

Total population: 44 823 765
Regionally high TB-priority country
Globally high MDR-TB burden country

Epidemiological burden and response monitoring¹

Main impact indicators	Number	Rate per 100 000
Incidence (including HIV+TB)	41 000	91.00
Mortality (including HIV+TB)	7 100	15.84
Incidence (HIV+TB only)	9 000	20.00
Mortality (HIV+TB only)	2 100	4.70
Incidence (RR/MDR-TB ^a only)	22 000	49.08

MDR-TB detection and care	Number	%
RR/MDR estimates among new TB		25.0
RR/MDR estimates among previously treated TB		58.0
RR/MDR estimates among notified pulmonary TB	12 000	
Tested for RR/MDR-TB	23 625	66.9
Detected with RR/MDR-TB from estimates	9 397	78.3
RR/MDR-TB started SLD ^b treatment	8 370	89.1
Successfully treated (RR/MDR-TB only)	2 948	38.6

^a RR/MDR = rifampicin-resistant multidrug-resistant TB.

^b SLD = second-line drug.

TB detection and care	Number	%
Total TB new and relapses detected	30 151	73.5
Pulmonary TB	27 087	89.8
Bacteriologically confirmed	18 497	68.3
TB detected with rapid diagnostics	23 177	76.9
Successfully treated	16 109	72.3

HIV/TB detection and care	Number	%
TB cases tested for HIV status	29 749	98.7
HIV/TB cases detected from estimates	6 637	73.7
HIV/TB cases on ARV ^c	3 911	58.9
Successfully treated (HIV/TB only)	2 149	35.2
HIV diagnosis and care		
Newly diagnosed HIV cases	–	
HIV cases started IPT ^d	5 775	–

^c ARV = antiretroviral treatment.

^d IPT = isoniazid preventive therapy.

Major challenges

Ukraine is one of the 18 high-priority countries to fight tuberculosis (TB) in the WHO European Region and 30 high multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) burden countries in the world. The major challenges faced by the national TB control programme (NTP) for effective TB control are as follows:

- availability of rapid diagnostic services for MDR-TB,
- lengthy hospitalization of TB patients and poor infection control measures in TB facilities,
- weak ambulatory TB care,
- more efficient patient support and patient-centred TB services,
- suboptimal surveillance of MDR-TB,
- TB and HIV programme collaboration,
- enhancing civil society engagement with TB policy formulation and implementation.

In the eastern part of Ukraine, particularly in the nongovernmental-controlled areas (NGCA) of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, these challenges are combined with ongoing armed conflict and impaired health infrastructure.

Achievements

Achievements in collaboration with WHO are as follows.

- Ukraine has made considerable progress in implementing WHO recommendations in recent years. Directly observed therapy has been implemented by order of the Minister of Health. National guidelines on TB control were revised and new protocols for treatment of drug-susceptible TB and MDR-TB developed in 2016, in addition to the introduction of new recording and reporting forms, new guidelines on infection control and a new policy on TB prevention in children, including limiting BCG revaccination and annual screening with tuberculin skin testing.
- Pharmacovigilance for TB/HIV and MDR-TB patients has started under the Cohort Event-Monitoring project.
- An electronic national TB register has been developed and eTB Manager is available.

¹ European TB surveillance and monitoring report in Europe 2017. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2017 (<http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/communicable-diseases/tuberculosis/publications/2017/tuberculosis-surveillance-and-monitoring-in-europe-2017>).

- National guidelines on active drug-safety monitoring of new TB drugs and regimens were formulated in 2014 and updated in 2016.
- With financial support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), support was provided for the revision of TB national policies and guidelines, and capacity-building in synergy with implementation of Global Fund grants.
- Green Light Committee (GLC) missions have monitored the treatment of MDR-TB patients on an annual basis.
- An external extensive review of the national TB control programme was conducted in 2015 with technical assistance from WHO.
- The shift from the hospital-based to ambulatory-based model of care is ongoing.
- Social support for TB patients in outpatient settings was developed in 2015 and the distribution of food packages was organized, based on a Ministry of Health (MoH) decision with financial support from the Global Fund.
- WHO recommendations were considered by the MoH in developing a new 2017–2021 state TB control programme.
- The national multidrug and extensively drug-resistant (M/XDR-TB) response plan is being updated in accordance with the regional M/XDR-TB action plan.
- Technical assistance was provided to the NTP in the development on drugs management and preparation of the TB drugs order for 2016.
- In September 2016, the Ukrainian Centre for Disease Control extended its memorandum of understanding with WHO on continuation of support for the country until March 2017.
- Development of new guidelines on MDR-TB treatment: the guidelines were cleared by the NTP in 2016.
- A TB drugs order for the entire country, including all MDR-TB cases from the NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, was prepared with support from WHO, together with the office of Michel Kazatchkine, the United Nations Special Envoy on HIV.
- WHO and the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) organized a special TB/HIV assessment mission to the NGCA of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in November and December 2016. Telephone and internet hotline on programmatic management of drug-resistant TB with involvement of all main stakeholders and partners was established.
- WHO is organizing regular (once a month) partners' coordination meetings on TB and HIV.

WHO activities

Planned WHO activities are to:

- support capacity-building for TB and HIV collaborative activities in the country;
- continue to support provision on programmatic management of drug-resistant TB;
- continue with technical assistance in implementing the NTP, including Global Fund-supported activities and advice from the GLC;
- assist in introducing the use of new anti-TB drugs and pharmacovigilance; and
- provide assistance in e-health.

Main partners

WHO's main partners are:

- Ministry of Health
- Centre for Public Health
- State Penitentiary Services
- National Yanovsky TB and Pulmonology Institute
- USAID
- Strengthening Tuberculosis Control in Ukraine Project (Chemonics)
- Programme for Appropriate Technology in Health
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- World Bank
- Management Sciences for Health
- Médecins Sans Frontières
- All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV
- Alliance for Public Health
- Ukrainian National Society of the Red Cross
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- nongovernmental organizations working in HIV/AIDS, TB and other related areas.