Current Supply System of Anti-TB Medicines in the Country—Strengths and Challenges

Dr. Cristian Popa
Antalya, Turkey
December, 11, 2013
TB Notification Rate in Romania 1985–2012

%ooo


New & relapses
New cases
Relapses

55.8 56.4 58.2 61.3 63.4 70 66.8 79.6 89.4 94.2 102.6 107 106.8 114.5 119.6 123.7 134.1 142.2 135.6 134.6 123.6 113.5 106.4 105.5 99.4 90.2 82.6 79.2

50.7 51.3 53.2 56.2 58.3 64.6 61.6 73.5 82.5 87.4 95 98.7 97.8 102.1 103.8 106.5 103.3 114.3 113.5 106.4 105.5 93.9 87.8 87.1 82.8 90.2 82.6 74.5 67.9 65.6

5.1 5.0 5.1 5.1 5.4 6.1 6.9 8.6 7.6 8.3 9.0 12.4 15.8 17.2 18.7 20.3 20.3 20.3 19.4 19.6 18.6 18.4 16.6 15.7 13.6 14.7
Number of Notified TB Cases in Romania, 1965-2012
Number of MDR/XDR TB Notified Cases in Romania 2008–2011

MDR-TB: 2.9% among new TB cases, 10.9% among retreatments
XDR-TB: 9.9% among new MDR-TB cases, 11.6% among MDR-TB retreatments
MDR-TB prevalence: 1,474 (2013)
Anti-TB Medicines Management in Romania, History and Perspectives

2002–2006 centralized procurement system for anti-TB medicines
- Drug management guideline (2005)
- Trainings on medicines management

- 2004 procurement through Green Light Committee (GLC) mechanism in place

- 2007–2013 budget for TB medicines distributed to the TB units, each facility procured anti-TB medicines (decentralization of the procurement system)

- 2013 national tender for centralized procurement organized
Principles for Anti-TB Treatment

- The most efficacy chemotherapy regimens available should be used
- The medicines should be administered without interruption, for the entire prescribed duration, until the patient is cured
- Free of charge—specific and adjuvant medication and of all the medical procedures required by the TB patient
- The medicines are prescribed and released by the specialty network through specially designated pharmacies
- The treatment should be administrated through the most accessible medical institutions, under direct observation, in all cases
Actual Stages of Anti-TB Medicines Management in Romania: Transition Back to Centralized Procurement

• National tender organized by the MOH (begun July 2013) for first-line and most of the second-line drugs
  – Successful process (except for aminoglycosides)
  – Prices of the drugs decreased through competition
  – System of distribution and stocks guaranteed through the contract

• GLC mechanism for second-line drugs
  – For limited number of patients, included in DOTS plus project
  – Separate system of distribution assured by specialized national company
  – Most of the medicines are not registered on the Romanian market

• Perspectives of TB medicine procurement from other projects (Norway government funds)
Institutions involved in anti TB medicines management in Romania

- Ministry of Health
- National Insurance house
- The National Medicines Agency
- Central Unit of the NTP
- Suppliers/distributors of anti-TB medicines
- County TB Manager
- District health insurance houses
- District Public Health Directorates
- Territorial Pharmacies (189)
- TB outpatient ambulatories (174)
- TB hospitals (87)
- MDR-TB centers (2)
- TB facilities in prison system, army, police (5)
Medicines Supply Flow—Nationally Procured

? (NTP/NIH)

Provider (8 companies selected by tender)

Pharmacy

Orders

Drugs

Quantities recommended

TB Facility (ambulatory/hospital)

Family doctor

Patient

Order

Distribution

Use
Medicines Supply Flow—GLC project

GLC project

Orders

Source—GDF Provider - National Company

Drugs

Patient

Pharmacy

Quantities recommended

TB Facility (ambulatory/ hospital/ MDR center)

Family doctor

Order

Distribution

Use
Challenges for Anti-TB Medicines Management in Romania (1)

- **Selection (scope: choosing high quality medicines)**
  - Limited by the availability/registration in the national essential drugs list
  - Pediatric formulas, first-line injectables are not available
  - Budget limitations for expensive medicines (quinolones, second-line drugs)
  - Ancillary drugs not included

- **Procurement of drugs**
  - Quantification of anti-TB medicines requirements
  - Weak evidence of last years consumption – stocks quantified as ”value,” not in drug quantities)
  - Procurement methods/existent legislation are limiting the procurement from World Health Organization approved sources (GDF)
Challenges for Anti-TB Medicines Management in Romania (2)

• Distribution of drugs
  – Stock control, stores management
  – Lack of specialized computerized system for ordering and stock evidence
  – Orders are tools for accountability, not for monitoring of consumption/stocks

• Use
  – Weak evidence of direct observed treatment
  – No real evidence of patient consumption
Opportunities for Anti-TB Medicines Management in Romania

• Strong TB network

• Resumption of centralized procurement system

• Quarterly instead of monthly distribution

• Political commitment

• International support

• Tradition/experience in anti-TB medicines management

• Opportunities for financing anti-TB medicines (local funds, Global Fund, other projects)
Thank you!
cripooh@yahoo.com