THE COSTLY BURDEN OF DRUG-RESISTANT TB IN THE U.S.

Multidrug-resistant (MDR) tuberculosis is a major health threat globally. Nearly half a million MDR TB\(^1\) cases are estimated to occur worldwide annually, including cases that are extensively drug-resistant (XDR).\(^2\)

While MDR and XDR TB are relatively rare in the U.S., their treatment comes at a terrible price – it is very expensive, takes a long time to treat, disrupts lives, and has potentially life-threatening side effects.

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**The Outsized Financial Toll of MDR and XDR TB**

Cost increases with greater resistance:

- Productivity loss during treatment, including deaths
- Direct treatment costs, including:
  - Drugs & diagnostics
  - Case management & social work
  - Housing & transportation
  - Hospitalization

**Average Treatment Costs, Per Case (2017 dollars)**

- TB: Treatment: 3-9 months
  - $47,000
  - $28,000
  - $19,000
- MDR TB: Treatment: 20-26 months
  - $301,000
  - $137,000
  - $164,000
- XDR TB: Treatment: 32 months
  - $710,000
  - $184,000
  - $526,000

**A Major Human Cost**

Of those treated for drug-resistant TB:

- 9% Die During Treatment
- 27% Stop Working
- 73% Hospitalized
- 37% Require Home Isolation

**Severe Treatment Side Effects**

- Depression/Psychosis: 19%
- Hearing Impairment: 13%
- Hepatitis: 13%
- Kidney Impairment: 11%
- Loss of Mobility: 8%
- Vision Impairment: 7%
- Seizures: 1%

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**Preventing and Controlling MDR and XDR TB in the U.S. Requires:**

- **Better Treatment Options**
- **Rapid Diagnosis**
- **Expert Treatment of Every TB Case**
- **Improving Global TB Diagnosis and Treatment**

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**Footnotes**

1. Multidrug-resistant TB is resistant to at least two of the best and most important anti-TB drugs: isoniazid and rifampin.

2. Extensively drug-resistant TB is resistant to isoniazid and rifampin among first-line drugs, resistant to any fluoroquinolone and at least one second-line injectable drug.


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http://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom