

The logo for Action, featuring the word "action" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters "a", "c", "t", "i", and "o" are green, while the letters "n" and "n" are red. The letters have a slight drop shadow.

Advocacy to Control TB Internationally

Children and Tuberculosis Overview

Mandy Slutsker

January 5, 2012

ACTION ▶

A Network of Civil Society Advocates

PARTNERS

AIDES

KANCO

GHA France

GHA India

RESULTS Australia

RESULTS Canada

RESULTS Ed. Fund

RESULTS Japan

RESULTS UK

*With support from the Bill & Melinda
Gates Foundation*

● Donor Country Partner

● High Burden Country Partner



TB Basics



- Latent infection vs. active disease
- Pulmonary vs. extrapulmonary
- Smear positive vs. smear negative
- Drug susceptible vs. drug resistant

Global burden

- In 2010 WHO recorded 196,670 TB cases in children <15 years
- However, most cases go unreported
- Over half of cases came from only three countries (S. Africa, Indonesia and Pakistan)
- Best numbers we have are from the WHO (2009): every year, over 1 million children get TB and ~176,000 die as a result

Risk Factors

- Poverty
- Young Age
- Malnutrition
- Orphans and Vulnerable Children
- HIV
- Maternal TB



How can we prevent TB in children?

Answer: the Four I's



- Intensified Case Finding
- Isoniazid Preventive Therapy
- Infection Control
- Integration

Challenges

- No TB vaccine, problems with BCG
- Difficult to diagnose TB in children
- No child-friendly TB treatment options
- Children are often excluded from research trials