HOW CAN WE IMPROVE THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR TUBERCULOSIS (TB) CONTROL?

LEADING GLOBAL KILLER

Tuberculosis (TB) is now the leading cause of death from any infectious disease including HIV.

AFFECTS THE POOREST

Over 95% of TB deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries.

CURRENT APPROACH INSUFFICIENT

We are not winning the battle against TB despite investments in TB control.

TB: 1.6 million

HIV/AIDS: 940,000

Malaria: 445,000

TB is the leading killer of women

Approximately 480,000 people develop multidrug-resistant TB every year

At current rate of decline in incidence (1.5%) it will take >150 years to reach global END TB targets

1.5% per year

JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT: CRITICALLY ANALYSES TB CONTROL STRATEGY

1. Targets

Focus on case detection rates and ignore critical delay to diagnosis

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2. Health service delivery model

Requires strengthening of primary health services

16% of TB patients in Myanmar do not have a treatment supporter

“We usually try many other methods first and the hospital is the last choice” – Cambodian patient

Only 29% of publications from Cambodia between 2000-2016 addressed policy makers priority areas for TB control

3. Research strategy

Needs to better address gaps for policy making

This new evidence, which includes the largest study on delay to TB diagnosis in the world, highlights the importance of adapting global strategies to local health systems.

Research Impact: findings from this supplement were reported in national press