Two new WHO-recommended Treatment Decision Algorithms for pulmonary TB in children.

Methods

Multi-country prospective diagnostic accuracy study.

Niger, Nigeria, Guinea, South Sudan, and Uganda



- -Inpatients and outpatients -Primary health care, hospitals
- -Nutritional centres
- -HIV services



Children under 10 years with signs and symptoms of pulmonary TB

Clinical exam, GeneXpert MTB/RIF, TB-LAM, history of contact with TB, chest X-ray, clinical or clinical-radiological algorithm score







Results

Median age: 1.7 years (IQR: 0.8-3.0)

Female: 856 (46%)

Hospitalized: 1262 (68%)

Severely malnourished: 1152 (62%)

Living with HIV: 210 (11%)

The diagnostic accuracy of the algorithms was high

The majority of children diagnosed within the first week of assessment

N=1846 children enrolled



Sensitivity: 90.0%

(95%CI: 87.3-92.7)



Specificity: 85.4% (95%CI: 83.5-87.2)

Reference standard based on the International Consensus NIH Definitions for Intrathoracic TB in children (Graham et al. CID 2015)

Time to start TB treatment, among children started on TB treatment (N=500) 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% treatment 20%

TB Treatment N=500

Clinical or clinical-

radiological score

64.4%

Clinical and clinical-radiological algorithms scores along with history of TB contact were the main reasons for TB treatment decision

Frequent reasons for TB treatment in specific populations: - Severely malnourished children: 72% clinical-radiological score - Living with HIV: 22% positive TB-LAM - Neither malnourished nor living with HIV: 42% contact with TB Positive TB-LAM Positive GeneXpert 5.8% 6.2% History of contact with a person with TB Score signs and symptoms and CXR featur 18.8%

Diagnostic Accuracy of **New Treatment Decision** Algorithms for TB in Children: A Multi-**Country Diagnostic** study

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