

Tuberculosis

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Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease caused by a bacterium called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Although the number of TB cases has decreased over the past decades, mainly in high economic countries, it is still an important public health problem due to recently emerging bacterial strains, particularly in low and middle-income countries, that are not responsive to commonly used drugs.



Areas for action

- There have been significant advances in diagnostic methods for TB, but there remain logistical and financial obstacles to their widespread adoption
- Countries with high rates of TB have to set up and maintain accurate diagnostic methods and strategies to manage the large numbers of people with drug-susceptible and multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB)
- Significant advances in vaccines and drugs are needed to reach European and global control of the condition
- More research is needed to identify markers of the disease to help predict the success of new treatments and vaccines
- Better cross-border cooperation on management of treatment for migrants is urgently needed

HIV+

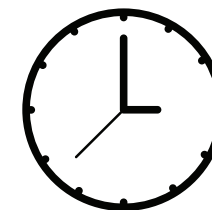
The WHO estimated that in 2011 there were **8.7 million new TB cases** of which **1.0-1.2 million were HIV positive**



The total number of **patients dying of TB** worldwide in 2011 was estimated to be **1.4 million**



Each year, more than almost **400,000 new cases of TB are diagnosed** in Europe and more than 40,000 people die from the disease



The majority of people with untreated TB die **within 1.5 years after the development of the first symptoms**



TB is **particularly problematic** among former **Soviet Union countries**, where MDR-TB is highly prevalent



TB **treatment** is complex and takes many months, using a **range of at least four drugs**