



New definitions of pre-extensively and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis: update from the World Health Organization

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The definition of extensively drug resistant tuberculosis has been updated by the World Health Organization and pre-extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis has been defined <https://bit.ly/30Fdffc>

Cite this article as: Viney K, Linh NN, Gegia M, *et al.* New definitions of pre-extensively and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis: update from the World Health Organization. *Eur Respir J* 2021; 57: 2100361 [<https://doi.org/10.1183/13993003.00361-2021>].

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Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), defined as *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* with resistance to at least isoniazid and rifampicin [1], emerged as a threat to tuberculosis (TB) control worldwide in the 1990s [2]. This form of TB required the use of second-line drugs that were less effective, more toxic and costlier than first-line isoniazid- and rifampicin-based regimens. MDR-TB was one of the first infectious conditions to alert national authorities worldwide to the importance of antimicrobial resistance as a public health challenge of the future, further emphasised by outbreaks of MDR-TB in the USA and Europe [3–5]. Recognising the global importance of this emerging problem, the World Health Organization (WHO) released its first guidelines on the management of drug-resistant TB in 1996 and has updated them regularly since [1, 6].