

Morocco's tuberculosis disease situation: from a strict reproach to steady steps towards change

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Background: In its report, on tuberculosis cases in the world over and until the year 2018 that was published in 2019, the world health organization (WHO) indicated that the amount of cases of this disease registered in Morocco is estimated of 10 to 99 cases for 100.000 citizen ,while the proportion of children infected with tuberculosis varies between 5 and 9.9 %.

Aim. the main purpose of this study is to assess the progress of the fight against tuberculosis , after an approach made by WHO on how the disease is managed in Morocco .

Materials: the latest health department data ,WHO report published in 2019, Moroccan associations to fight tuberculosis reports.

Results. Morocco has achieved significant results in the fight against tuberculosis, being its 6th development goal of this millennium, after the decline in tuberculosis between 1990 and 2015. The incidence rate estimated by the World Health Organization (WHO) decreased by 27% and the death rate decreased by 59%. According to ministry data, the prevalence indicators for tuberculosis cases increased from 75% to 85%, which allowed more diagnoses and treatments for already existing tuberculosis cases, maintaining the treatment success rate at more than 86% since 1995 and reducing the dropout rate to just 7.9%.

Moreover, the prevalence rate of drug-resistant tuberculosis remained very low, with 1% of initial resistance and 11% of secondary resistance. Morocco has an integrated network of 26 centers specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and respiratory diseases, in addition to health establishments and private clinics in certain districts. The national tuberculosis control program involves overseeing the development of the National Strategic Plan for the period 2018-2021, which aims to reduce the number of tuberculosis related deaths by 40% by 2021.

The program's goal in particular is to bring the annual number of cases detected to 36,300, to achieve a treatment success rate of at least 90% by 2021, to increase the detection rate of drug-resistant tuberculosis to 75% and to achieve a treatment success rate of at least 80% by 2021. A multiple section framework for the elimination of tuberculosis will be developed by 2030, according to a global approach, also taking in consideration the human rights aspect, in order to eliminate the risk factors and the socio-economic factors considered as a key determinant of the spread of tuberculosis in Morocco and around the world.

Conclusion. Thus, and through the interventions that will be implemented, this plan will guarantee the improvement of the detection rate and the therapeutic success rate of Tuberculosis, including for multi-resistant forms, and consequently a significant reduction in mortality estimated to be related to tuberculosis.