LIVING WITH HIV, DYING OF TB

THE SCREENING SCANDAL

Only 4.1%\(^1\) of people living with HIV/AIDS are screened for tuberculosis (TB), even though TB is the leading infectious killer of people living with HIV/AIDS.\(^2\) Nearly 25% of people living with HIV/AIDS eventually die from TB because they are not tested for it and then treated.\(^3\)

In 2004, the World Health Organization called for all people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA) to be screened for TB. Since then, the percentage of PLHA that are regularly screened for TB has increased from 0.6% to only 4.1%.

This report card shows current global levels of TB screening among PLHA. It also highlights the extent HIV/AIDS programs in the twenty countries most affected by TB-HIV are failing to screen people living with HIV/AIDS for TB.

TB screening is essential to tackling the primary cause of death among people with HIV/AIDS. We call on global AIDS donors, programs, associations, and service providers to live up to the promises made and truly commit the resources to screen PLHA for TB and provide appropriate care and treatment.

PERCENT OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV WHO ARE SCREENED FOR TB

In Spite of All the Calls to Action!

1. World Health Organization calls for “widespread free access to anti-TB drugs for people living with HIV.”
2. Nearly 25% of people living with HIV/AIDS eventually die from TB because they are not tested for it and then treated.
3. In 2004, the World Health Organization called for all people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA) to be screened for TB. Since then, the percentage of PLHA that are regularly screened for TB has increased from 0.6% to only 4.1%.
4. This report card shows current global levels of TB screening among PLHA. It also highlights the extent HIV/AIDS programs in the twenty countries most affected by TB-HIV are failing to screen people living with HIV/AIDS for TB.

4.1%
Percent of People Living With HIV/AIDS Who Are Screened for TB in the 20 Countries Most Affected By the Co-Epidemic

These 20 countries are home to 80% of TB deaths among people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA). Countries are ranked by the number of TB-HIV deaths in each country per year. The red bar shows the percent of PLHA who were screened for TB in 2008. TB screening provides a unique opportunity to save lives and get PLHA access to necessary medical services. We call on global AIDS donors, programs, associations, and service providers to apply the resources, the technology, and the effort to screen PLHA for TB and provide appropriate care and treatment.

SOURCES


ENDNOTES

ACTION c/o RESULTS Educational Fund
750 First Street, NE, Suite 1040
Washington, DC 20002, USA
Phone +1 202 783 4800
Fax +1 202 783 2818
www.action.org