



RIFASHORT

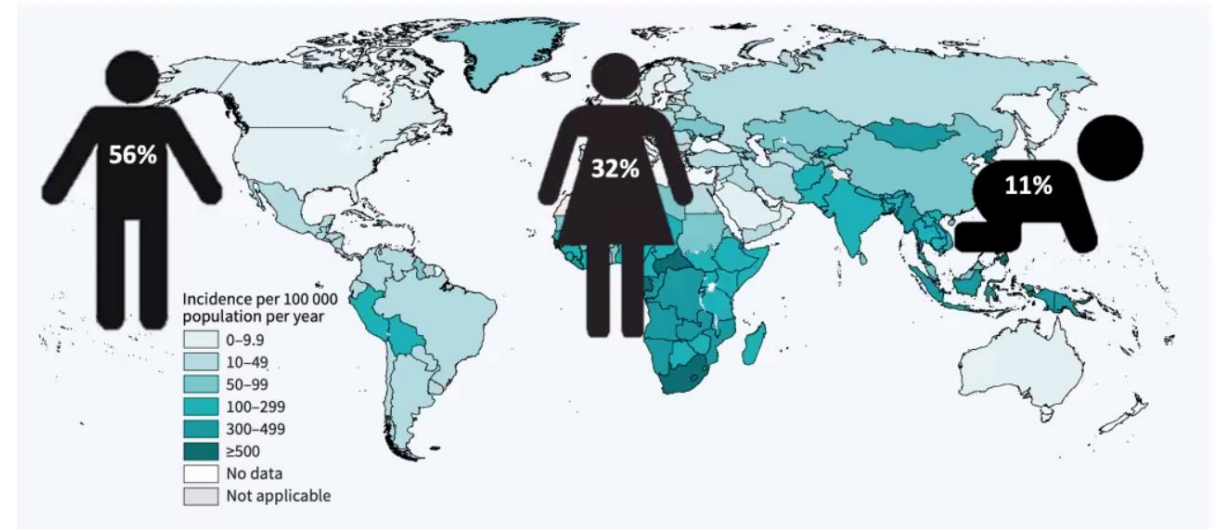
AN INTERNATIONAL MULTICENTRE CONTROLLED CLINICAL TRIAL TO
EVALUATE 1200mg AND 1800mg RIFAMPICIN DAILY IN THE REDUCTION OF
TREATMENT DURATION FOR PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS FROM 6 MONTHS
TO 4 MONTHS

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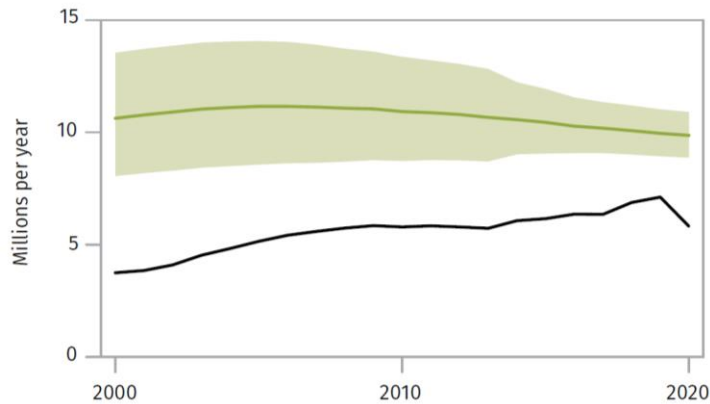
Tuberculosis

- 10.6 million TB incident cases (2021)
6.7% HIV infected: 710 000 cases
- 1.4 million deaths in HIV-neg people
+187 000 deaths among PLHIV
- 3.6% MDR-TB (resistant to rifampicin and isoniazid)

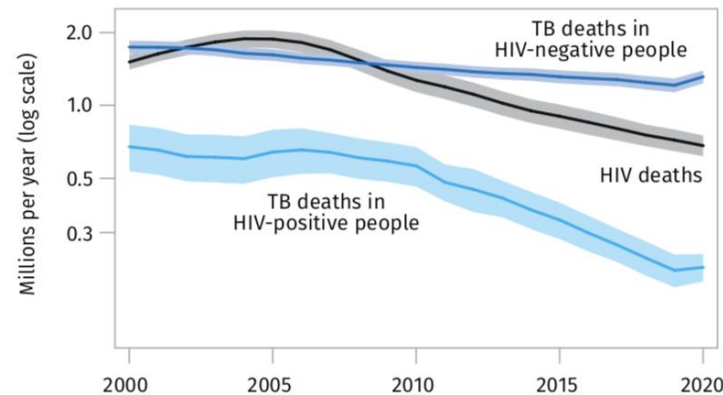


WHO Global TB Report 2022 2

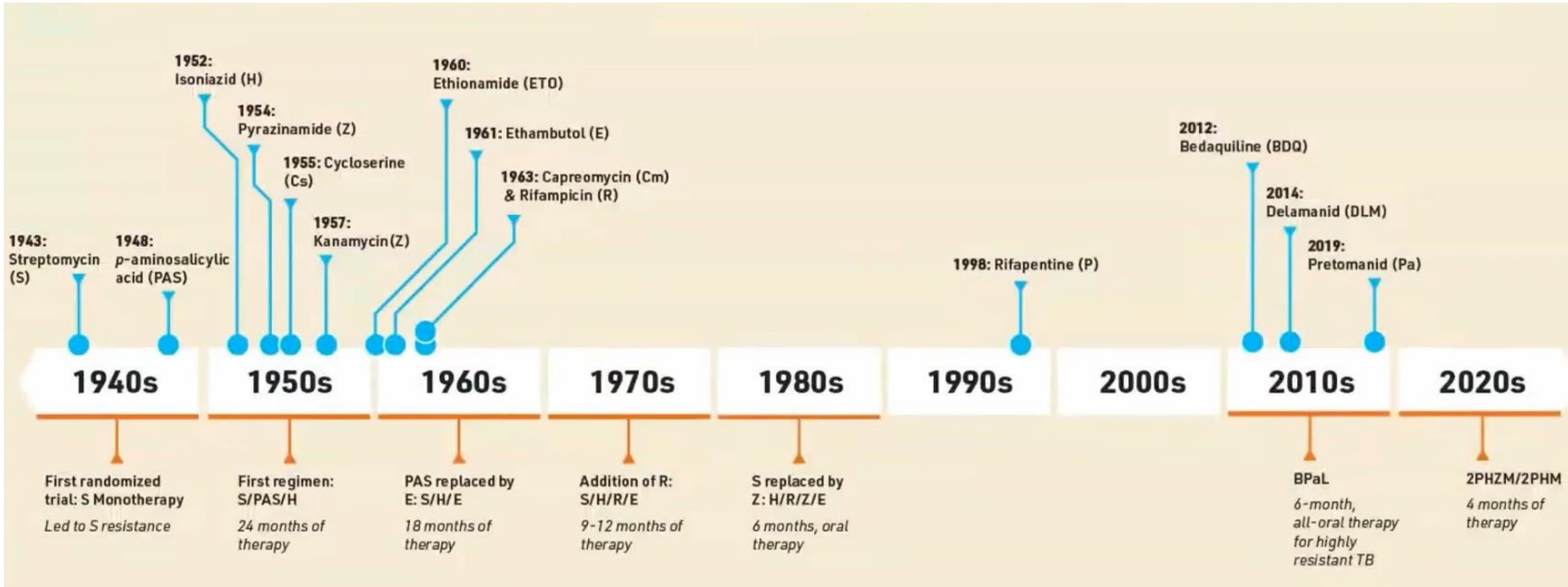
TB case notification



Deaths



Antituberculosis treatment development



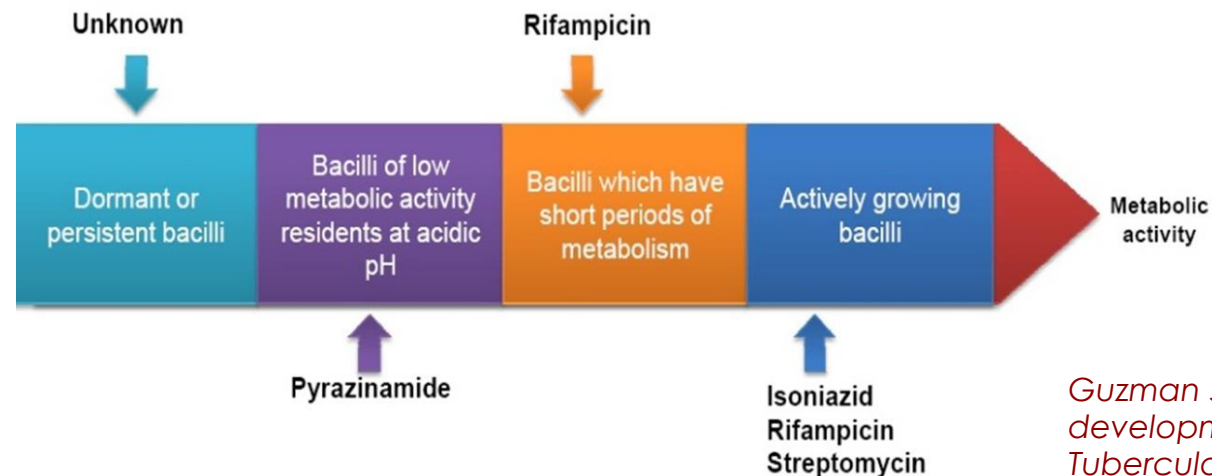
Source: TB alliance

Standard of cares for drug-susceptible TB

- 2HRZ(E) 4RH
 - Isoniazid (H): 5mg/Kg
 - Rifampicin (R): 10mg/Kg
 - Pyrazinamide (Z): 35mg/Kg
 - Ethambutol (E): 20mg/Kg
- Treatment success worldwide 86% (WHO TB report 2022)
- Well tolerated globally : no specific monitoring
- Fixe dose combination: RHZE, RHE, RH
- Generic: 30€ for 6 months treatment
- Extension of treatment in some extra-pulmonary TB forms: meningitis, TB spondylodiscitis

Shortening treatment duration drug susceptible TB

- Rationale for shortening treatment duration
 - Improve treatment adherence and reduce the risk of emergence of drug resistance
 - Reduce the duration of exposure to potential toxic drugs
 - Patient's benefit
- Limited efficacy of anti-TB drug on the intra-cellular (macrophages) stage of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB): latency
 - Drugs with potential good sterilising activity: R, Z, fluoroquinolones, nitroimidazole, diarylquinolines best sterilizing activity
 - Short treatment requires drugs with good sterilising activity



Guzman JD, Montes-Rincon X, Ribon W. Research and development of New Drugs Against Tuberculosis. Tuberculosis. SBN 978-953-51-1049-1 2013

1st option: substitution of E or H by fluoroquinolones to reduce duration to 4 months

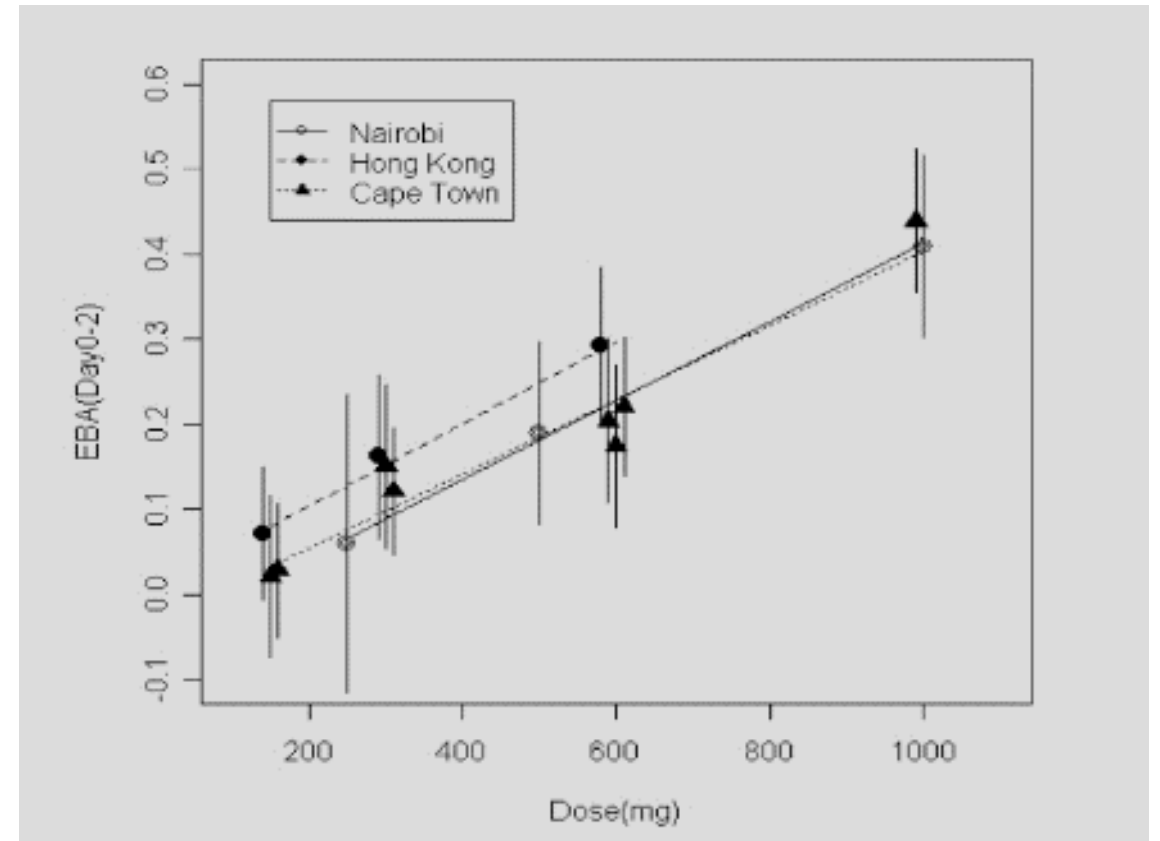
- Four non-inferiority RCT
 - REMoxTB: 2HRZM 2MHR et 2MRZE 2RH
 - RIFAQUIN: 2MRZE 2(MP)₂
 - OFLOTUB: 2HRZG 2HR
 - Velayutham: 3MHRZE, 2MHRZE 2MHR, 2MHRZE 2(MHR)₃ et 2MHRZE 2(MHRE)₃
- Non-inferiority not shown

	Pop	*Difference Experimental. Gr – Control. Gr (95%CI)			
REMoxTB		2HRZM 2MRH		2ERZM 2MRE	
	mITT	6.1 (1.7 to 10.5)		11.4 (6.7 to 16.1)	
	PP	7.7 (2.7 to 13.0)		9.0 (3.8 to 14.2)	
RIFAQUIN		2MRZE 2(MP) ₂			
	mITT	13.1 (5.6 to 19.4)			
	PP	13.6 (7.0 to 20.2)			
OFLOTUB		2HRZG 2HR			
	mITT	3.5 (-0.7 to 7.7)			
	PP	5.5 (1.6 to 9.4)			
Velayutham		3MHRZE	2MHRZE 2MHR	2MHRZE 2(MHR) ₃	2MHRZE 2(MHRE) ₃
	mITT	14.9 (6.0 to 23.8)	0.4 (-3.6 to 4.5)	4.3 (-0.5 to 8.9)	1.9 (-2.5 to 6.4)
	PP	14.6 (5.6 to 23.7)	0.4 (-3.7 to 4.5)	3.9 (-0.8 to 8.6)	1.5 (-2.5 to 6.4)

M: moxifloxacin; P: rifapentine; G: gatifloxacin

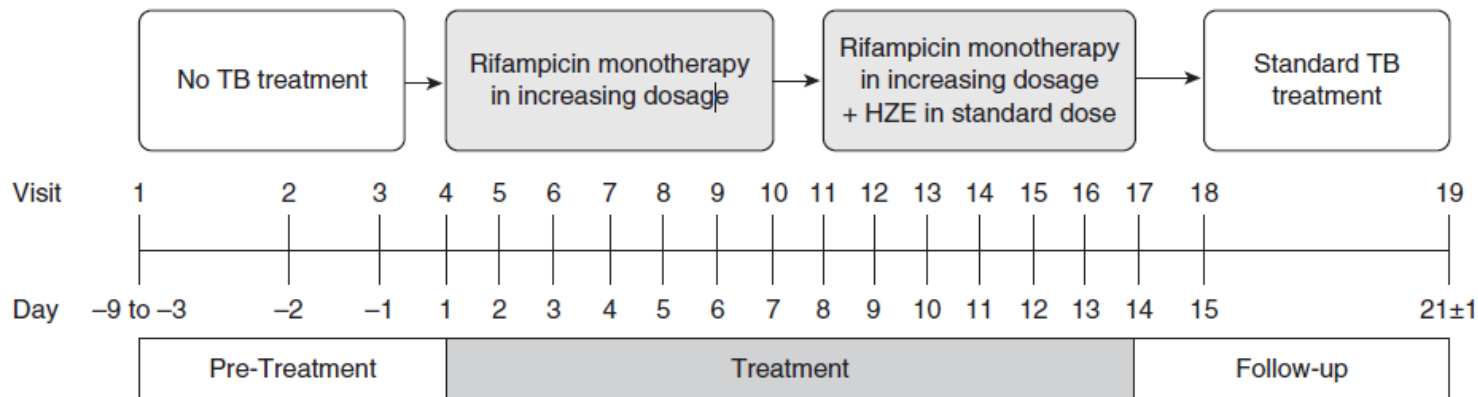
2nd option: increasing the sterilizing effect of R with the dose increase

- R inhibits bacterial DNA-dependent RNA polymerase thus inhibiting transcription to RNA
- R is highly bactericidal
- Linear increase of early bactericidal effect with higher R doses

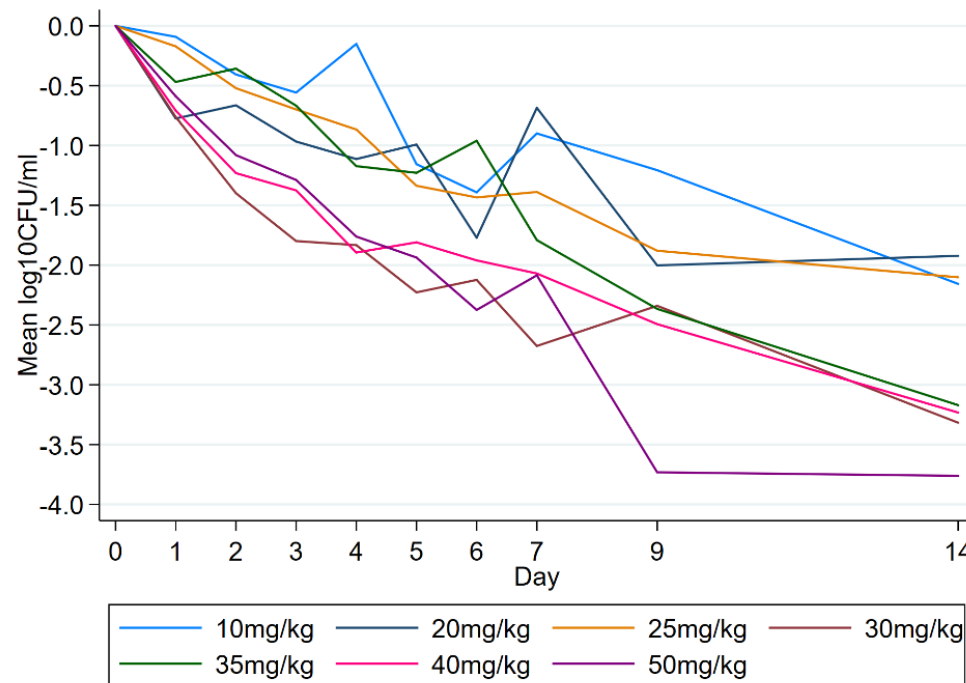
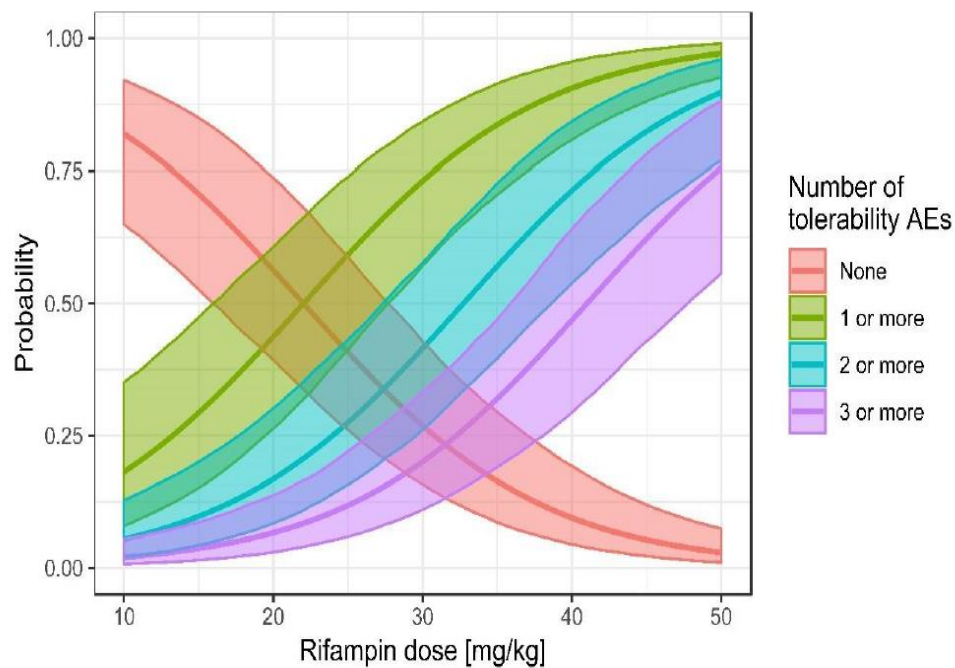


Early bactericidal activity (EBA) related to R dose *Diacon A.H, et al.2007*

What is the maximum tolerable dose of rifampicin: **dose escalating phase 2a study**



Maximum tolerable dose : 40 mg/Kg



Safety risk with the dose increase of R?

- Rifampicin used at high dose for treatment for other bacterial infection
- Rifatox study showed the safety of 15 and 20mg/Kg of rifampicin
- PanaCEA trial showed no increase in serious adverse events at R doses of R up to 35 mg/kg administered to HIV negative TB patients for 12 weeks(3 months)

RIFASHORT phase 3 trial

Objectives

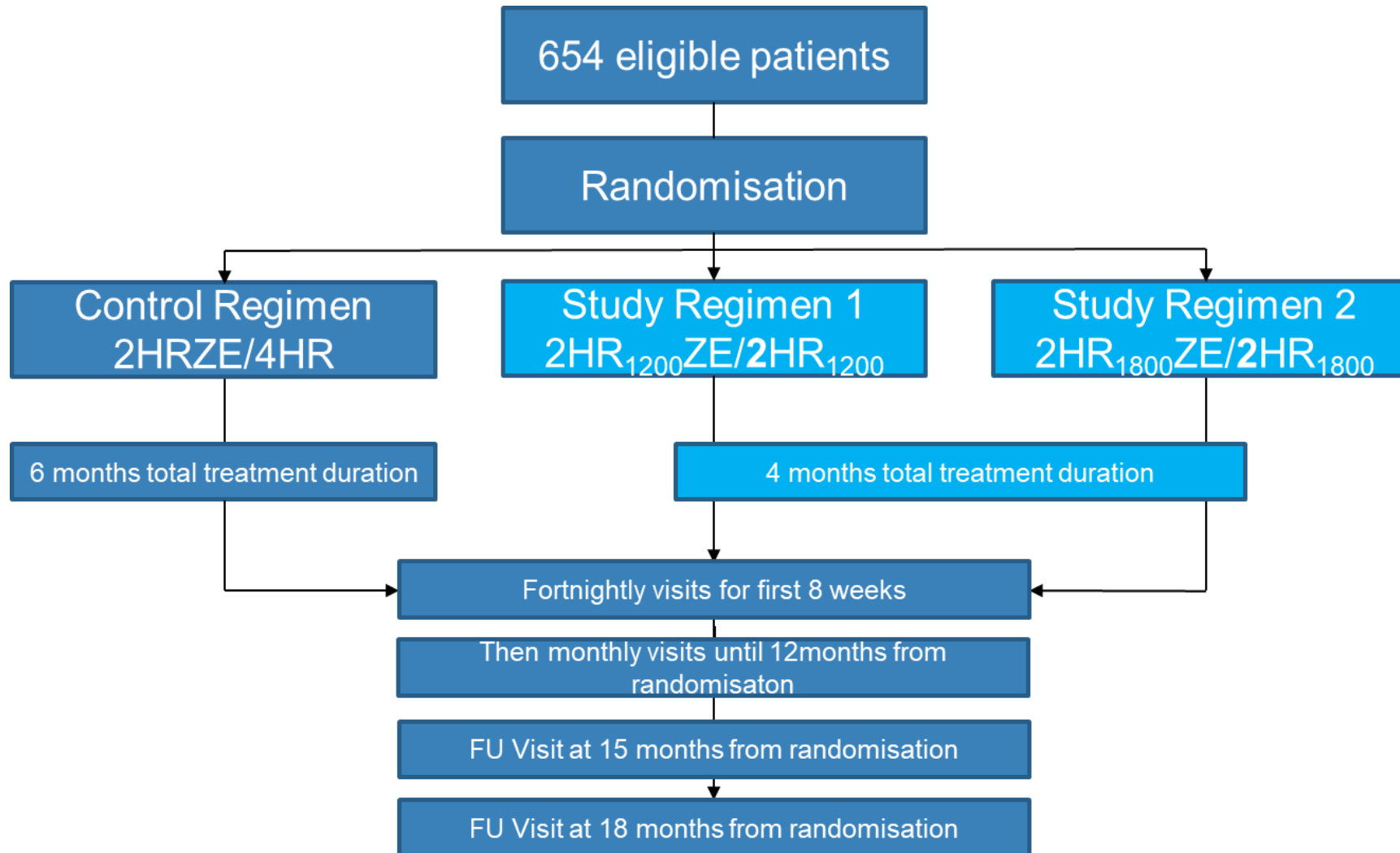
- To determine whether an increase in the daily dose of rifampicin from the current WHO recommended dose **to 1200mg or 1800mg** would result in more rapid sterilisation of the lungs and allow a reduction of treatment **duration to 4 months**
- To assess whether the increased doses will result in an increase in **severe (grade 3 or 4)** adverse events and/or any **serious adverse events**

Outcomes

- Efficacy: **combined unfavourable endpoint measured 18 months from randomisation** (failure, TB recurrence and death)
- Safety: occurrence of **grade 3 or 4 adverse events** at any time during treatment

Design

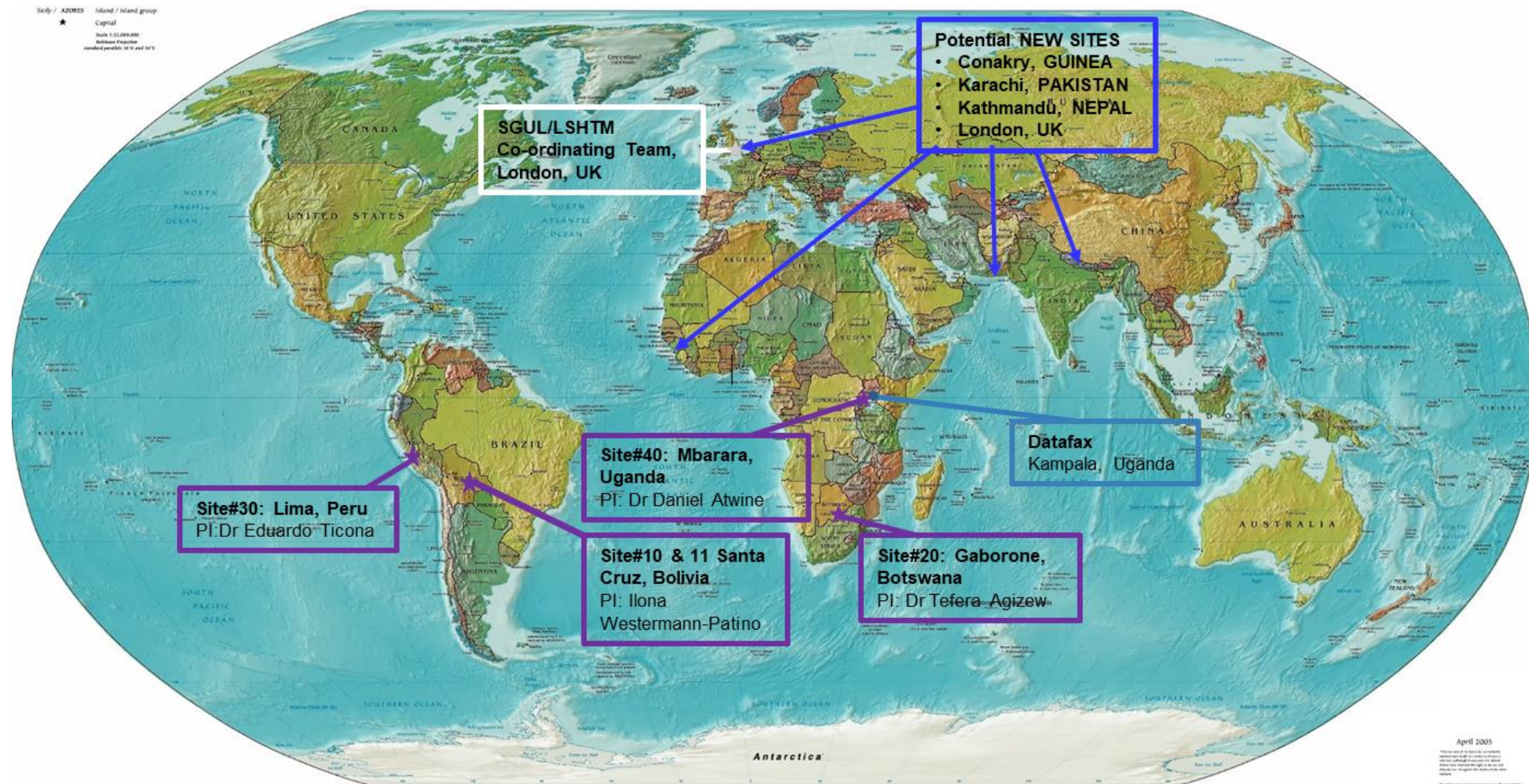
Phase **3 non-inferiority open label** parallel randomized controlled trial



International trial

Coordination: St Georges University London, UK

Sites: Lima, Peru; Santa Cruz Bolivia, Mbarara, Uganda; Conakry, Guinea, Kathmandu, Nepal, Karachi, Pakistan



Eligibility criteria

Inclusion

- Newly diagnosed, smear microscopy or Xpert positive, pulmonary tuberculosis
- ≤ one week of previous TB treatment
- ≥ 18 years old
- Consent to participation
- Stable home address
- Pre-menopausal or of a child-bearing age women with non hormonal contraception

Exclusion

- R resistance by Xpert MTB/RIF or culture (late exclusions)
- TB meningitis or extra-pulmonary TB
- Pregnancy/breast feeding
- Uncooperative behaviour
- History of seizures
- Contraindication to study drugs
- HIV infected
- Grade 4 blood disorder, Hb <7d/dL
- Peripheral neuritis
- Pre-existing liver disease
- ALT > 5 times ULN

Treatment and handling of changes in its administration

- Fixed dose combination tablets are weight banded as per WHO guidelines
- Additional rifampicin tablets are given to make up to fixed dose of 1200mg or 1800mg
- Pyridoxine supplement given with every dose
- Adherence
 - Every dose is expected to be DOT
 - Domiciliary treatment monitor (DTM) training
 - Treatment card review is performed each time the DTM or patient collects the medication
 - Pill count
 - Adherence questionnaire

4FDC

Ethambutol (275mg)

Isoniazid (75mg)

Rifampicin (150mg)

Pyrazinamide (400mg)

2FDC

Rifampicin (150mg)

Isoniazid (75mg)



Schedule of events

Visit #	Weeks from enrolment	Consent	Home details	Clinical details	Chest X-ray	Blood and urine tests*	Progress report (including AE review)	Sputum for microscopy & culture (no. of specimens)	Susceptibility test (INH and Rif)
0	Screening	√	√	√		FBC, ALT, bilirubin, creatinine, HIV, HbA1c pregnancy		1 and 1 for Xpert MTB/RIF	√ (dst if culture +ve)
1	Enrolment	√	√	√	√	Hep B and C	√	1	√(dst if culture +ve)
2	2 weeks					ALT only	√	0	N/A
3	4 weeks					√ ALT & FBC	√	0	N/A
3.5	6 weeks					√ ALT & FBC	√	0	N/A
4	8 weeks					√ ALT & FBC	√	2	√(dst if culture +ve)
5	12 weeks					√ ALT & FBC	√	2	√(dst if culture +ve)
6	16 weeks					√ ALT & FBC	√	2	√(dst if culture +ve)
7	20 weeks					√ ALT & FBC	√	2§ / 1#	√(dst if culture +ve)
8	24 weeks					√§ ALT & FBC	√	2§ / 1#	√(dst if culture +ve)
9	28 weeks					√§ ALT & FBC	√	1	√(dst if culture +ve)
10	32 weeks						√	1	√(dst if culture +ve)
11	36 weeks						√	1	√(dst if culture +ve)
12	40 weeks						√	1	√(dst if culture +ve)
13	44 weeks						√	1	√(dst if culture +ve)
14	48 weeks						√	1	√(dst if culture +ve)
15	60 weeks						√	2	√(dst if culture +ve)
16	72 weeks						√	2	√(dst if culture +ve)

Sample size

- 7 % unfavorable outcome in the control regimen
- 90% power to test the hypothesis that SR2 was noninferior to control, with a noninferiority margin of 8%
- one-sided significance level of 0.05
- 525 participants
- 20% inflation to take into account late exclusions or unassessable because of drug resistance or loss to follow-up = **654 participants**

Study profile

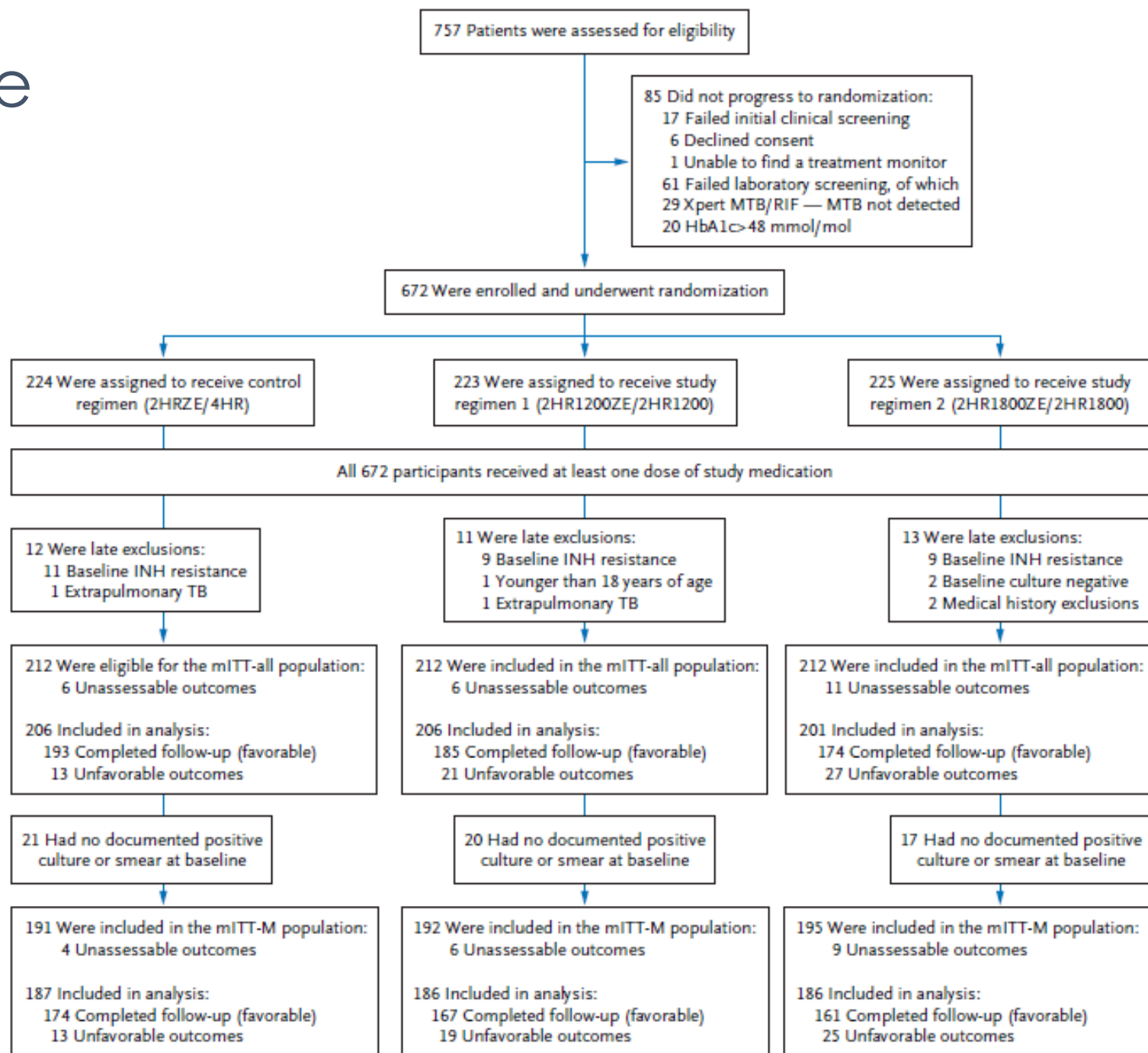
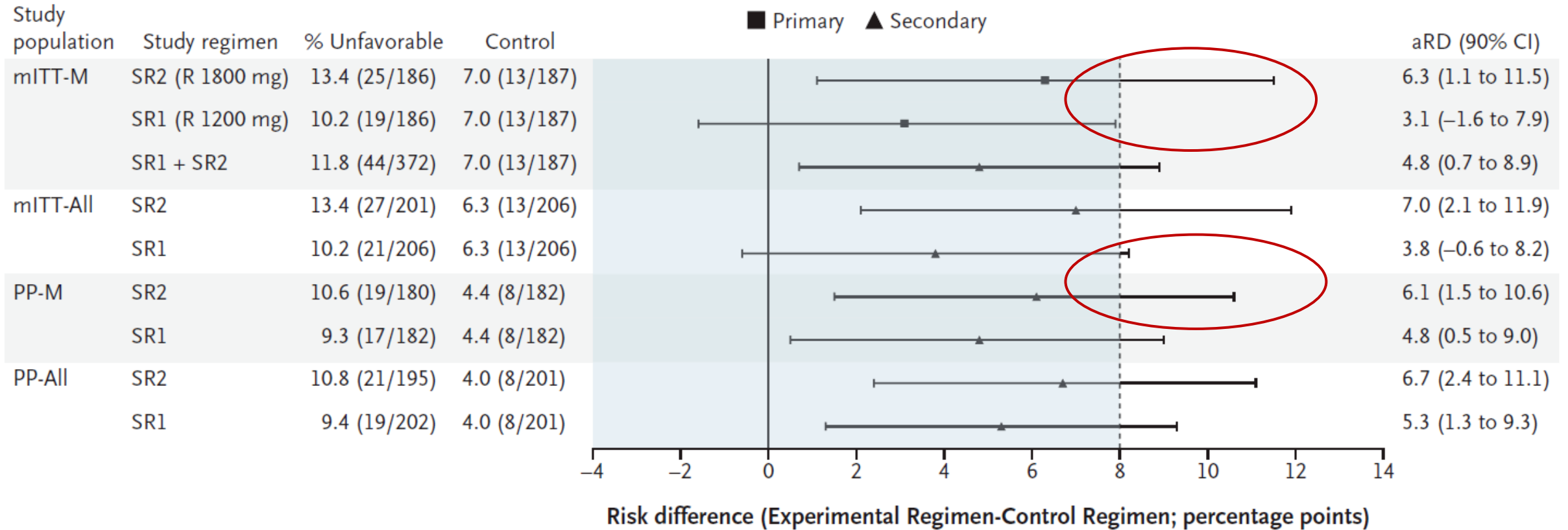


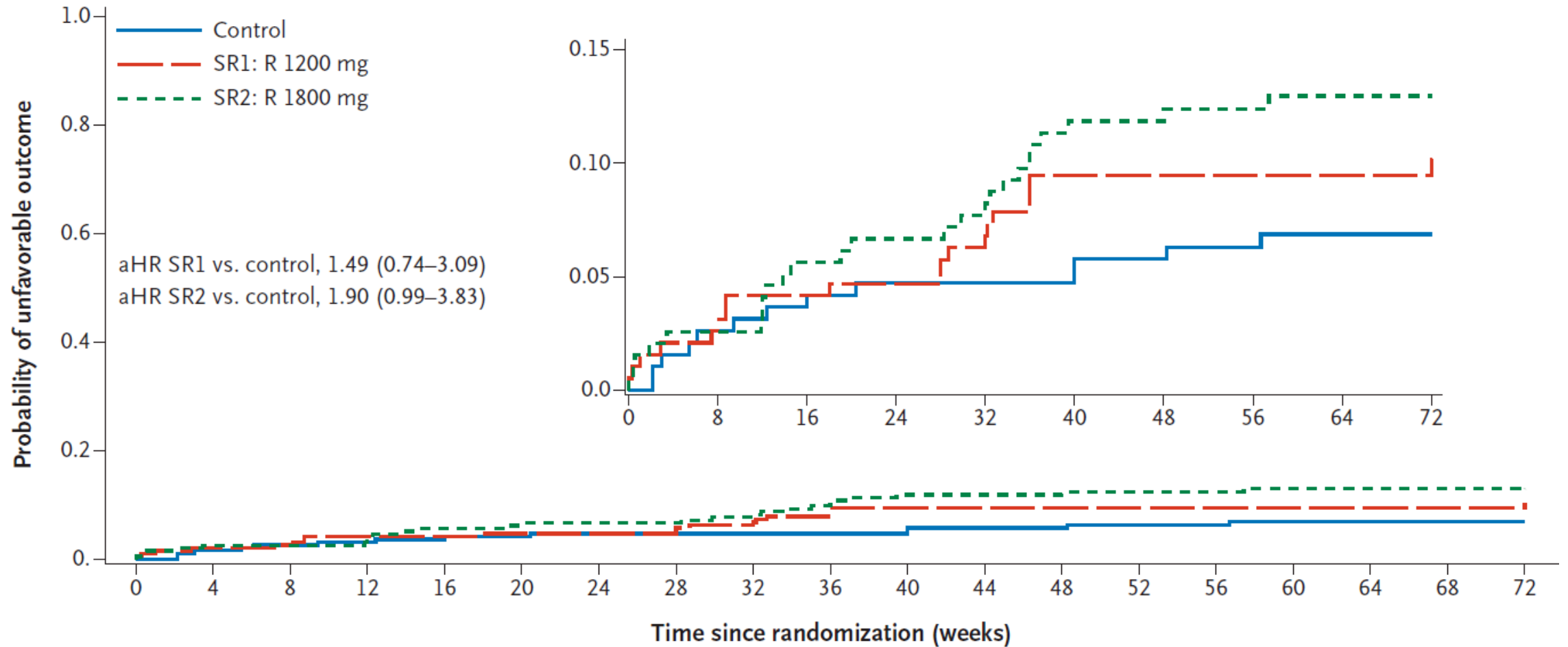
Table 1. Baseline Characteristics of the Participants (Modified Intention-to-Treat Microscopy Positive Population).^a

Characteristic	Control (n=191)	Study Regimen 1 (n=192)	Study Regimen 2 (n=195)
Age, yr — median (IQR)	29.0 (23.0–38.0)	29.0 (22.0–36.0)	28.0 (23.0–43.0)
Age, yr — no. (%)			
18–24	57 (29.8)	64 (33.3)	72 (36.9)
25–34	73 (38.2)	69 (35.9)	53 (27.2)
>34	61 (31.9)	59 (30.7)	70 (35.9)
Weight, kg — median (IQR)	52.2 (47.0–57.7)	51.9 (46.8–58.1)	52.6 (48.0–58.0)
BMI — median (IQR)	18.4 (16.9–20.2)	18.6 (16.9–20.8)	18.8 (17.0–21.0)
Female sex — no. (%)	54 (28.3)	41 (21.4)	49 (25.1)
Ethnicity — no. (%)			
African	136 (71.2)	133 (69.3)	134 (68.7)
Hispanic	1 (0.5)	2 (1.0)	1 (0.5)
Mixed	32 (16.8)	34 (17.7)	36 (18.5)
Indigenous (South American)	1 (0.5)	1 (0.5)	0 (0.0)
Asian	21 (11.0)	22 (11.5)	24 (12.3)
Smoking status — no. (%)			
Current	47 (24.6)	33 (17.2)	36 (18.5)
Former	15 (7.9)	15 (7.8)	17 (8.7)
Never	129 (67.5)	144 (75.0)	142 (72.8)
CXR cavitation — no. (%)			
Unreadable/unknown	0	1 (0.5)	1 (0.5)
Yes	165 (86.4)	174 (90.6)	174 (89.2)
No	26 (13.6)	17 (8.9)	20 (10.3)
CXR grading — no. (%)			
Unreadable/unknown	3 (1.6)	1 (0.5)	3 (1.5)
Normal or minimal disease	3 (1.6)	4 (2.1)	4 (2.1)
Moderately advanced disease	86 (45.0)	88 (45.8)	85 (43.6)
Far advanced disease	99 (51.8)	99 (51.6)	103 (52.8)
Sputum smear grading — no. (%)			
+ or scanty	68 (35.6)	77 (40.1)	81 (41.5)
++	52 (27.2)	41 (21.4)	49 (25.1)
+++	71 (37.2)	74 (38.5)	65 (33.3)

Primary efficacy results



Probability of unfavourable outcome



Jindani A et al. Four-Month High-Dose Rifampicin Regimens for Pulmonary Tuberculosis. *N Eng J Med Evidence*. 2023

Table 3. Laboratory-Defined and Clinical Adverse Events According to Treatment Group.*

Participants Experiencing	Control (n=224)	Study Regimen 1 (n=223)	Study Regimen 2 (n=225)
Primary safety outcome			
Grade 3 or 4 adverse event — no. (%)	9 (4.0)	10 (4.5)	10 (4.4)
Percentage point difference from control (95% CI)		0.5 (–3.3 to 4.2)	0.4 (–3.3 to 4.2)
Secondary safety outcome			
Grade 1–4 adverse event — no. (%)	120 (53.6)	109 (48.9)	115 (51.1)
Percentage point difference from control (95% CI)		–4.7 (–13.9 to 4.6)	–2.5 (–11.7 to 6.8)
Other safety outcomes — no. (%)			
Serious adverse event	3 (1.3)	3 (1.3)	3 (1.3)
Notifiable adverse event	10 (4.5)	13 (5.8)	13 (5.8)
Notifiable adverse event, excluding pregnancy	6 (2.7)	11 (4.9)	13 (5.8)
Death	5 (2.2)	8 (3.6)	3 (1.3)
Hepatotoxicity outcomes			
ALT>180 U/l (5×ULN, grade 3) — no. (%)	3 (1.3)	7 (3.1)	7 (3.1)
ALT>360 U/l (10×ULN, grade 4) — no. (%)	2 (0.9)	1 (0.4)	4 (1.8)
Grade 3/4 ALT results, U/l — median (IQR; max)	387 (237–511; 511)	212 (189–350; 449)	377 (332–450; 942)
Total bilirubin >3 mg/dl (2.6×ULN, grade 3) — no. (%)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.4)	6 (2.7)
Total bilirubin >6 mg/dl (5×ULN, grade 4) — no. (%)	1 (0.4)	0	3 (1.3)
Grade 3/4 total bilirubin results, mg/dl — median (IQR; max)	12.1	3.2	5.4 (4.1–9.4; 29.5)
Satisfies Hy's law (ALT>3×ULN and total bilirubin >2×ULN) — no. (%)	0	1 (0.4)	2† (0.9)

Conclusion

Four-month high-dose rifampicin regimens did not have dose-limiting toxicities or side effects but failed to meet noninferiority criteria compared with the standard 6-month control regimen for treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Points de discussion

- Non-infériorité et choix de la marge de non-infériorité
 - 8%: trop bas? 12% dans les essais thérapeutiques VIH et TB résistante
- Critère d'évaluation principale
 - Guérison sans récurrence à 1 an: long, cher
 - Critère composite
 - Pas de bon biomarqueur de la guérison
- Perspectives pour réduire la durée du traitement
 - Nécessité d'introduire des nouvelles molécules
 - Moxifloxacine et rifapentine: essai phase 3 avec non-infériorité d'un régime de 4 mois (cf diapo)
 - 2 mois avec bedaquiline et linézolide: essai TRUNCATE TB (cf diapo)
 - Faut-il utiliser les médicaments clés du traitement de la TB MDR dans un contexte limité d'alternatives thérapeutiques
 - Traitement individualisé (cf diapo)
 - Traitement court pour des formes peu sévères/avancées
 - Traitement long pour des formes plus avancées
 - Prendre en compte le fait que la majorité des patients vivent dans les pays à ressources limitées
 - Traitement standardisé et approche simplifiée

Diapos supplémentaires

Shorter Treatment for Nonsevere Tuberculosis in African and Indian Children

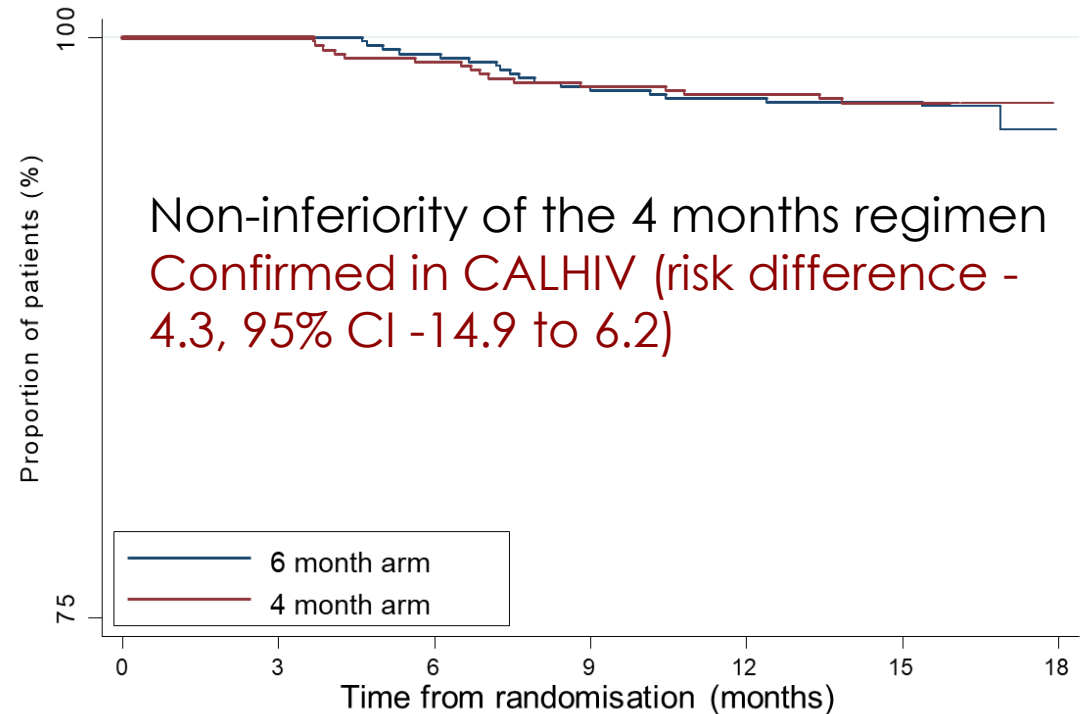
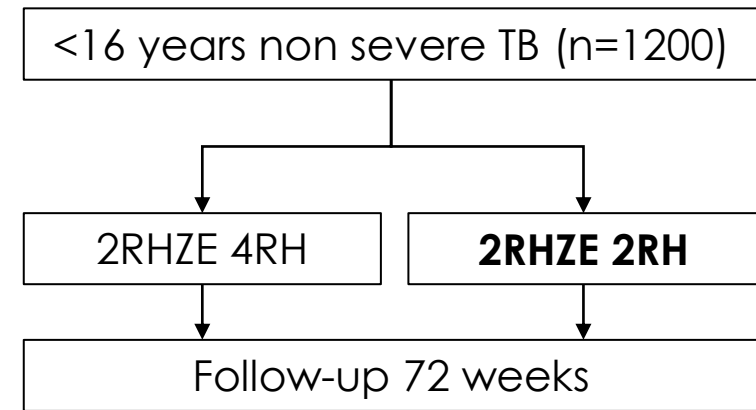
A. Turkova, G.H. Wills, E. Wobudeya, C. Chabala, M. Palmer, A. Kinikar, S. Hissar, L. Choo, P. Musoke, V. Mulenga, V. Mave, B. Joseph, K. LeBeau, M.J. Thomason, R.B. Mboizi, M. Kapasa, M.M. van der Zalm, P. Raichur, P.K. Bhavani, H. McIlleron, A.-M. Demers, R. Aarnoutse, J. Love-Koh, J.A. Seddon, S.B. Welch, S.M. Graham, A.C. Hesselting, D.M. Gibb, and A.M. Crook, for the SHINE Trial Team*

Phase 3 non-inferiority trial

	4 months N=602	6 months N=602
Age (years), median	3.4	3.5
Girls, n (%)	297 (49)	286 (48)
HIV-positive, n (%)	65 (11)	62 (10)
Clinical presentation, n(%)		
Pulmonary	398 (66)	406 (67)
Pulmonary & adenopathy	182 (30)	171 (28)
Adenopathy	19 (3)	21 (3)
Other	3 (1)	4 (1)
Confirmed TB, n(%)	85 (14)	80 (13)

Non-severe TB

- Pulmonary TB
 - ≤ 1 lobe without cavity
 - No bronchial obstruction
 - No complicated pleural effusion
 - No miliary
- Peripheral adenopathy
- Sputum smear-negative



Number at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18
6 month arm	573	573	569	561	558	557	20
4 month arm	572	572	566	560	558	556	30



TRUNCATE TB

- Multi-arm, multi-stage non-inferiority trial to compare 4 months regimens with standard regimen
- Two months regimen with rescue therapy with 2HRZE 4HR in case of relapse during 2 months f-up
 - HZE + R35mg/Kg + linezolid (L) 600
 - HZE + R35mg/Kg + clofazimine 200mg*
 - HZE + P1200 + L600 + levofloxacin 100mg*
 - HZE + L600 + bedaquiline 400mg 2 weeks and 200mg 3 weeks

*Interrupted by the trial steering committee to reach sample size to allow NI evaluation in 2 arms

Table 2. Primary Efficacy Outcome.*

Outcome	Standard Treatment (N=181)	Strategy with Rifampin–Linezolid (N=184)	Strategy with Rifampin–Linezolid vs. Standard Treatment Adjusted Difference (97.5% CI)†	Strategy with Bedaquiline–Linezolid (N=189)	Strategy with Bedaquiline–Linezolid vs. Standard Treatment Adjusted Difference (97.5% CI)†
Intention-to-treat population‡					
Primary outcome: composite of death, ongoing treatment, or active disease at wk 96 — no. (%)§	7 (3.9)	21 (11.4)	7.4 (1.7 to 13.2)	11 (5.8)	0.8 (–3.4 to 5.1)
Per-protocol population‡‡					
Primary outcome — no./total no. (%)	6/177 (3.4)	17/160 (10.6)	6.9 (0.9 to 12.8)	9/176 (5.1)	0.9 (–3.3 to 5.1)

No difference of adverse events grade 3 and 4

« Stratified medicine approach »

- Limitations of the « One-size-fits-all » approach
 - Majority of patients do not need 6 months therapy
 - 6 months therapy not enough in patients with severe forms of TB, HIV infected, low BMI
- Efficacy is the greatest determinant of impact compared to a novel shorter regimen: increase efficacy from 94% to 99% reduce mortality by 6%
- Stratified medicine approach
 - Type/duration of treatment based on baseline markers of poor outcomes
 - Treatment extension according to on-treatment outcome parameters

Review of the efficacy of the fluoroquinolone trials according to predictors of poor outcomes

