed to Lindsay McKenna at Lindsay.McKenna@treatmentactiongroup.org, to the Global LTBI Task Force's progress, and to further discussions at the STAG-TB meeting in Geneva on June 15–17, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



Lindsay McKenna, MPH
TB/HIV Project Officer
Treatment Action Group
On behalf of:

Organizational Signatories

Treatment Action Group (TAG)
ACTION

Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation– Swaziland

Global Coalition of TB Activists (GCTA)

Global TB Community Advisory Board (TB CAB)

International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW Global)

Kenya AIDS NGOs Consortium (KANCO)

Lean on Me Foundation– Kenya

TB Proof

The Sentinel Project on Pediatric Drug-resistant Tuberculosis

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Sentinel Project
on pediatric drug-resistant tuberculosis

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