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Every breath counts



From Symptoms to Survival: Strengthening the TB Care Cascade for Children and Adolescents

Prof Karen du Preez

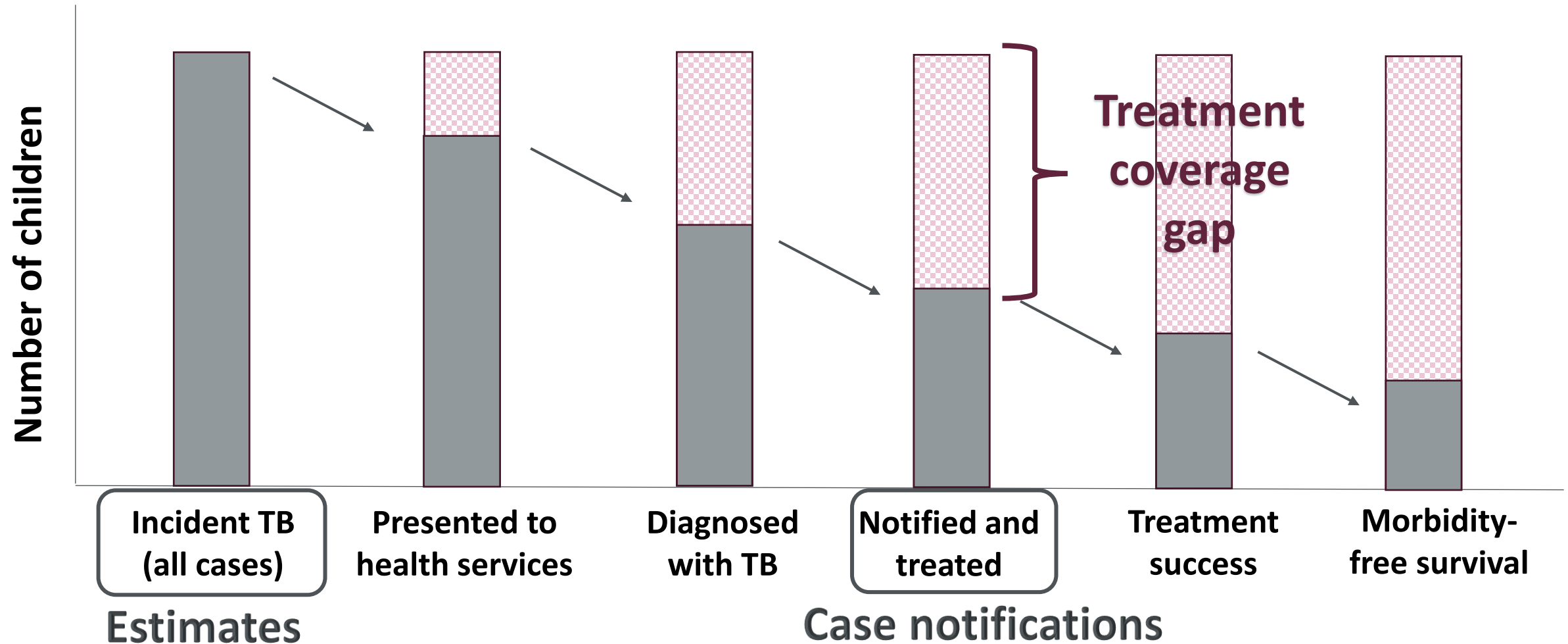
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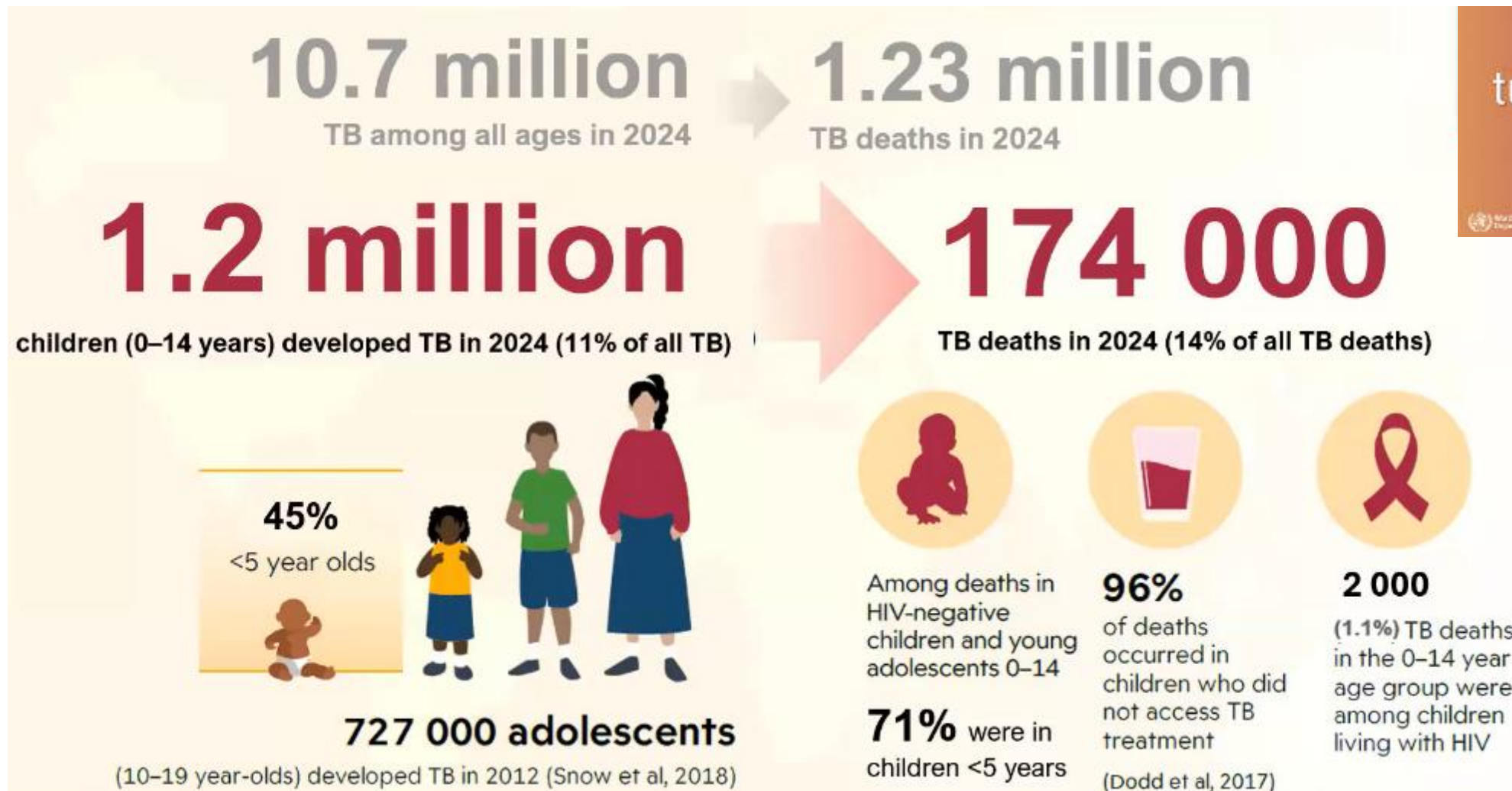
Chair: National Child, Adolescent and Maternal TB Working Group, SA TB Think Tank

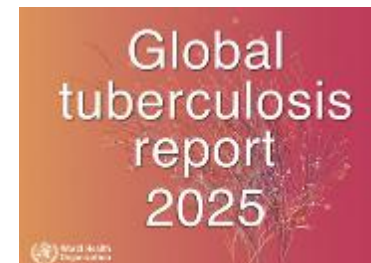


PAEDIATRIC TB CARE CASCADE



TB INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY IN CHILDREN 2024





SOUTH AFRICA – NATIONAL TB DATA			
	2022	2023	2024
All TB cases			
Estimated total TB caseload	280 000	270 000	249 000
New and relapse TB case notifications	214 295	211 810	183 726
Treatment coverage (all)	77%	78%	74%

WHO TB estimates and case notification data obtained from the WHO Global TB report 2024
Available from: <https://www.stoptb.org/resources/interactive-tb-data> on 9 June 2026

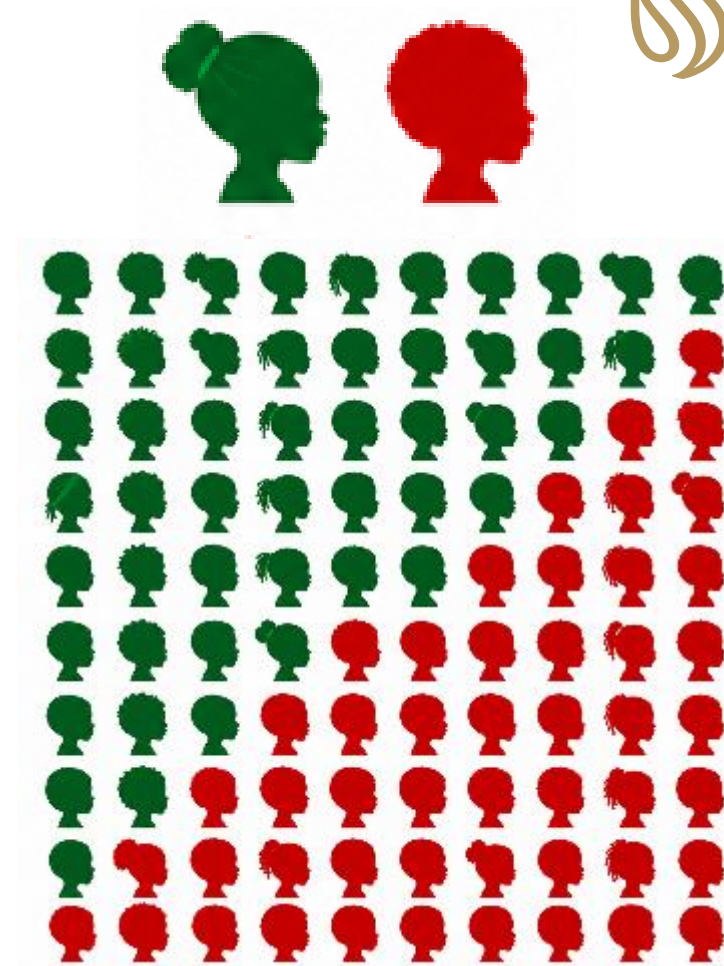
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Paediatric cases			
Estimated paed(0-14) caseload	27 000	23 100	22 000
New and relapse (0-14) case notifications	16 534	14 799	10 438
% Paediatric notifications	7,7%	7,0%	5,7%
Treatment coverage (0-14)	61%	64%	47%



**Global
average:
57.7%**

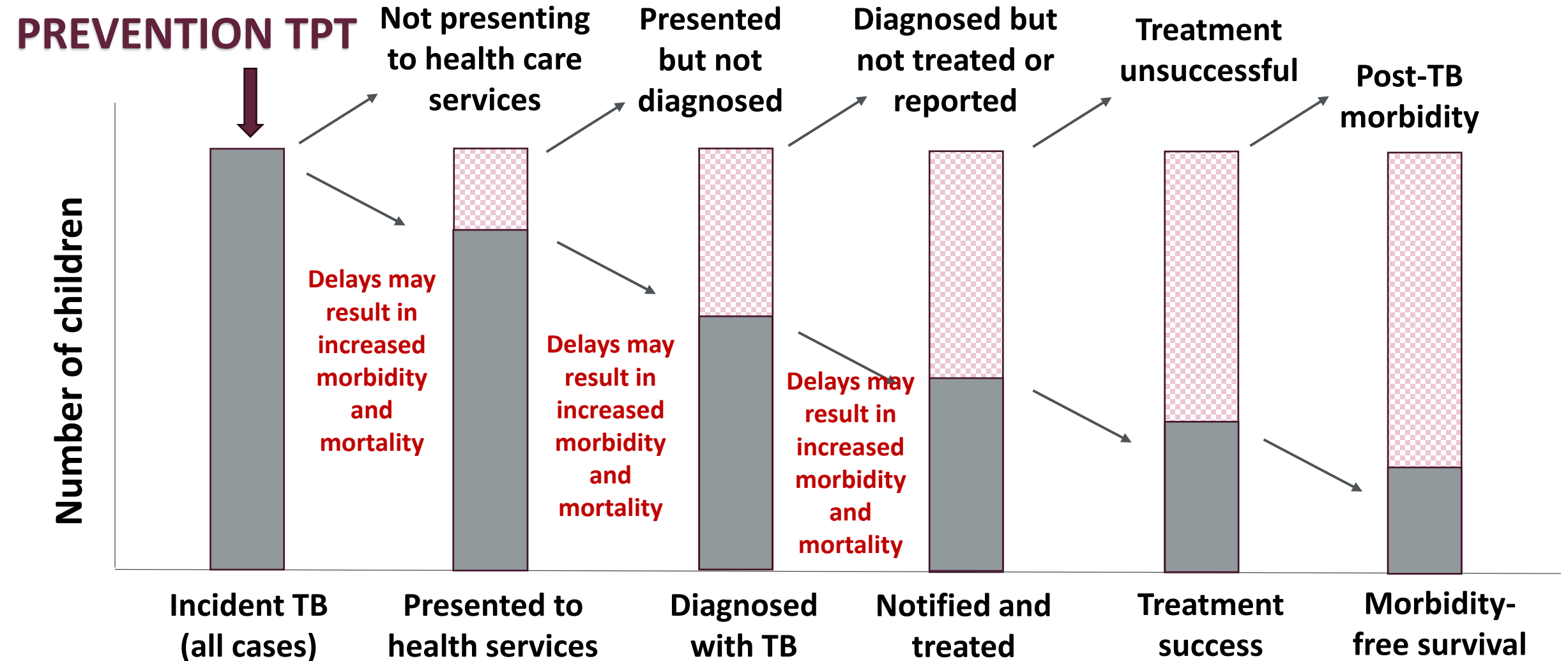
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In 2024,
1 out of every 2 children
with TB were missing
from care

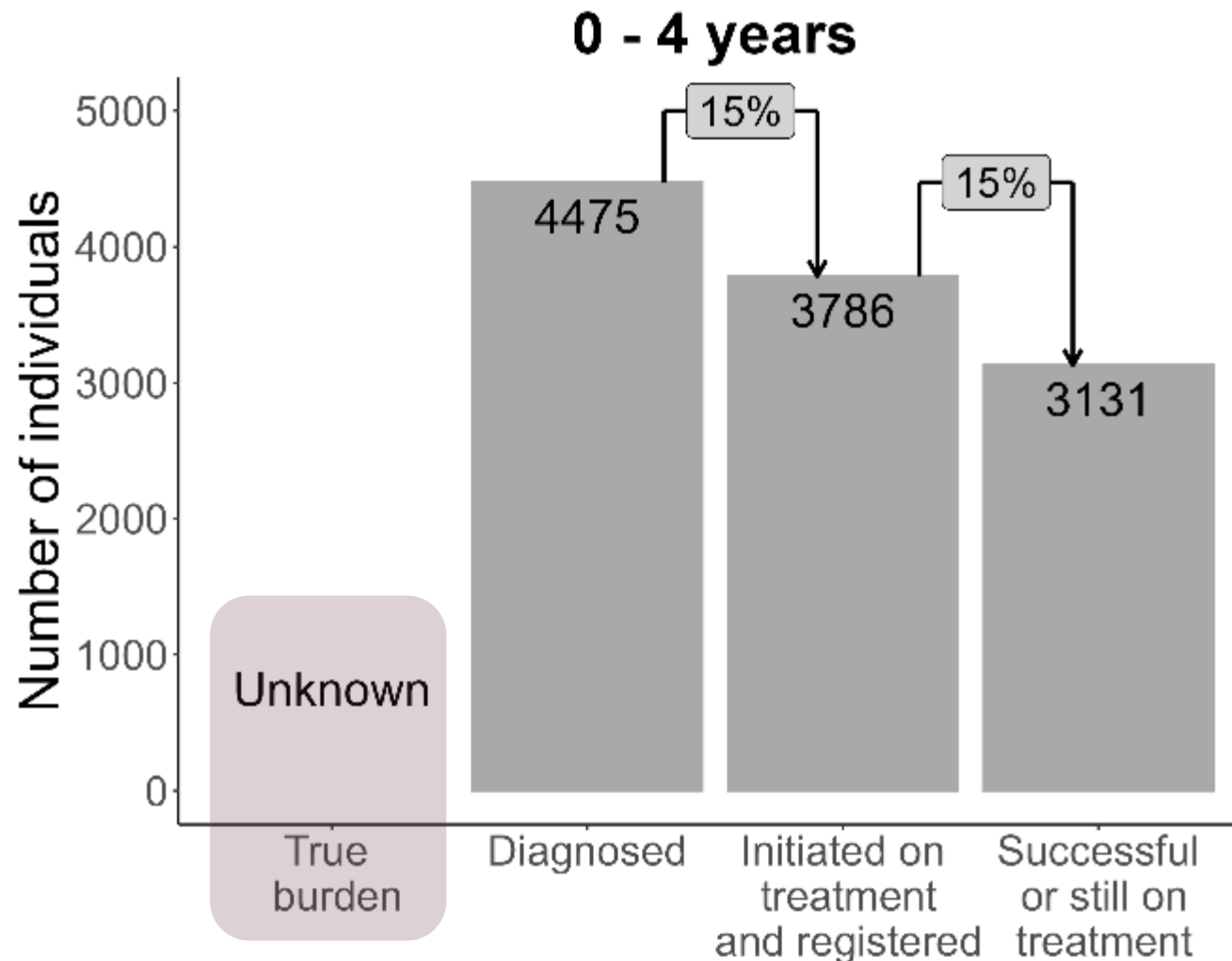


In 2024, ~11,000

LOSSES ALONG THE CARE CASCADE

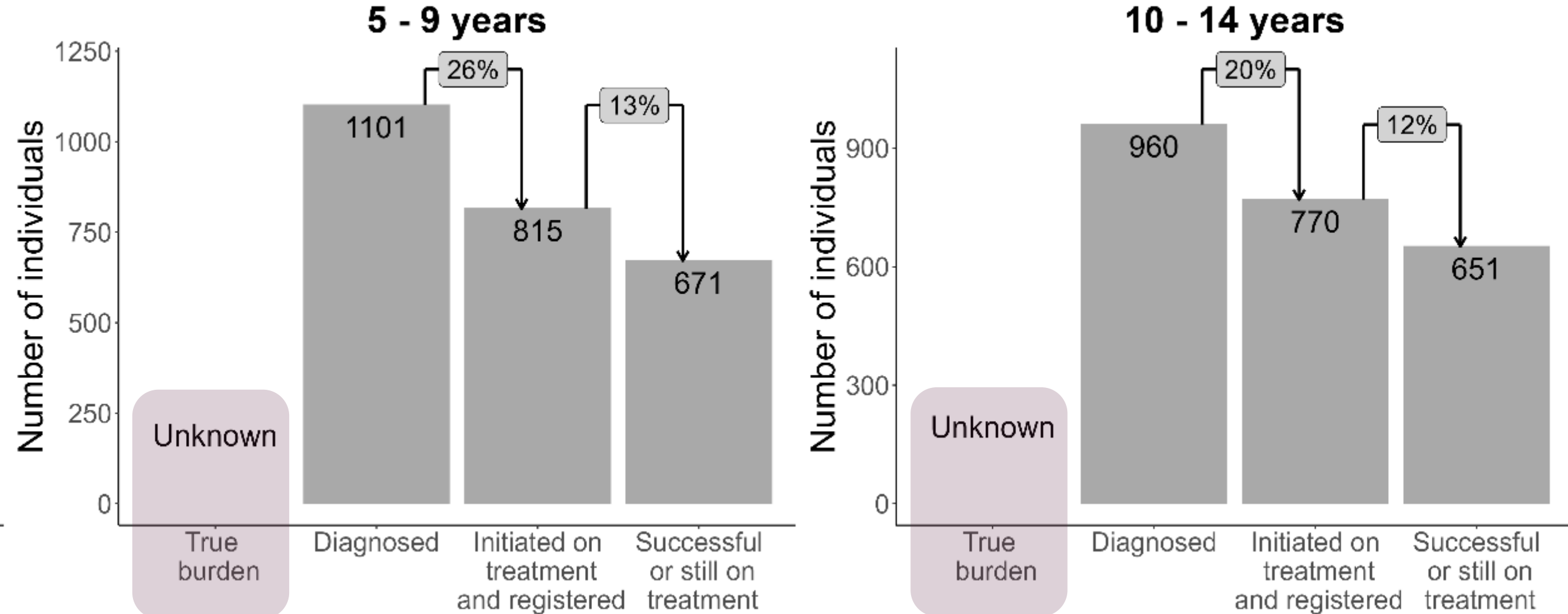


QUANTIFYING LOSSES: 2023 data from the Western Cape Province

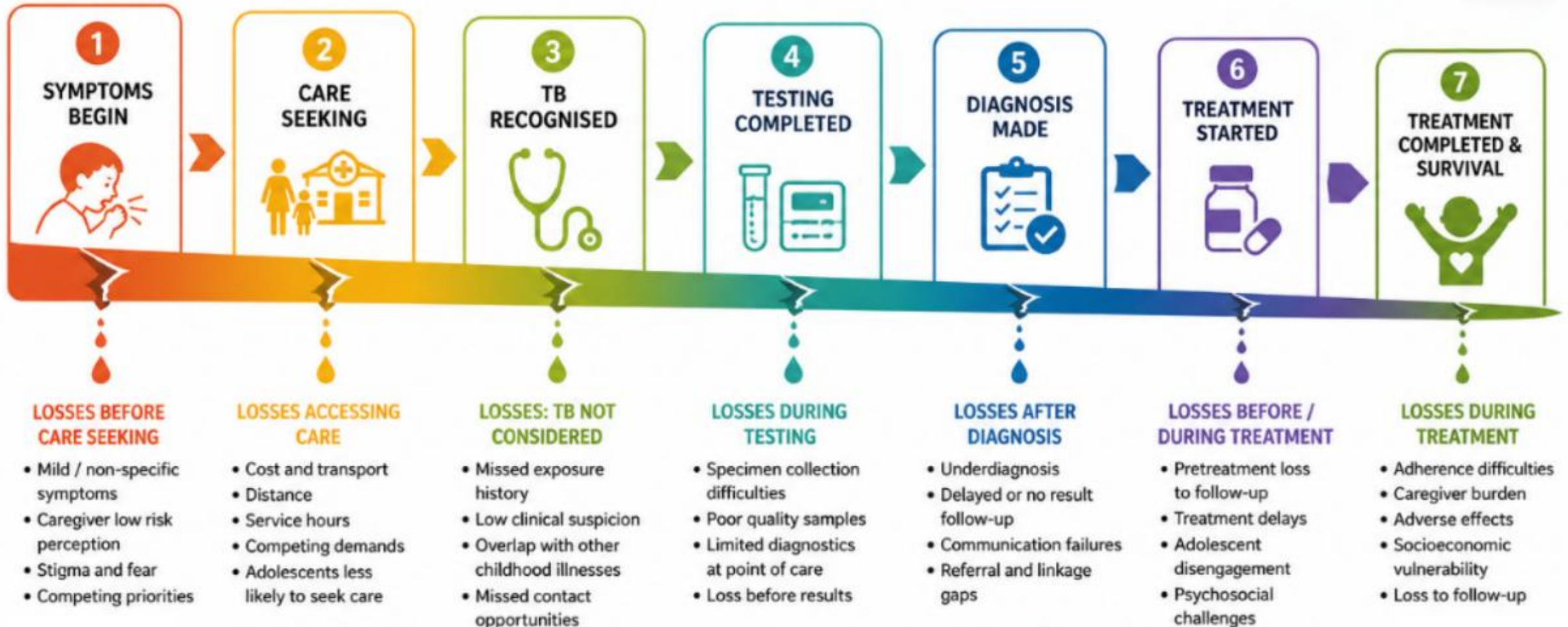


Brown, et.al. Pediatrics. 2026

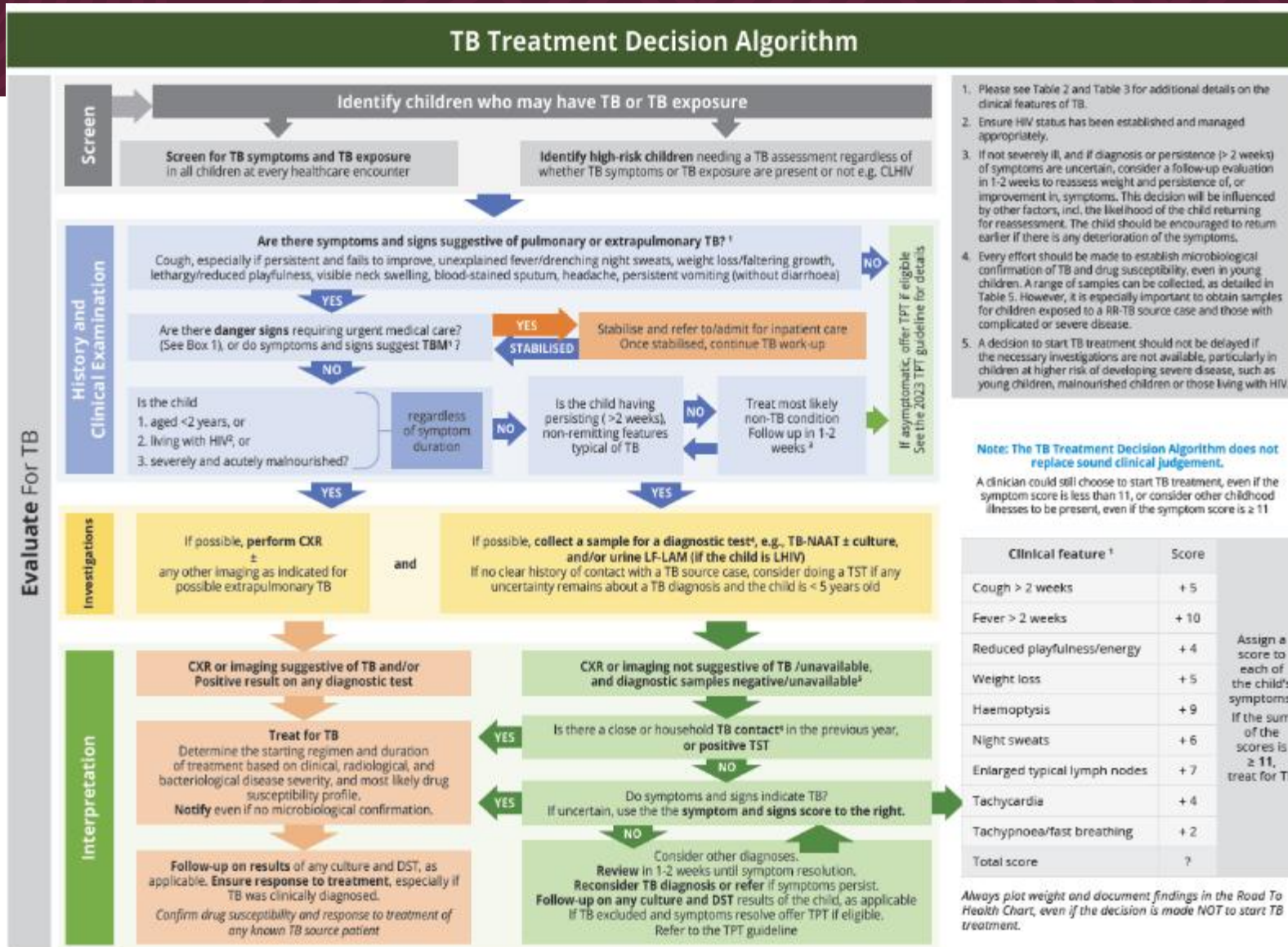
QUANTIFYING LOSSES: 2023 data from the Western Cape Province



REASONS FOR LOSSES ALONG THE CARE CASCADE



CLOSING GAPS IN THE CARE CASCADE



Optimize implementation
of the TDA

MANAGEMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

A Clinical Guideline
for the Diagnosis and Treatment
of Drug-susceptible TB in
Children and Adolescents
in South Africa

September 2024

CLOSING GAPS IN THE CARE CASCADE

Optimize implementation of new tools



Section 1

Tools to understand and navigate a TB consultation



Gates Foundation



CLOSING GAPS IN THE CARE CASCADE



Identify Child TB Champions

- Existing training courses
 - SU International Childhood TB training course
 - WHO e-learning free online courses
- Practical training and mentoring
- Assess current practices and data
- Set up clinical support networks
- Strengthen linkage to care
- Regular M&E

17TH INTERNATIONAL CHILDHOOD TB TRAINING COURSE



XVIIth International Childhood TB Training Course:
28 September – 03 October 2025



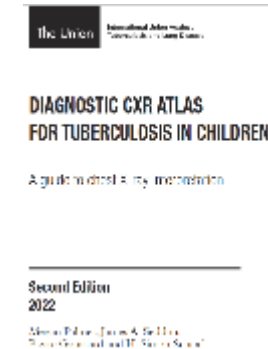
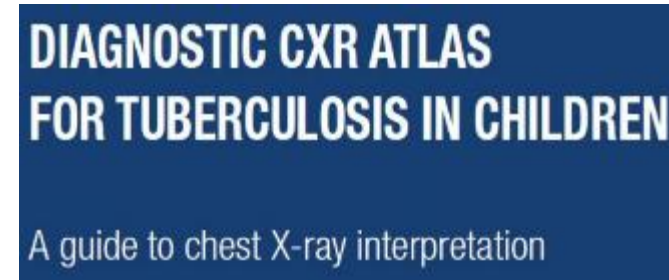
<https://openwho.org/courses/TB-child-adolescent-EN>

CLOSING GAPS IN THE CARE CASCADE



Increase access to CXR at PHC level

- Mapping existing CXR facilities
- Using mobile screening units to increase access
- Setting up digital CXR interpretation network involving clinicians at next level of care
- Train clinicians to increase capacity using free online resources:
 - Union atlas
 - Union online course



NON-SEVERE		SEVERE	
Uncomplicated lymph node disease		Complicated lymph node disease	
Primary (Other) focus		Primary (Other) focus with cavitation	
Simple pleural effusion		Complicated pleural effusion	
Alveolar opacification: < 1 lobe		Alveolar opacification: involving a whole lobe or multiple lobes	
Other:		Other:	
Interstitial pneumonia		All cardiac disease	
Pericardial calcification		Extrapleural pneumonia	
		Miliary TB	
		TB bronchopneumonia	

<https://theunion.org/technical-publications/diagnostic-cxr-atlas-for-tuberculosis-in-children>



<https://coursesonline.theunion.org/theunion/2023/interpretation-of-chest-x-rays-in-children-with-tb/393947/>

THE TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Thank you
Enkosi
Dankie



Goal: Close every gap. Reach every child. End TB.



Child- and family-
centred care



Easy access to
quality diagnostics



Integrated,
people-centred
services



Data-driven
cascade
monitoring