CASE STUDY

Child and Adolescent TB Training Package for Healthcare Workers

BACKGROUND

Tuberculosis (TB) causes disease in more than 1.5 million children and adolescents (<20 years) globally each year. It is a leading cause of mortality in these age groups in tuberculosis endemic countries, and adolescents with TB are also a common source of transmission.

THE PROBLEM

Low case detection, especially in young children, and very low coverage of tuberculosis preventive treatment for eligible child and adolescent contacts represent just two of the major challenges to ending tuberculosis.

THE UNION APPROACH

The Union, in collaboration with the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), has updated material that supports teaching and learning on tuberculosis in children and adolescents.

This version was completed in April 2021 and is in line with current evidence and international guidelines, with input provided by the WHO Global Tuberculosis Programme.

This training course covers the TB care cascade for children and adolescents and is structured in a modular format with nine module-specific learning objectives:

1. Epidemiology
2. Diagnosis
3. Treatment
4. Prevention
5. TB/HIV
6. MDR TB
7. Maternal and Infant TB
8. Child and Adolescent TB and NTP
9. Evaluation of Child and Adolescent TB

In addition, facilitator and participant manuals, sample questions and answers for evaluation support the training and a flipchart provides a practical approach to the management of TB in children and adolescents.

THE RESULTS

The free training package is available on Union Courses Online at coursesonline.theunion.org. Since April 2021, over 500 people have accessed the course content in English and in French.