



Programmatic management of latent TB infection: Global perspective and updates



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What is latent TB infection?

A state of persistent immune response to stimulation by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigens without evidence of clinically manifested active TB

No gold standard test to diagnose LTBI



"Seedbeds of tuberculosis in the community"

William Osler

LTBI is part of Spectrum of TB disease



LTBI test concept: persistent infection and incipient TB

Figure 1. The postulated spectrum of TB infection and the progression to active TB disease (adapted from Esmail *et al.* 2014)



WHO End TB Strategy

TARGETS: 90% reduction of deaths and 80% reduction in incidence by 2030



Two of 10 indicators to monitor the implementation of the End TB Strategy

TB contact investigation coverage

LTBI treatment coverage (PLHIV & child contacts)

Target: ≥90%

LTBI management- priority action for TB elimination





LTBI management contributes to the End TB Strategy targets (Incidence of TB)



LTBI management contributes to the End TB Strategy targets (Deaths)



Two-prong policy based on TB burden and income: Recommeded risk groups

Low-TB burden

TB incidence <100 per 100,000 UMICs and HICs



Strong

- Child and adult contacts
- PLHIV
- Transplant patients
- Silicosis patients
- Dialysis patients
- Anti-TNF patients

Conditional

- Prisoners
- HCW
- Immigrants from HBC
- Homeless persons
- Illicit drug users

High-TB burden

- TB incidence >100 per 100,000
- LICs and LMICs





- PLHIV
- Household child contacts (<5y)

LTBI testing recommendation based on burden and income

Low-TB burden

TB incidence <100 per 100,000 UMICs and HICs



- LTBI testing (TST and/or IGRA) and a positive test is required
- Exclude active TB according to national guidelines

High-TB burden

- TB incidence >100 per 100,000
- LICs and LMICs



- LTBI testing (TST and/or IGRA) not a requirement
- TST is encouraged in PLHIV
- IGRA should not replace TST
- Exclude active TB with investigations according to national guidelines

Isoniazid preventive therapy has been recommended for PLHIV and child contacts for ages



WHO & UNAIDS

WHO/TB/98.255 UNAIDS/98.34 Distr: GENERAL Original: English

Policy Statement on Preventive Therapy against Tuberculosis in People Living with HIV

Report of a Meeting held in Geneva 18 – 20 February 1998

World Health Organization Global Tuberculosis Programme and UNAIDS





1998

Progress of implementation of IPT in PLHIV



Only 57 countries report implementation in 2015

Preventive treatment for child household contacts<5yrs





RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INVESTIGATING CONTACTS OF PERSONS WITH INFECTIOUS TUBERCULOSIS IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

World Healt

Number not available No response Not applicable

Availability of data on preventive treatment ...mong child household contacts< 5years, 2015

87,000 (7% of estimated eligible) in 88 countries received PT

Challenges

Implementation of isoniazid preventive therapy for people living with HIV worldwide: barriers and solutions

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AIDS 2010, 24 (suppl 5):S57-S65

INT J TUBERC LUNG DIS 20(12):1566-1571 © 2016 The Union http://dx.doi.org/10.5588/ijtld.16.0241

Policies and practices on the programmatic management of latent tuberculous infection: global survey

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Key barriers for TB prevention scale up

- Does it really work?
 - Reluctance of programme managers and health workers
 - Are we not doing harm?
- Difficulty to exclude active TB and drug resistance fear
 Inadvertent mono-treatment
- Operational barriers
 - Poor adherence of clients
 - Access to INH and who owns it

Risk of drug resistance following LTBI treatment

- No significant association of risk of drug resistance.
 - INH RR (95%CI) = 1.45 (0.85,2.47)
 - Rifamycin RR (95%CI) = 1.12 (0.41,3.08)



Challenge: multiple service provider units with no harmonisation of data and practice



PROGRAMME



LTBI digital tool key characteristics

- Free downloadable from WHO website
- Adaptable to country specific context and needs
- Functional on mobile devices
- Flexible record data off line and synchronise later and use local server



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QxJknYG53jM

Report of the Global Consultation on the Programmatic Management of Latent Tuberculosis Infection 27–28 April 2016 Seoul, Republic of Korea



Support the harmonization of policy recommendations across countries, regardless of the burden of TB.





Consolidated and updated LTBI guidelines



Consolidated WHO LTBI guidelines - 2017







Seven PICO questions examined for high burden countries

- Preventive treatment for HIV negative household contacts
- Screening to exclude TB in HIV negative household contacts
- Accuracy of WHO 4 symptomatic to exclude TB in PLHIV on ART
- IGRA as alternative to tuberculin skin tests
- 3 month daily rifampicin plus INH for children and adolescents
- 3-month weekly rifapentine and INH as an alternative to IPT
- Preventive treatment recommendation for MDR-TB contacts

Conclusions

- Programmatic management of LTBI is essential component of End TB Strategy and TB elimination
- Research for best test and treatment should be integral to the programmatic implementation
- WHO guidelines are being updated and large scale changes anticipated

Acknowledgment: Yohhei Hamada