



# Long-term multidrug- and rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis treatment outcome by new WHO definitions in Germany

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**Long-term outcomes of MDR/RR-TB with 3-year follow-up show 62% favourable outcomes in Germany. 26% were lost to follow-up or transferred. It was possible to categorise 95% of favourable outcomes as cured using the 2021 WHO outcome definitions.** <https://bit.ly/3bJnvfR>

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*To the Editor:*

Multidrug- and rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis (MDR/RR-TB) are growing threats to the goals of the END TB Strategy [1], causing substantial suffering and overwhelming costs for affected patients and families. Global treatment success for MDR/RR-TB is insufficient at only 59%. Germany has a low tuberculosis incidence (5.0 per 100 000) with 2.7% MDR-TB cases. Although resources are available, treatment success for these patients remains below World Health Organization (WHO) targets, according to national surveillance data [2]. However, long-term treatment outcomes are not systematically captured.