

Working Together Toward a TB-Free South Africa

Johnson & Johnson is working with the Government of South Africa and other organizations to end tuberculosis (TB) and combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the country.



THE CHALLENGE

South Africa is one of the countries hardest hit by the TB epidemic. There were approximately 304,000 new cases of TB in 2021 in the country, over one third of which are among people living with HIV/AIDS – which compromises the immune system and increases a person’s risk of developing active TB once infected with the bacteria. Growing resistance to the most commonly-used TB medicines is compounding this challenge. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 7,100 people in South Africa were diagnosed with drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) in 2021.¹

To build a TB-free South Africa, it will be essential to accelerate the development and delivery of new innovations from the lab to the last mile of health to reach more patients.

ACTION TO END TB

The South African government has shown tremendous commitment to combat DR-TB, setting ambitious targets for diagnosing and treating patients, backed by concrete action, and Johnson & Johnson is committed to collaborating with South Africa to support these efforts.

In 2012, we received accelerated approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the first novel TB medicine in more than 40 years. Since 2015, Johnson & Johnson has provided our MDR-TB medicine to South Africa, which has procured to date more than 70,000 courses for patients in need. Moreover, in 2018, South Africa became the first country in the world to adopt all-oral regimens and provided real world data that ultimately led to the WHO recommending our medicine as a core component of all-oral treatment regimens for drug-resistant TB.

We are also working with the South African government and other organizations to build capacity, focused on training health workers and improving diagnostic capacity and patient data collection, while raising awareness at the community level.

These efforts are part of a comprehensive 10-year TB initiative launched by Johnson & Johnson in September 2018 focused on enabling access to treatment regimens, finding the “missing millions,” including pediatric case finding, and accelerating the development of next-generation TB treatments.

GLOBAL PROGRAM AT A GLANCE



First novel medicine for TB in more than 40 years; approved in 72 countries



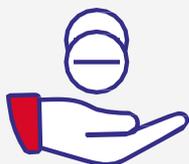
600K+ courses of treatment delivered to MDR-TB patients in 158 countries, including all 30 high-burden countries



Working closely with governments and organizations to build capacity to tackle MDR-TB in high-burden countries, including South Africa

COLLABORATING AT EVERY LEVEL

Johnson & Johnson is working with the Government of South Africa and other organizations to take a holistic approach to ending TB by accelerating affordable access to treatment regimens, supporting health systems strengthening efforts, raising awareness and reducing stigma at the community level.



ACCESS

Starting in 2015, have provided access to our MDR-TB medicine to South Africa, which has procured 70,000 courses to date for patients in need.



APPROPRIATE USE

Working closely with the government and other partners to ensure appropriate stewardship of our medicine to help prevent resistance from developing, including through strong surveillance programs.



MEDICAL EDUCATION

Training more than 70,000 healthcare professionals in 2022 alone on the clinical management of TB and MDR-TB.



AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Commissioned a children's book titled, "Clouds in my Chest" by renowned author, Refiloe Moahlol, to support parents and caregivers in explaining TB to their children.



PATIENT FINDING

Collaborating with Aquity Innovations since 2017 to improve diagnosis and treatment of DR-TB in children and youth, which has contributed to a 70 percent increase in case notifications in pediatric DR-TB in the Eastern Cape Province. This program is now deploying artificial intelligence-enabled mapping provided by EPCON to predict districts where patient-finding activities are needed and conducting a new insight study to better understand barriers to care for children and youth.



DATA GENERATION

Collecting safety, efficacy and drug resistance data of our MDR-TB medicine to monitor treatment outcomes; real-world evidence generated in South Africa helped inform new WHO guidelines for MDR-TB treatment.

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, more equitable future.