In 2022, an estimated 1.25 million children and young adolescents aged below 15 years fell ill with TB. Every day almost 600 children and young adolescents lose their lives to this preventable and curable disease. More than half of children and young adolescents with TB do not have access to life-saving TB diagnosis and treatment services. In addition, more than 60% of young children who are eligible for TB preventive treatment do not receive it.

In order to address these large gaps, the World Health Organization’s Global Tuberculosis Programme published the third edition of the Roadmap towards ending TB in children and adolescents in November 2023, with input from the Child and Adolescent TB Working Group.

The Roadmap takes stock of progress made against the key actions in the 2018 Roadmap. It identifies the persistent and new challenges that prevented achievement of the 2018 UN-HLM targets.
KEY ACTIONS

New key actions are proposed to address these challenges and are designed to prioritize the specific needs of children, adolescents, as well as those of pregnant and post-partum women. Ten key actions are presented under four headings: (i) political leadership, multisectoral engagement and accountability and sustained advocacy efforts; (ii) addressing persistent policy–practice gaps; (iii) implementation of people-, family- and community-centred strategies as part of primary health care; and, (iv) addressing persistent gaps in data and shortfalls in research and development.

For more information, please visit: https://www.who.int/activities/ending-tb-in-children-and-adolescents