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TO:

Secretary of the Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines
Medicines Selection, IP and Affordability (MIA)
Department of Health Products Policy and Standards (HPS)
World Health Organization

By email via emlsecretariat@who.int

6 April 2023

Letter of Support for Inclusion of Pretomanid 200 mg Tablets on the World Health Organization Model List of Essential Medicines

Dear Expert Committee,

On behalf of the undersigned, we would like to express our support of Global Alliance for TB Drug Development of its application for inclusion of pretomanid 200 mg tablets on the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.

TB is a major public health problem worldwide, and the emergence of rifampicin resistant TB (RR-TB) and multidrug resistant TB (MDR-TB) strains has made the disease even more challenging to manage. The approval of pretomanid has been a significant breakthrough in the fight against TB, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) where the burden of the disease is the highest. Pretomanid is a key component of combination regimen with bedaquiline (B) and linezolid (L), with or without moxifloxacin (M) – the all-oral regimen and WHO-approved regimen for RR-TB and MDR-TB.

Its inclusion on the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines would help ensure that this life saving drug is available to those who need it the most, especially in LMICs where access to innovative medicines is often limited. It would also facilitate the procurement of the drug at an affordable cost, which is critical for the sustainability of TB control programs in these countries and worldwide. In addition, it would also serve as a recognition of the drug's clinical value, its importance in the management of MDR-TB, promote the use of the most effective treatments and would encourage further research and development of new drugs to combat TB.

We are strongly convinced that it is a critical tool in the fight against MDR-TB, and its availability and accessibility could save countless lives. Together with thousands of people affected by this strain of TB we are looking forward to your favorable decision in favor of pretomanid inclusion into essential medicine.

We strongly urge the 24th Expert Committee on EML to include pretomanid in the core list of WHO EML as an individual medicine administered as part of BPaLM/BPaL regimen for RR-TB and MDR-TB.

In case should you require any additional information on our support of pretomanid please do not hesitate to contact Sharonann Lynch at sharonann.lynch@gmail.com .

Sincerely,



Yuliia Kalancha
Executive Director
TB Europe Coalition



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