

## Course brief

**Title:** International Course on Tuberculosis in Children and Adolescents

**Dates (updated):**

Asynchronous content to be completed between June and July 2025

In-person session: from the 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025 in Uganda.

**Language:** English

**Number of participants (maximum):** 25

**Introduction**

This training is aimed at helping healthcare providers/participants apply learned concepts to improve the care of children and adolescents with presumptive and diagnosed TB in their work settings, especially at primary and secondary levels of health services.

The course will be offered in a blended learning format. This means that the participants will need to complete the online materials hosted on the Union Courses Online platform and attend 60min online live sessions with subject matter experts. Participants will also attend a one-week in-person session in Uganda to discuss key concepts and practice delivering the training to others.

**Course goal**

This course will provide the knowledge and skills to improve management of children and adolescents with TB and strengthen programmatic practices.

**Learning objectives**

After completing the course, participants should be able to understand and describe the local epidemiology of childhood and adolescent TB, identify vulnerable groups and determine the necessary interventions. They will also learn about screening for TB, the diagnostic, treatment and prevention modalities and support strategies for adherence during treatment of TB and TB infection.

**Target audience**

This course is designed for healthcare workers in TB high-burden countries involved in training and management of TB, child and adolescent TB or child and adolescent health. These professionals include child and adolescent TB technical working group members, TB or child TB focal points, training officers,

paediatricians, TB coordinators, health information specialists, laboratory and radiology staff and other healthcare providers at sub-national levels of health services.

### **Course format**

This course will be delivered as a hybrid course: participants will need to complete online materials in their own time, attend online live sessions and then participate in a 5-day in-person session.

The course materials include:

- Pre-recorded lectures developed by the course faculty (slides, audio, and interactive elements). Each educational unit (EU) is about 30 minutes long. To reinforce learning, the learner will need to complete a quiz at the end of each educational unit.
- The presentations include transcripts to facilitate understanding of the content.
- There are additional readings available to complement the lectures.
- Weekly live sessions with faculty to discuss the content presented via the pre-recorded lectures.

The 5-day in-person session will review some of the key points from the online materials as well as new concepts. A summary of the online content will be presented, followed by question-answer sessions and practical exercises. There will also be a field visit to local health facilities to familiarise with TB services for children and adolescents in Uganda.

**Course director:** Dr Stephen Graham

### **What are the costs to participate in the course?**

The course fee is 3,000 EUR. It will include:

- Unlimited access to the online course materials
- In-person session for 5 days
- Lunch and coffee/tea breaks during the in-person session

The fee does **not** include return travel from the participant's home country to the in-person session, travel insurance, visa costs or accommodation.

The fee is payable via credit card or international bank transfer.

### **How to apply for the course?**

To complete your registration, you will need to complete an online form, submit a CV and the details of your sponsor or the person paying for the course fees. Register here:

<https://courses.theunion.org/>

Unfortunately, The Union does not have funding to offer scholarships to attend this course. We encourage participants to find a sponsor locally.

**Detailed course content:**

- Epidemiology
  - Understand the major policy-practice gaps in TB in children and adolescents
  - Describe the main epidemiological features of child and adolescent TB
  - Identify risk factors for TB infection and disease as well as TB-related death; and
  - Understand the value of age-disaggregated data for monitoring local epidemiology, identifying policy-practice gaps and evaluating programmatic response
- Diagnosis
  - Conduct TB screening to identify children and adolescents with TB or at risk for TB
  - Identify key components of the physical exam when evaluating a child or adolescent for TB
  - Identify children and adolescents who require further evaluation for TB and know the approach to diagnosis
  - Use diagnostic tests as indicated to diagnose TB
- Treatment
  - Understand the principles of TB treatment
  - Decide on the correct treatment regimen
  - Initiate children and adolescents with TB onto treatment
  - Use diagnostic tests as indicated to diagnose TB
- Prevention
  - Understand the main strategies for TB prevention
  - Understand the role of contact screening and management
  - Identify groups for which TB preventive treatment (TPT) is recommended
  - Choose appropriate TPT regimens as per new recommendations for contacts of people with drug-susceptible or drug-resistant TB.
- Treatment support
  - Provide person-centred care for children and adolescents receiving treatment for TB disease or TB infection.
  - Decide on suitable formulations to provide correct dosages.
  - Follow up children and adolescents initiated on treatment for TB disease or TB infection (TPT).
  - Manage adherence issues and side effects, as well as provide support to the child or adolescent and their family throughout the whole treatment period.
- Model for care delivery
  - Recognise the role of decentralised care, including community care, in increasing access to care and ensuring continuity of TB services for children and adolescents.
  - Understand the implementation considerations for setting up decentralised care.
  - Recognise the role of the private sector in improving access to TB care services.
  - Understand the role of differentiated service delivery models for improving access to TB care services.
- Recording and Reporting
  - Recognise the registers and reports used in child and adolescent TB.
  - Identify indicators to be used to monitor and evaluate child and adolescent TB.
  - Understand the importance of local use of routinely available TB data to improve quality of TB case finding and management among children and adolescents.

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- Child and adolescent TB and the NTP
  - Recognise the role of NTP in management of child and adolescent TB .
  - Identify health programmes and other sectors that are critical in the programmatic management of child and adolescent TB.
  - Recognise opportunities for integration.

In-person session: the 5-day in-person session will review some of the key points from the online materials as well as new concepts. A summary of the online content will be presented, followed by question-answer sessions and practical exercises. There will also be a field visit to local health facilities to familiarise with TB services for children and adolescents in Uganda.

### Learners' journey:

