



Drug susceptibility testing and mortality in patients treated for tuberculosis in high-burden countries: a multicentre cohort study

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We compared results of resistance testing done at HIV clinics or TB clinics in low- and middle-income countries with results from phenotypic drug susceptibility testing done at the Swiss National Center for Mycobacteria (Zurich), and examined mortality by treatment adequacy.

Methods

Patient recruitment and data collection

Clinical data and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* isolates from 634 TB patients (≥16 years) stratified by HIV and drug resistance status in 7

countries Percentage RR/MDR among new TB cases 0 - 1.4 1.5 - 2.9 3 - 5.9 6 - 11.9 12 - 17.9 ≥ 18 no data

Results

Concordance and discordance of DST results

Concordance / discordance of DST results n=634 (%)		Reference laboratory	Local laboratories
Concordance	513 (80.9%)	Pan-susceptible Mono-resistance	Pan-susceptible Mono-resistance
		Pre-XDR and XDR	Pre-XDR and XDR
Discordance potentially leading to under-treatment	23 (3.6%)	MDR Pre-XDR and XDR	Pan-susceptible MDR
Discordance potentially leading to over-treatment	67 (10.6%)	Pan-susceptible Pan-susceptible Mono-resistance MDR	Mono-resistance MDR MDR Pre-XDR or XDR
Other discordance	31 (4.9%)	Pan-susceptible Mono-resistance INH, MOX IHN, PZA	EMB, SM Pan-susceptible Mono-resistance MDR

Results

Mortality during TB treatment by treatment adequacy



	No. of patients	No. of deaths (%)	aOR (95% CI)*
Pan-susceptible, adequate treatment **	336	20 (6.0)	1
Pan-susceptible, over-treatment	23	3 (13.0)	3.31 (0.82-13.45)
Any resistance, adequate treatment **	200	36 (18.0)	4.66 (2.16-9.14)
Any resistance, under-treatment	14	8 (53.1)	19.32 (5.59-66.73)

* adjusted for sex, age, sputum microscopy, and HIV status

** compatible with WHO guidelines

- Discordant DST results contributed to inadequate treatment and excess mortality
- Access to detailed resistance testing at treatment initiation needed to improve treatment outcomes

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