The Union

05. Improving TB care for communities in conflict affected countries

THE 46TH UNION WORLD CONFERENCE ON LUNG HEALTH

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA 2-6 DECEMBER 2015

Friday, 04 December 2015, 17:30 - 18:45

Room Roof Terrace

Type of session

Sponsored Satellite Symposium

Track

TB in vulnerable and special populations

Organised by

Description

At the end of 2013, there were at least 33.3 million people in the world who were internally displaced by armed conflict, generalised violence and human rights violations. This figure represents a 16% increase compared with 2012 and is a record high for the second year running (IDMC 2013). Sub-Saharan Africa had the largest total number of internally displaced people (IDPs) - 12.5 million - followed by the Middle East and North Africa with 9.1 million). In addition to the direct increased morbidity and mortality as a result of conflict and/or natural disasters, the collapse of health systems in these countries often leads to an emergence or re-emergence of preventable diseases, such as tuberculosis (TB). Other factors contributing to a crisis situation include: death, injury or displacement of health workers; destruction or disabling of health infrastructure and medical equipment; disruption of the supply of electricity and clean water in health centres; interruption of drug supplies; cessation of health promotion and outreach activities; and movement and/or migration of people with active TB. The result is a decline in TB case detection and diagnosis, lack of access to TB treatment, irregular drug intake, patients' lost to follow-up, low cure rates, a higher number of patients with relapse and an increase in multidrug-resistant (MDR-) TB. At this symposium, speakers from some such challenging operating environments will give an overview of the impact of conflicts and displacement on TB incidence and prevalence, highlight the main challenges related to TB prevention and control among crisis-affected populations, and share good practices and models from their recent experiences to address TB in humanitarian emergencies in different country contexts. The symposium will be enriched through presentations and a panel discussion by representatives of governmental programmes, nongovernmental organisations, community representatives and UN and intergovernmental organisations, among others.

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund), International Organization for Migration.

Target audience

- 1. National TB Programmes (NTP), national public health agencies, intergovernmental and international organisations
- 2. Non-governmental and other humanitarian organisations that provide TB prevention and care in countries affected by humanitarian crisis

Objectives

- 1. To describe the burden of TB in conflict-affected countries and neighbouring regions
- **2.** To describe the challenges in providing TB prevention and care among crisis-affected populations, within primary health care services and other programmes
- **3.** To identify good practices for TB control and lessons learnt with regard to TB prevention and control in complex emergencies
- 4. To launch the new WHO "Guide for Tuberculosis Control in Complex Emergencies" (2015)

Keywords

Tuberculosis

Coordinator(s)

Gilles Cesari (Switzerland), Journana Al Atwani (Switzerland)

Chair(s)

Mark Dybul (Switzerland), Mario Raviglione (Switzerland)

Presentations

17:30 - 17:45 TB burden and response in the countries affected by the crisis in Syria and neighboring countries

Khaled Abu Rumman (Jordan), Hiam Yaacoub (Lebanon)

17:45 - 18:00 Addressing continuity of TB prevention and control for displaced and mobile populations in the Central African Republic

Georges Hermana (Central African Republic), Coulibaly Doulhourou (Central African Republic)

18:00 - 18:30 Panel discussion: what are the key TB control strategies and good practices globally to manage TB in conflict-affected countries?

18:30 - 18:43 Questions and answers

18:43 - 18:45 Launch of the WHO "Guide for Tuberculosis Control in Complex Emergencies" (2015) Mohamed Abdel Aziz (Egypt), Mario Raviglione (Switzerland)