

ADVANCING TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION

Ensuring people have access to diagnosis and appropriate care at the earliest stage after exposure to tuberculosis (TB) is critical to reducing TB transmission and ending the epidemic.

GOALS FOR PREVENTION

In 2018, at the first-ever United Nations High-Level Meeting on TB, Member States agreed to reach at least 30 million people with preventive therapy by 2022, including:

4M

4 million children under five years of age.

20M

20 million other household contacts of people affected by TB.

6M

6 million people living with HIV and AIDS.

WHY PREVENTION IS KEY

Individuals in close contact with someone who is sick with pulmonary TB disease are at higher risk of TB infection versus individuals who have more casual contact.

25%

A quarter of the global population is living with TB infection.

1-2YRS

People are at highest risk of developing TB one to two years after acquiring TB infection.

60-90%

TB preventive treatment reduces a person's risk of developing active TB by 60 to 90 percent.

FALLING SHORT OF TARGETS

27%

The global percentage of children under five years eligible for TB preventive treatment who actually received it.

79k

In 2018, 79,000 people over five years old received TB preventive treatment – a 30 percent decrease from 2017.

49%

49% of people newly enrolled in HIV treatment also received TB preventive treatment.

ACTIONS THE UNION IS TAKING TO ADVANCE TB PREVENTION

DEVELOPING NEW MODELS OF PREVENTING TB IN CHILDREN

- The Union's DETECT Child TB project in Uganda trains health workers to recognise TB so that children can be evaluated close to where they live. Children are supported by community health workers to complete their preventive treatment. This has led to a 72% uptake of preventive therapy among children (up from 5%).
- In the TITI study, The Union tested a similar approach in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and the Central African Republic, showing that providing preventive therapy to children was feasible, with high rates of treatment completion, in settings with limited resources.

RESOURCES FOR BUILDING CAPACITY OF HEALTH WORKERS

- The Union has developed a free online training on TB prevention for health workers, designed to improve knowledge in all aspects of management of TB infection, with the aim of increasing country-level implementation of TB prevention services.
- In 2019 The Union published the 7th edition of the Management of Tuberculosis: A Guide to Essential Practice. This latest edition includes a revised chapter on TB prevention that provides clear guidance regarding TB infection prevention.

ADVANCING PREVENTION AT THE UNION WORLD CONFERENCE

- Prevention is a key element not only to ending TB, but in reducing tobacco use and improving lung health globally. The 51st Union World Conference on Lung Health, taking place from 21–24 October 2020, in Seville, Spain, will put prevention at centre stage.

FIND OUT MORE:
worldlunghealth.org