



Increased access and attention to toxicity: lessons learnt from the first cohort of 6-month drug resistant tuberculosis regimens in Gujranwala, Pakistan

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• WHO recommended 6-month regimens BPaL (bedaquiline, pretomanid and linezolid) and **BPaLM** (BPaL and moxifloxacin) regimens for

Conclusions

 Patients treated with BPaLM/BPaL had very good treatment outcomes Linezolid-associated adverse events were common but did not compromise treatment outcomes

Challenges

 Limited number of patients could access the regimens due to insufficient drug procurement or pretomanid and clinicians' lack of familiarity with the regimens



the treatment of drug-resistant TB (DR TB) in 2022

- The Gujranwala Programmatic • Management of DR TB clinic (PMDT) was a **pilot site in Pakistan** for the implementation of the new regimens in 2023
- We analyze eligibility, treatment • outcomes and safety of the first cohort of patients started on **BPaLM/BPaL** in Gujranwala PMDT clinic.

Methods

- Retrospective analysis of programmatic data from patients enrolled in Gujranwala PMDT from 1st January to 30th June 2023
- Significant Adverse Event (AE) were defined as AE leading to treatment

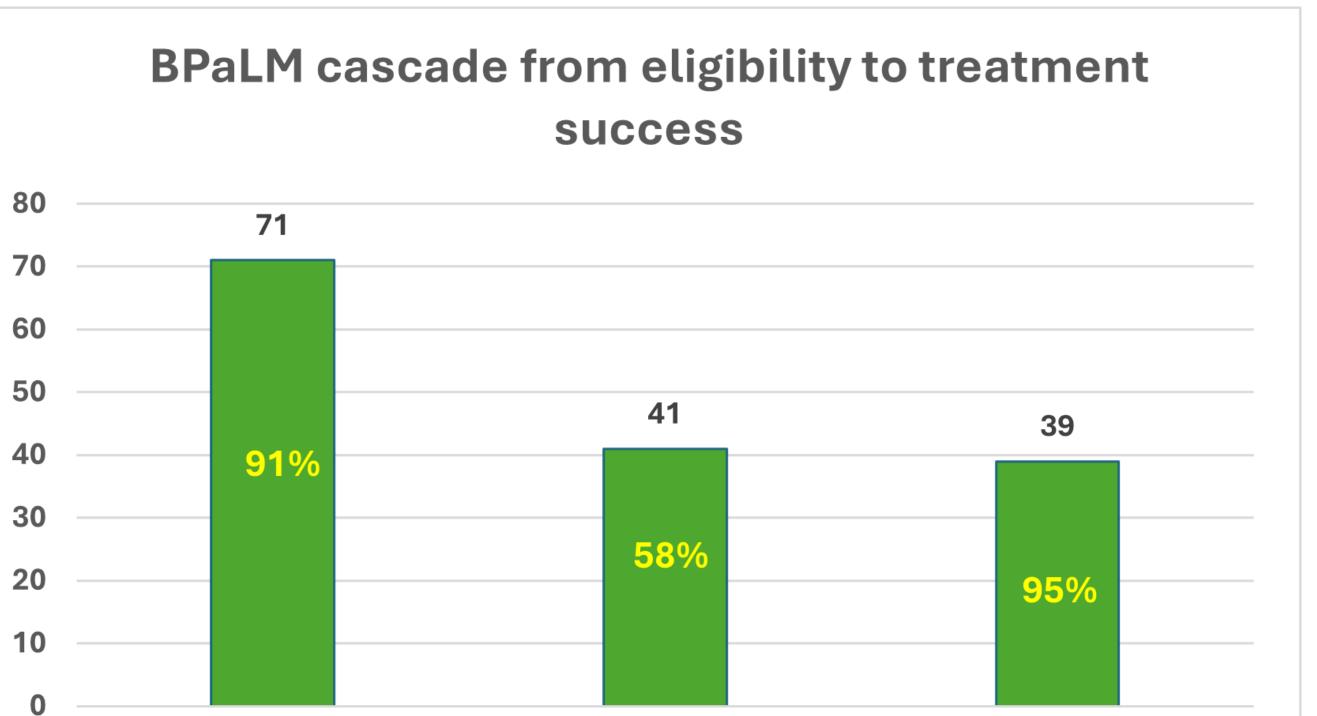
Results

78 patients with DR TB enrolled during the study period

•71/78 (91%) of patients were eligible for **BPaLM/BPaL regimens**

• 41/71 (58%) of eligible patients started on BPaLM/BPaL regimens

• 39/41 (95%) of patients started of BPaLM/BPaL regimens were treated successfully



change

22% of eligible

patients did not

receive

BPaLM/BPaL

Started BPaLM Eligible **Treatment success** Programmatic data Médecins Sans Frontières OCP Gujranwala **Reasons for not starting BPaLM/BPaL in** eligible patients 47% **50% 45% 40**% 33% 35% 30% 25% 20% 20% 15% 10% 5% 0% Pretomanid unavailable **Pre-existing conditions** Low **BMI**

Programmatic data Médecins Sans Frontières OCP Gujranwala

Percentage of patients with significant AEs during BPaLM/BPaL treatment

8 patients (20%) with significant linezolid-associated AE:

• 1 (2.5%) patient was lost to follow-up • 1 (2.5%) patient had BPaLM treatment changed due to bedaquiline-resistance on baseline drug-susceptibility test

30 eligible patients were not started on BPaLM/BPaL:

• 10 (33%) unavailability of pretomanid

6 (20%) low body mass index (BMI)

 14 (47%) pre-exisitng conditions (anemia, reduced visual acuity, abnormal liver function tests)

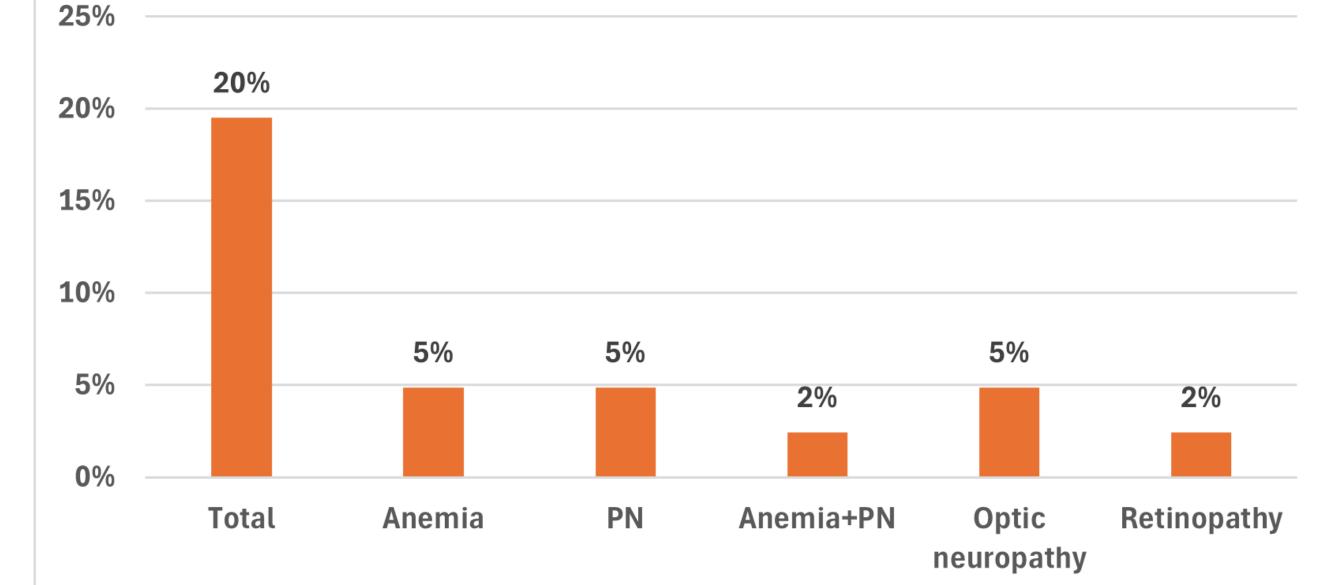
95% of patients treated with **BPaLM/BPaL**

achieved

treatment SUCCESS

Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge all Médecins Sans Frontières and Ministry of Health teams from Gujranwala PMDT who contributed to the implementation



Programmatic data Médecins Sans Frontières OCP Gujranwala

• 2 patients (5%): anemia • 2 patients (5%): peripheral neuropathy (PN)

- 1 patient (2%): both anemia and PN
- 2 patients (5%): optic neuropathy
- 1 patient (2%): retinopathy

7 patients (17%) permanently stopped linezolid after >4 months