Defeating Paediatric Tuberculous Meningitis: Applying the WHO "Defeating Meningitis by 2030: Global Roadmap"

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Children affected by tuberculous meningitis (TBM), as well as their families, have needs that lie at the intersections between the tuberculosis and meningitis clinical, research, and policy spheres. There is therefore a substantial risk that these needs are not fully met by either programme. The World Health Organization (WHO) "Defeating Meningitis by 2030: global roadmap" will be used as a starting point to consider key goals and activities to specifically defeat TBM in children. The five pillars outlined in the roadmap of (i) prevention; (ii) diagnosis and treatment; (iii) surveillance; (iv) support and care for people affected by meningitis; and (v) advocacy and engagement will be applied to TBM in children. Having considered this, we call for greater integration between meningitis and TB programmes at WHO and at national levels.