

Management of MDR-TB: A field guide

A companion document to *Guidelines for the programmatic management of drug-resistant tuberculosis*



Integrated Management of Adolescent and
Adult Illness (IMAI)



World Health
Organization

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Integrated Management of Adolescent and Adult Illness (IMAI) is a multi-departmental project at WHO that produces guidelines and training materials for first-level health facility workers in low-resource settings. The WHO IMAI team collaborated closely for several months with Drs. Seung and Satti on the content and structure of this module. No experts involved declared a conflict of interest.

Foreword

Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB) increasingly occur in resource-constrained settings. In the context of a national response to MDR- and XDR-TB, health workers in TB clinics (in district hospitals and some accredited health centres) will need to diagnose MDR-TB, initiate second-line anti-TB drugs, and monitor MDR-TB treatment.

Management of MDR-TB: a field guide was created to help health workers carry out these tasks. It is a job aid that medical officers and TB nurses are meant use frequently during the day for quick reference. This module is closely related to other clinical guideline modules in the Integrated Management of Adolescent and Adult Illness (IMAI) series. In particular, the approach to chronic disease management is taken from ***General principles of good chronic care*** in the IMAI series.

It is based on the Emergency Update 2008 of ***Guidelines for programmatic management of drug-resistant tuberculosis*** (WHO/HTM/TB/2008.402), and may be considered a companion document to these guidelines. It also draws on the experience of the international health NGO Partners In Health (PIH) in many countries, and the Lesotho version of this module that was adapted by the Lesotho National TB Programme. This module should be introduced to health workers in the context of a training course with a strong emphasis on TB-HIV co-management.

This document is expected to remain valid until 2010 when a fully revised second edition of the ***Guidelines for programmatic management of drug-resistant tuberculosis*** will be published. The Stop TB Department at WHO Headquarters in Geneva will be responsible for initiating a review of this document at that time.

For more information about IMAI, please see <http://www.who.int/hiv/capacity/> or contact imaimail@who.int. For more information about global TB/HIV initiatives, see http://www.stoptb.org/wg/tb_hiv/ or <http://www.who.int/tb/hiv/en/>.

WHO HIV/AIDS Department—IMAI Project
WHO Stop TB Department—TB/HIV and Drug Resistance Unit

Chronic Care for MDR-TB cross-references other IMAI/IMCI guideline modules for primary health care. These include:

- ❖ **Acute care:** management of common acute problems that arise during chronic care.
- ❖ **Palliative care:** for management of pain and issues related to end-of-life care. Page numbers beginning with “P” refer to this guideline module.
- ❖ **Chronic HIV care with ART and prevention:** for management of HIV and antiretroviral therapy.

Use the general principles of good chronic care

See IMAI module with this title for more detail.

1. Develop a treatment partnership with your patient.
2. Focus on your patient’s concerns and priorities.
3. Use the 5 As—Assess, Advise, Agree, Assist, Arrange.
4. Support the patient education and self-management.
5. Organize proactive follow-up.
6. Involve "expert patients", peer educators and support staff at your health facility. (These are referred to in these guidelines as lay providers).
7. Link the patient to community-based resources and support.
8. Use written information—registers, treatment plans, the patient calendars, treatment cards—to document, monitor, and remind.
9. Work as a clinical team (and hold team meetings).
10. Assure continuity of care.

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