



World Health
Organization



Child & Adolescent TB Working Group

Update from the chair and vice-chair

Ben Marais, Vice-Chair

*Annual meeting of the Child and Adolescent
TB Working Group*

Paris, France, 14 November 2023

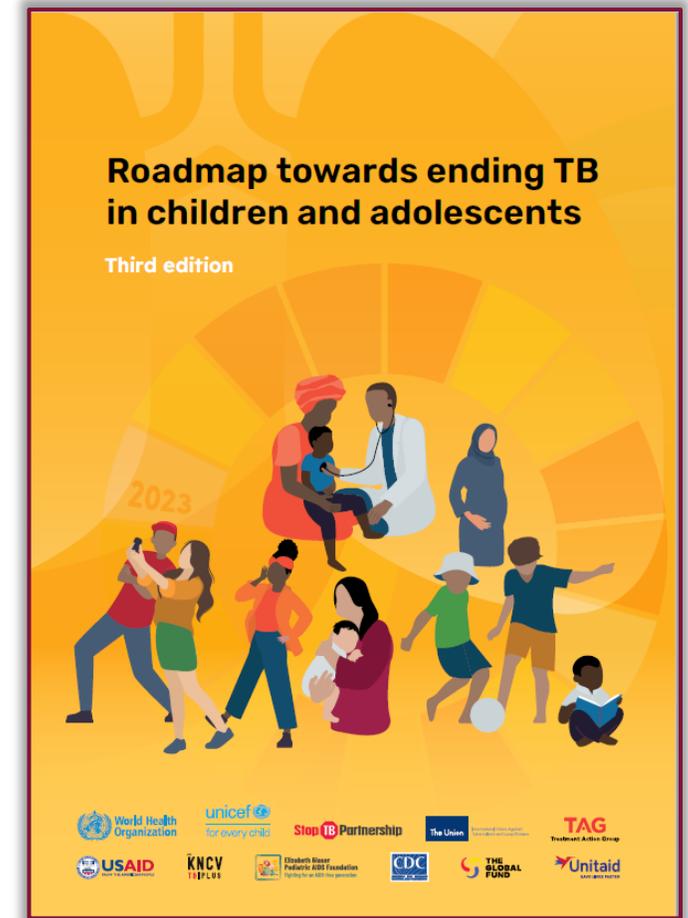


Outline

- Roadmap towards ending tuberculosis in children and adolescents - 2023 update
- Update on the activities of the core team
- Selected activities in 2023 as reported by core team members
- Participation of working group members in programme reviews
- Dissemination of 2022 WHO guidance
- Selected new and forthcoming publications and materials
- Selected sessions during the 54th Union Conference
- Plans for 2024

Development of 2023 Roadmap

- Process led by **WHO**
- **First full draft** developed by **Martina (EGPAF)**
- **Core team call** in February 2023 to collect input and suggestions
- **Stakeholder consultation** on 27 April 2023 to obtain additional input from working group members (a wide variety of stakeholders)
- **External review** in July 2023
- Alignment with the **Political Declaration of 2023 UN HLM** in September
- **Launched** today, 14 November 2023!



Core team

- **Quarterly core team calls** in February, June & September & timely **quarterly reports** to UNOPS
- **Elections of next Chair and Vice Chair** in July and August with outcome shared with core team at the end of September and with the full working group in October (following a call between outgoing and incoming leadership). **Handover** later this morning.
- **Survey among members of the core team** to critically reflect on strategic priorities for the next period, under the new chair and vice-chair

Selected activities in 2023 as reported by the core team

- **UN HLM on TB 2023:** public consultation from 6 January – 6 February; multi-stakeholder consultation on 8-9 May; and UNHLM on TB on 22 September 2023
- Increased **attention to TB-associated disability:**
 - a second symposium on post-TB health organized by DTTC/SUN in April 2023 (Marieke Van Der Zalm)
 - a working group on post-TB lung health established in Kenya (Elisabeth Obimbo)
 - a WHO policy brief on TB associated disability (Ernesto Jaramillo, Marzia Calvi)
- **TB-IPD hosted at UCL:** Ongoing curation and entry of data on the treatment of DR-TB/RR-TB in children (20,000 records entered as of June 2023) – Anneke (DTTC/SUN)
- **WHO** convened a Committee in April to review applications to the **23rd EML** (addition of Pretomanid) and **9th EMLc** (amikacin and some formulations of linezolid and PAS removed; and removal of age restrictions for bedaquiline and delamanid)

Selected activities in 2023 as reported by the core team

- **Rome 6 action plan** launched on 28 May & monitoring webinars on 15 June ; 3 October and 20 November 2023
- **CHEETA Task force for Expediting Paediatric Investigation of new TB drugs** met with industry partners and conducted a survey among 150 contacts in over 35 countries to explore capacity for conducting trials on new TB drugs
- **1/4/6 x 24 campaign** -ongoing (Lindsay McKenna)
- **Union/CDC sub-Saharan CoE** expanded with 3 countries (Cameroon, Lesotho, and Rwanda) to 12 countries; meeting in Kampala, Uganda from 1-4 August 2023
- WHO convened the **PADO TB 2 meeting** from 3-5 October 2023 with participation of many working group members & set up a **Technical Advisory Group on dosing of medicines** for children and adults

Selected activities in 2023 as reported by the core team

- **Capacity building on the new approaches to diagnosis and treatment including the roll out of the 4m regimen for DS-TB):**
- **Kenya** national paediatric conference (Elisabeth Obimbo); Ghana district-level training (Anthony Enimil);
- **Brazil** State Level Training starting at the end of October 2023 (Betina/Andrea);
- Symposium on TB in children and adolescents during national conference in **Indonesia** from 31 August to 2 September (Steve);
- International paediatric TB training course by SUN at Goudini, **South Africa** in September 2023 (Anneke and colleagues & Sabine)
- More attention to **TB during pregnancy and the post-partum period**: Roadmap 2023; SMART4TB, IMPAACT network and WHO convened a meeting on TB in pregnancy in Washington DC on 26-27 October 2023
- **Sharing of new publications, papers and other interesting information** with members



Programme reviews & review of draft GF FRs

- **Programme reviews with child and adolescent TB component**
 - January/ February 2023: Myanmar** (Annemieke Brands remotely); **Viet Nam** (Shakil Ahmed); **UR Tanzania** (Moorine Sekadde); **Sierra Leone** (Sabine Verkuijl, Tiziana Masini); **Ethiopia** (Simon Sentumbwe)
 - March 2023: Ghana** (Anthony Enimil) & **eSwatini** (Kerri Viney)
 - April 2023: Uganda** (Robert Makombe, and Sabine Verkuijl remotely)
- **GF Peer review workshop with 12 countries, 2-4 May, Dar Es Salaam, UR Tanzania**



Young MDR-TB contacts waiting to be evaluated, Makeni Regional Hospital, Sierra Leone
© SE Verkuijl

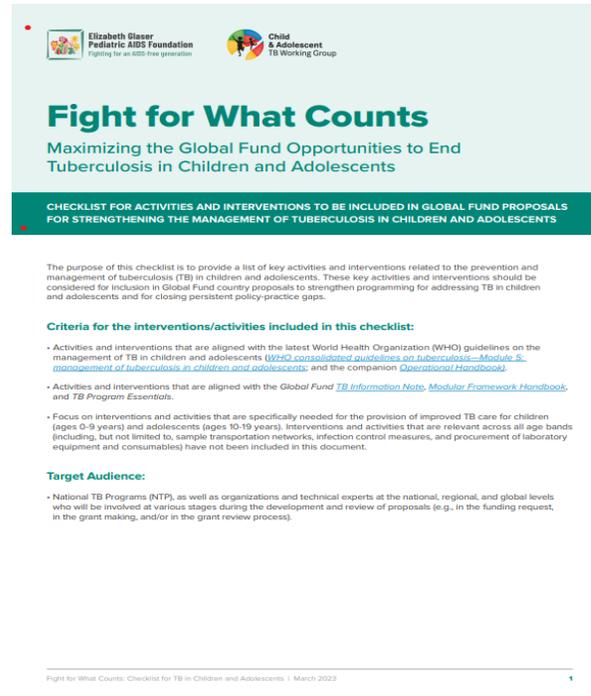
Further dissemination of 2022 WHO guidance

- **Annual meeting of the Working Group** - recordings, report and presentations of meeting on 29 November 2022 available on WG pages on Stop TB website
- **Corrigenda box 5.3** of the WHO operational handbook on the eligibility criteria for the 4m regimen for children and young adolescents with non-severe TB developed & **translated** into Arabic, French, Russian, and Spanish
- **STAG-TB**: Moorine Sekadde (member), 3-5 July 2023
- **Regional meetings with NTP representatives and rGLC members on MDR-/RR-TB**
 - Bangkok (25-27 April) for SEA and WPR
 - Istanbul (16-18 May) for EUR
 - Cairo (5-7 June) for the EMR region
- **WHO AFRO TB and HHS programme managers meeting** from 31 October – 3 November in Kigali, Rwanda.
- **National TB workshop Russian Federation** organized by the WHO Collaborating Centre Novosibirsk, 20 October 2023 – Kerri, Sabine, Saltanat Yegeubayeva
- Support to **updating of national guidelines** including to Myanmar, South Africa and Sierra Leone - ongoing

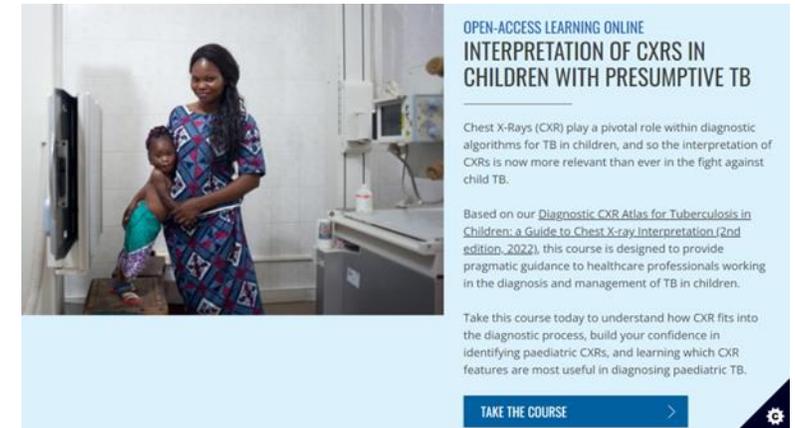
Selected publications & materials by WHO & WG members



<https://theunion.org/technical-publications/diagnosis-and-management-of-tuberculosis-in-children-and-adolescents-a-desk-guide-for-primary-health-care-workers>



<https://www.pedaids.org/resource/fight-for-what-counts/>



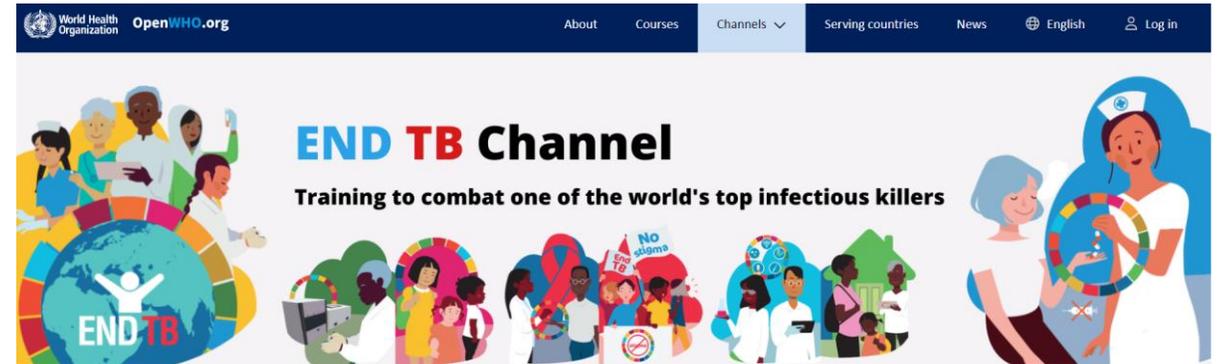
<https://coursesonline.theunion.org/theunion/2023/interpretation-of-chest-x-rays-in-children-with-tb/393947/>

Selected resources under development/forthcoming



KNCV Benchmarking Tool for Childhood TB Policies, Practices and Planning

<https://www.kncvtbc.org/en/kb/kncv-benchmarking-tool-for-childhood-tb-policies-practice-and-planning/>



About the **End TB** Course Series

<https://openwho.org/channels/end-tb>



World Health Organization Global Tuberculosis Programme External Links Select Language

Home / TB Research Tracker

TB Research Tracker

Use the table below to access the most up-to-date information on clinical trials, operational research and other studies on TB and MDR-TB

Filters

Reset

Clinical Trials

Operational Research

Search by Keywords...

Search

Indication

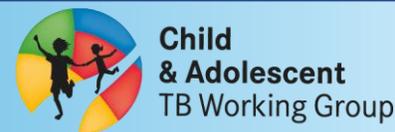
Theme

Location

Cohort Size

End Date

<https://tbtrialtrack.who.int/>



54th Union conference 15-18 November 2023 (1/2)

Selected sessions on TB in children and adolescents (**not exhaustive!**)

- **Post-graduate course:** Use of Stool for diagnosis of TB in children; social protection (14 Nov)
- **Workshop:** Introduction and scale up of stool-based testing (14 Nov)
- **Symposia:** Child-friendly TB medicines (15 Nov); Accelerating investigations of TB drugs for children (16 Nov); Introducing shorter regimens (16 Nov); Reaching agreement on inclusion of pregnant and lactating persons in TB research (17 Nov); advances in evidence-based approaches to CAD software to support TB diagnosis in children (17 Nov); Closing the gaps in paediatric TB - Optimizing diagnosis (17Nov); Shorter versus safer- perspectives on shorter regimens for adults and children (17 Nov); Another cursed duet of afflictions- TB & SAM (17 Nov); Into the unknown- Dr-TB in pregnancy (18 Nov)
- **Meet the expert:** TB and HIV in children and adolescents (17Nov)
- **Plenary session:** Accelerating progress towards ending TB in children and adolescents - 2023 Roadmap (17 Nov)
- **Satellite session:** Benefit Kids (16 Nov)
- **Community Connect:** Roadmap (16 Nov); a new approach to accelerating research and close gaps in access to new TB drugs for children (18 Nov); SMART4TB: Engaging

54th Union conference 15-18 November 2023 (2/2)

Selected sessions on TB in children and adolescents (**not exhaustive!**)

- **Community Connect:** Roadmap (16 Nov); a new approach to accelerating research and close gaps in access to new TB drugs for children (18 Nov); SMART4TB: Engaging Communities to Enhance Research and Access to Leading Tools for TB Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment (18 Nov)
- **Oral abstracts:** Moving Paediatric TB Forward (15 Nov); abstracts to share results of Benefit Kids trials (TB CHAMP trial, ChilPref fast panel study, Catalyst Trial PK and safety, sociobehavioural studies, reflections from the CAB); Paediatric TB from determinants to outcomes (15 Nov); meaningful collaboration to End TB with experiences from care givers of children with MDR-/RR-TB (15 Nov); TPT how far are we? (15 Nov); Finding the missing children (15 Nov); PK for better TB treatment including palatability findings (16 Nov); Diagnosis of TB in children (16 Nov); Breathe easy (16 Nov); Operational and clinical studies including decentralization of TB services for children (16 Nov); Validation of diagnostics covering experiences with the use of TDAs in 3 African countries (16 Nov); Gender, TB and Pregnancy (16 Nov); Evidence based interventions to influence policies (16 Nov); Clinical trials and OR for new treatment for adults and children (16 Nov); Epi across the life course (17Nov); Implementation of TPT in PLHIV (17 Nov); Finding TB cases among vulnerable populations (17 Nov); Person-centered care (17 Nov); Achieving results through community interventions (17 Nov); Rapid tests for all (17 Nov); Drug sensitive TB treatment and care including socec impact of C-19 on HH with children with RR-TB (18 Nov); From diagnosis to treatment (18 Nov); Improving TB diagnosis and care (18Nov); Discrimination is the crime (18 Nov)
- **ePosters:** many interesting posters from CAWG members around the world e.g. TB diagnosis including experiences with stool testing in DRC (15 Nov); One breath at a time (15 Nov); How we can improve TB detection (16 Nov); TB management with 3HP demonstration project in Pune, India (16 Nov); M&E of AEs and outcomes (16 Nov);

Planned activities for 2023-2024

- **Further dissemination** of 2022 WHO guidelines and implementation guidance; exploring options for other regional consultations; **assist countries in uptake and roll out of the new recommendations**
- Follow-up to **PADO TB 2**
- Dissemination of the **Roadmap towards ending tuberculosis in children and adolescents – third edition** & implementation of key actions
- Support to to NSP development, GF funding applications and grant making
- **Roster of Consultants** –will become the mechanism to provide and coordinate TA
- Update **terms of reference of the core team and working group** and explore modern options for membership management and update website
- Continue to **highlight challenges and opportunities** in all relevant fora
- **Promote research and development**
- Share proceedings of the 2023 annual meeting on the website and prepare for an **annual meetings of the Child and Adolescent TB working group in 2024** with engagement of all relevant stakeholders

Acknowledgements

- Farhana Amanullah, past chair; Steve Graham, past chair
- WHO secretariat: Kerri Viney, Sabine Verkuijl and Annemieke Brands
- Core team members
- Implementation partners
- Funding agencies
- National TB Programmes
- Paediatricians
- Healthcare workers
- Community volunteers
- Child and adolescent TB advocates
- Researchers



The Child and Adolescent TB Working Group is one of the seven working groups of the **Stop TB Partnership**. It supports the Partnership in its goal of eliminating tuberculosis (TB). The Working Group works with the objective to promote research, policy development, the formulation and implementation of guidelines, the mobilization of human and financial resources, and collaboration with partners working in relevant fields (including maternal, child and adolescent health, the extended programme on immunization, and HIV) to achieve the goal of decreased childhood TB mortality and morbidity.



**Child
& Adolescent
TB Working Group**

<https://www.stoptb.org/stop-tb-working-groups/child-and-adolescent-tb-working-group>

If you would like to join, please write to Annemieke Brands at brandsa@who.int or Sabine Verkuijl at verkuijls@who.int