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Intermittent regimens for tuberculosis treatment: Back to the Future?

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Once weekly bedaquiline, rifapentine and pyrazinamide has sterilising activity and is ready for further exploration in a clinical trial, including appropriate safety and pharmacokinetic assessment <https://bit.ly/3ivrY4m>

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Despite all efforts to accelerate the response against tuberculosis (TB), many countries are struggling to achieve the milestones of the End TB strategy [1]. The investment required in a strong healthcare system to combat TB is significant. Lack of a short and highly active sterilising TB treatment regimen is the main reason for treatment failure and emergence of drug resistance [2]. With increasing drug resistance, the treatment becomes longer and more difficult to manage due to use of more toxic and less active drugs. Although treatment management is focused on prevention of adverse drug reactions, most patients will experience drug toxicity during treatment [3] which can result in nonadherence.