Collaborative TB strategy for England 2015-2020

The number of TB cases in England has increased to unacceptable levels

Our ambition

To bring together best practice in clinical care, social support and public health to strengthen TB control, with the aim of achieving a year-on-year decrease in incidence, a reduction in health inequalities, and ultimately the elimination of TB as a public health problem in England.

Key actions to achieve our ambition

Improve access to services to achieve early diagnosis and treatment

In 2013 ...

only 4 out of 10 pulmonary TB cases started treatment within two months of symptom onset.

only 7 out of 10 pulmonary TB cases started treatment within four months of symptom onset.

We need to reduce this delay
Improve treatment and care services

Treatment completion at 12 months for drug sensitive cases has increased from 70% in 2004 to 83% in 2013.

Only 1 in 2 multi-drug resistant cases diagnosed in 2011 had completed treatment by 24 months.

Ensure universal access to high quality diagnostics

In 2013, only 7 out of 10 pulmonary TB cases were culture confirmed.

Reduce drug resistant TB

The number of cases of multi-drug resistant TB has increased over the past decade.

Ensure comprehensive contact tracing

In 2013, 3 out of 4 TB cases were born abroad, the majority due to reactivation of latent TB infection.

Enhanced contact tracing should improve early diagnosis and reduce transmission.

Systematically implement new entrant latent TB screening

In 2013, 1 in 4 TB patients with social risk factors had not completed treatment by 12 months.

Tackle TB in underserved populations

In 2013, 3 out of 4 TB cases were born abroad, the majority due to reactivation of latent TB infection.

Tackle TB in underserved populations

In 2013, 1 in 4 TB patients with social risk factors had not completed treatment by 12 months.

Ensure comprehensive contact tracing

In 2013, 196 children born in England were diagnosed with TB, an indication of recent transmission.

Tackle TB in underserved populations

In 2013, 1 in 4 TB patients with social risk factors had not completed treatment by 12 months.

Ensure comprehensive contact tracing

Enhanced contact tracing should improve early diagnosis and reduce transmission.

Systematically implement new entrant latent TB screening

In 2013, 3 out of 4 TB cases were born abroad, the majority due to reactivation of latent TB infection.

We need to improve the identification, management and support of TB patients with complex social needs.

Ensure universal access to high quality diagnostics

In 2013, only 7 out of 10 pulmonary TB cases were culture confirmed.

We need to ensure all pulmonary cases have a respiratory sample taken and processed.

Reduce drug resistant TB

The number of cases of multi-drug resistant TB has increased over the past decade.

We need to improve the prevention and management of drug resistant TB.