Enabling a China Without TB

Johnson & Johnson Global Public Health and Xian Janssen are supporting China’s efforts to end tuberculosis and combat antimicrobial resistance through innovative detection, access & delivery programs and cutting-edge R&D as part of J&J’s 10-Year TB Initiative.

THE CHALLENGE

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that there were more than 800,000 cases of TB in China in 2019, which is the 2nd highest TB burden in the world after India.

With the rise of drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB) globally, in 2019 there were about 65,000 new cases of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB)/rifampin-resistant TB (RR-TB) in China. However, only about 18,000 (28%) of these MDR-TB/RR-TB cases were diagnosed and 13,525 were enrolled in treatment in 2019.1

We need to act quickly and decisively with the Chinese government, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), TB hospitals and patients to accelerate MDR-TB diagnosis and broaden treatment with new innovations.

ACTION TO END TB

Johnson & Johnson is taking a holistic approach to achieving a China without TB through case detection, training health care professionals to better manage TB and MDR-TB, raising awareness of TB and reducing stigma and accelerating affordable access to treatment in collaboration with partners.

In 2016, Xian Janssen received approval for its MDR-TB medicine – the first with a novel mechanism of action in more than 40 years. Since then, the new drug has become the backbone of the updated MDR-TB treatment guidelines in China. In collaboration with the Government of China, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Clinical Center on TB of the China CDC, we launched a program in 2018 called the New Drug Introduction & Protection Program (NDIP) to ensure appropriate use of the new treatment by designating at least one MDR-TB hospital in each of China’s 31 provinces to prescribe it in the first year alone. During 2019, this program expanded to 98 hospitals, with 2,000 donated courses of our medicine. Through patient assistance and support programs, Xian Janssen reaches underserved patients from the poorest areas.

Additionally, Johnson & Johnson is pursuing its commitment to end TB in China through partnerships. Since 2011, Xian Janssen has been working with the Government of China to build an MDR-TB Remote Consultation & Education Platform. Further, we have partnered with the National Health Commission and China CDC on a case finding pilot in poverty-stricken regions. We are also raising public awareness for TB through the successful launch of a campaign on World TB Day 2020 to deliver key messages about TB/MDR-TB prevention and treatment.

These efforts are part of a comprehensive 10-year TB initiative launched by Johnson & Johnson in September 2018. With a focus on treatment access, case finding and R&D, the Company aims to help save 1.8 million lives and prevent 12 million TB infections globally over the next decade.

GLOBAL PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

- First novel medicine for TB in more than 40 years; approved in 67 countries
- More than 388K courses of treatment delivered to MDR-TB patients in 145 countries, including all 30 high-burden countries (as of May 2021)
- Donating 105K courses of treatment to eligible countries through a four-year donation program with USAID and JSC Pharmstandard, implemented through the Stop TB Partnership’s Global Drug Facility


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COLLABORATING AT EVERY LEVEL IN CHINA

J&J is taking a holistic approach to achieve a China without TB through case detection, training healthcare professionals to better manage TB and MDR-TB, raising awareness of TB and reducing stigma among the general public, as well as accelerating affordable access to effective treatment in collaboration with partners.

ACCESS
Donated 2,000 courses of treatment through NDIP during 2018-2020 to eligible patients, and since 2020, provided it through a patient assistance program to the poorest areas of Tibet, Xinjiang, Qinghai, Gansu, Yunnan, and Sichuan autonomous regions and provinces.

APPROPRIATE USE
Partner with National TB Program via NDIP to educate healthcare practitioners about new drug introduction & protection mechanisms to ensure appropriate use of our new medicine.

DETECTION
Partner with National Health Commission, China CDC via Strategic Partnership Program to improve MDR-TB case detection rate in 22 counties of 3 western provinces, covering 10 million people.

INNOVATIVE HCP ENGAGEMENT
Established a digital-driven innovative healthcare provider (HCP) engagement program called TB e-Communication Platform due to the COVID-19 outbreak in early 2020 to share latest literature, interpretations and TB related news and videos. This platform has attracted and engaged over 2,300 MDR-TB HCPs from 1,080 hospitals in 31 provinces.

PATIENT MANAGEMENT
Carried out MDR-TB patient education in NDIP hospitals from 2018-2020 to enhance patients’ awareness and treatment adherence, and set up a patient support program called To Be Safe with the Primary Health Care Foundation of China to manage and support MDR-TB patients via online nurse follow-ups and TB physician consultations for treatment success.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN
Leveraged World TB Day since 2017 to conduct awareness campaigns on TB/MDR-TB. In 2020, collaborating with multi-stakeholders, the campaign generated 550 million media impressions, delivering important messages about TB/MDR-TB prevention and treatment and underlining our determination to end TB.

DATA COLLECTION
Collect safety, efficacy and resistance data on our new medicine according to the requirement of the government to monitor treatment outcomes. MDR-TB Treatment Guidelines in China were updated to include the new drug as a backbone in 2019.

ABOUT J&J GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Through a dedicated global public health (GPH) organization that combines R&D, global access strategies and programs, and local operations, Johnson & Johnson is putting the world’s most vulnerable and underserved at the heart of everything we do — measuring our success in lives improved. As a team of innovators, we are committed to pioneering and sustainably delivering meaningful and transformational products.

Upholding the rich heritage of Johnson & Johnson, we are taking on the toughest challenges, and, ultimately, we hope to do our part to close the gap of inequity and pave the way to a healthier future for the world’s most vulnerable and underserved populations.

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