



# Optimized Chemotherapy with Linezolid for TBM

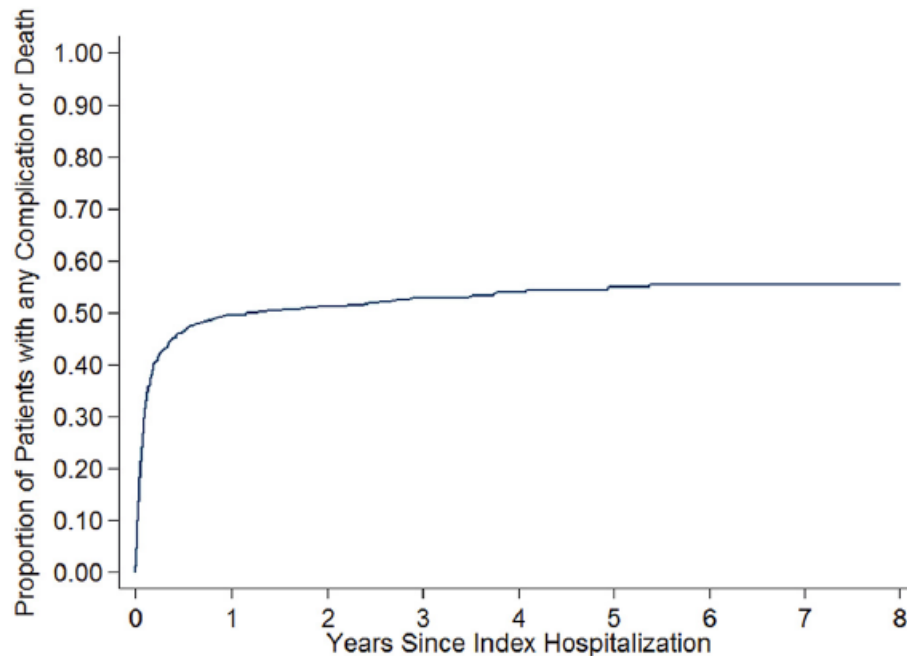
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# Mortality of TBM is high even in well treated patients

**Tuberculous meningitis (TBM)** is the most severe form of infection caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

Death or disability in more than half of TBM patients.



**Merkler A E, et al. 2017**

**Retrospective** cohort study in USA

All patients **18 years or older** hospitalized for TBM in California (2005~2010), New York (2006~2012), and Florida (2005-2012).

**N=806**

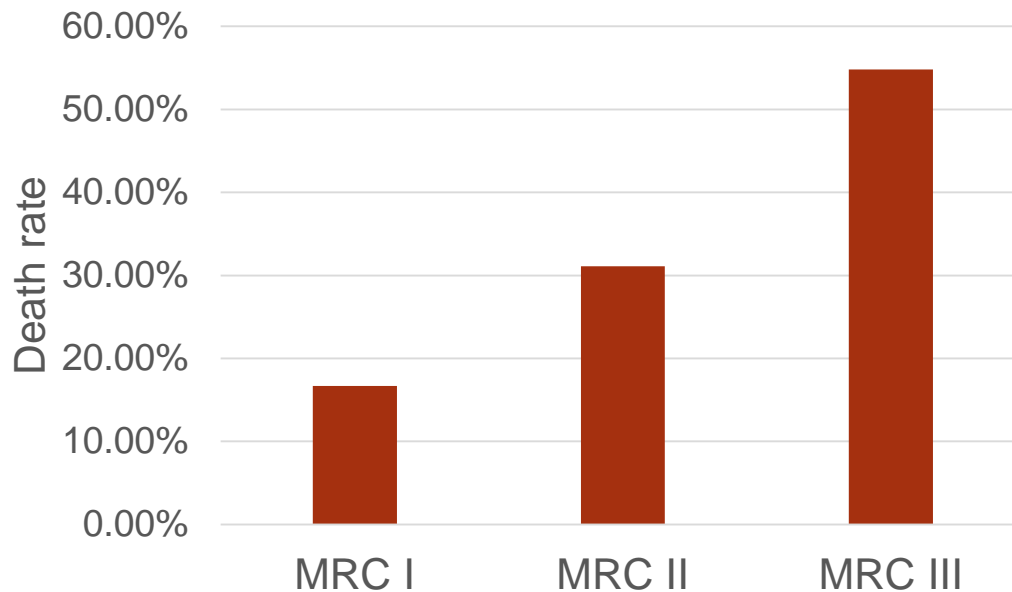
Even in developed countries like the US, the prognosis remains relatively **poor**.

## TBM grade of severity is associated with mortality

**Grade 1** GCS of 15 with no focal neurology

**Grade 2** GCS of 15 with a focal neurological deficit or a GCS of 11–14

**Grade 3** GCS of  $\leq 10$



MRC grade is strongly related to **survival rate**.

Is current guideline rational for TBM Treatment?

Are we using the right drugs and doses?

WHO 2010: Treatment of tuberculosis guidelines(4th edition)

Intensive phase treatment	Continuation phase
2 month of HRZE	4 month of HR

(Presumed, or known, to have drug-susceptible TB)

ATS/CDC/IDSA 2016: Drug-Susceptible Tuberculosis guideline

Intensive phase treatment	Continuation phase
2 month of HRZE	7-10 month of HR

## CSF penetration of available anti-TB drugs

	Standard daily dose for adults	Estimated ratio of CSF to plasma concentration	Comments
Isoniazid	300 mg	80–90%	Essential drug; good CSF penetration throughout treatment
Rifampicin	450 mg (weight <50 kg) or 600 mg (weight ≥50 kg)	10–20%	Essential drug, despite relatively poor CSF penetration; higher doses might improve effectiveness
Pyrazinamide	1.5 g (weight <50 kg) or 2.0 g (weight ≥50 kg)	90–100%	Excellent CSF penetration throughout treatment
Ethambutol	15 mg/kg	20–30%	Poor CSF penetration once meningeal inflammation resolves
Streptomycin	15 mg/kg (1 g maximum)	10–20%	Poor CSF penetration once meningeal inflammation resolves
Kanamycin	15 mg/kg	10–20%	Poor CSF penetration once meningeal inflammation resolves
Amikacin	15–20 mg/kg	10–20%	Poor CSF penetration once meningeal inflammation resolves
Moxifloxacin	400 mg	70–80%	Good CSF penetration
Levofloxacin	1000 mg	70–80%	Good CSF penetration
p-Aminosalicylic acid	10–12 g	No data	Probably very poor CSF penetration unless meninges are inflamed
Ethionamide or protionamide	15–20 mg/kg (1 g maximum)	80–90%	Good CSF penetration
Cycloserine	10–15 mg/kg	80–90%	Good CSF penetration
Linezolid	1200 mg	40–70%	Variable interindividual CSF pharmacokinetics
Capreomycin	15–20 mg/kg	No data	..

## Optimization of Current Treatment

Intensive strategy

High-dose of  
rifampicin  
and  
isoniazid

New drug combination

Fluoroquinolones  
Linezolid



# High-dose of rifampicin

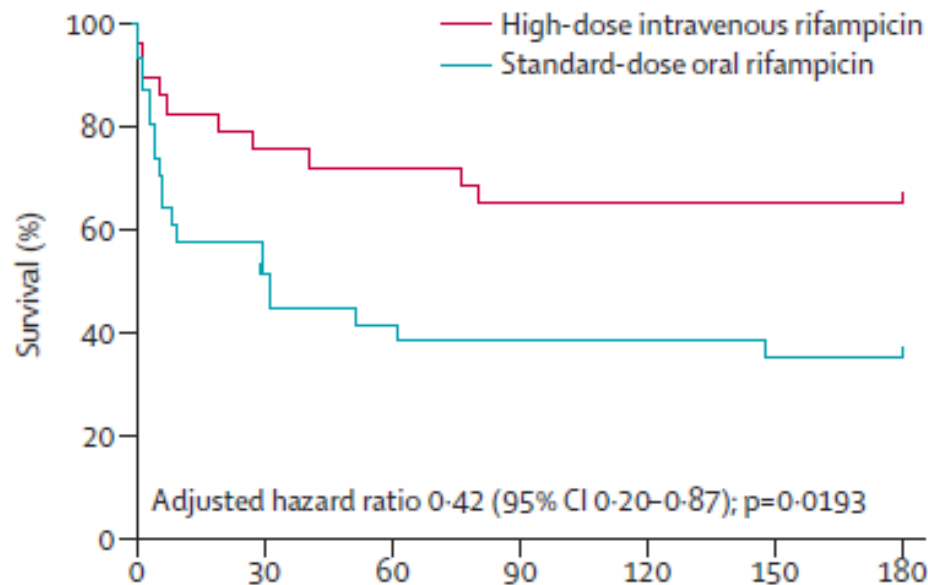
**Investigation in Indonesia. 2013**

**Open-label, RCT trail**

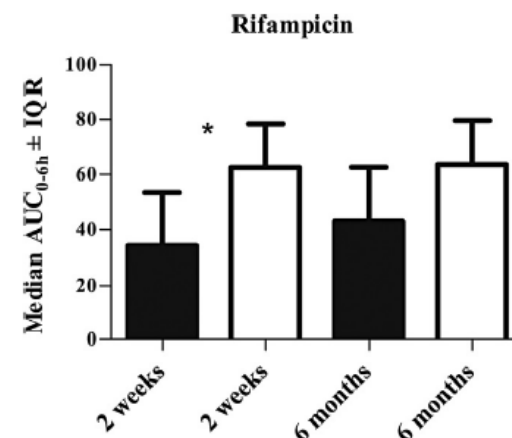
**N=60**

**standard** dose (450 mg, ~10 mg/kg)  
**orally**

**high** dose (600 mg, ~13 mg/kg)  
**intravenously**



	600 mg, intravenous (n=26)	450 mg, oral (n=26)	Ratio of intravenous to oral	p value
<b>Plasma</b>				
AUC <sub>0-6</sub> (mg.h/L)	78.7 (71.0-87.3)	26.0 (19.0-35.6)	3.0 (2.2-4.2)	<0.0001*
C <sub>max</sub> (mg/L)	22.1 (19.9-24.6)	6.3 (4.9-8.3)	3.5 (2.6-4.8)	<0.0001*
C <sub>max</sub> (≥8 mg/L)	26 (100%)	13 (50%)	..	<0.0001†
T <sub>max</sub> (h; median, range)	2 (1-2)	2 (1-6)	..	0.048‡
<b>CSF</b>				
C <sub>max</sub> (mg/L)§	0.60 (0.46-0.78)	0.21 (0.16-0.27)	2.92 (2.03-4.20)	<0.0001*



# High-dose of rifampicin

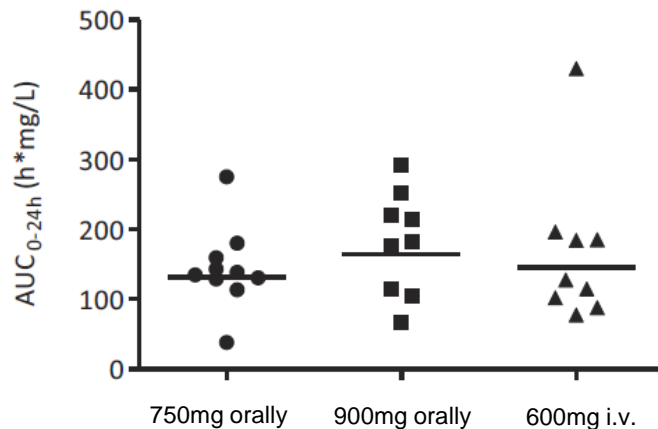
Investigation in Vietnam. 2016

Double blind, **RCT** trail

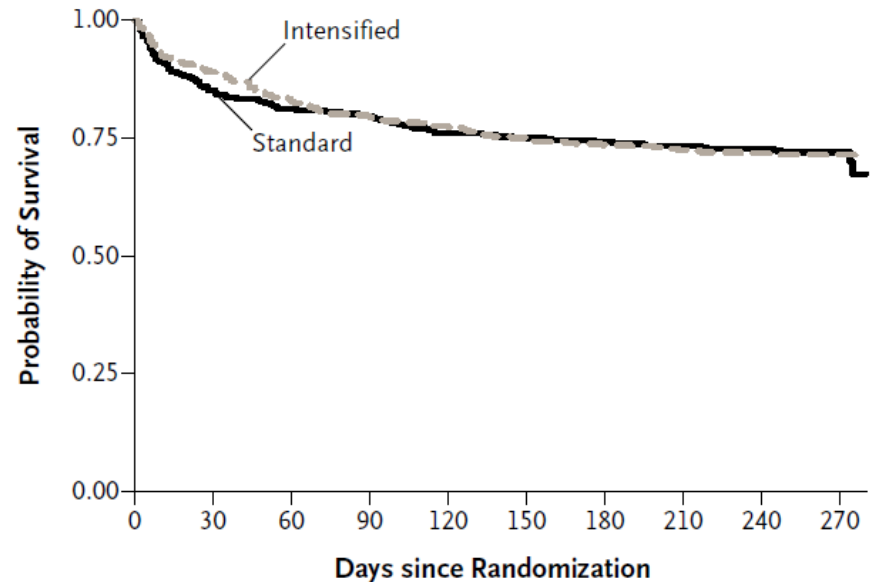
**N=817**

Standard dose (~10 mg/kg) orally  
High dose (~15 mg/kg) orally

Rifampicin CSF exposures may **not** have been **as high as** those achieved in the Indonesian study when the drug was given intravenously



A All Patients



**Yunivita V, et al.2016**

Higher oral doses of ~17 and ~20mg/kg lead to rifampicin exposures **equivalent** to intravenous rifampicin at ~13mg/kg



# Limitation of High-dose of rifampicin

## May be more effective

In Vietnam study  
~15mg/kg orally  
may not **high**  
enough

## Potentially more toxic

**Tolerability**  
may vary  
among ethnic  
groups

# Fluoroquinolones: controversy of the dosage

## Investigation in Indonesia. 2013

No Mfx

vs

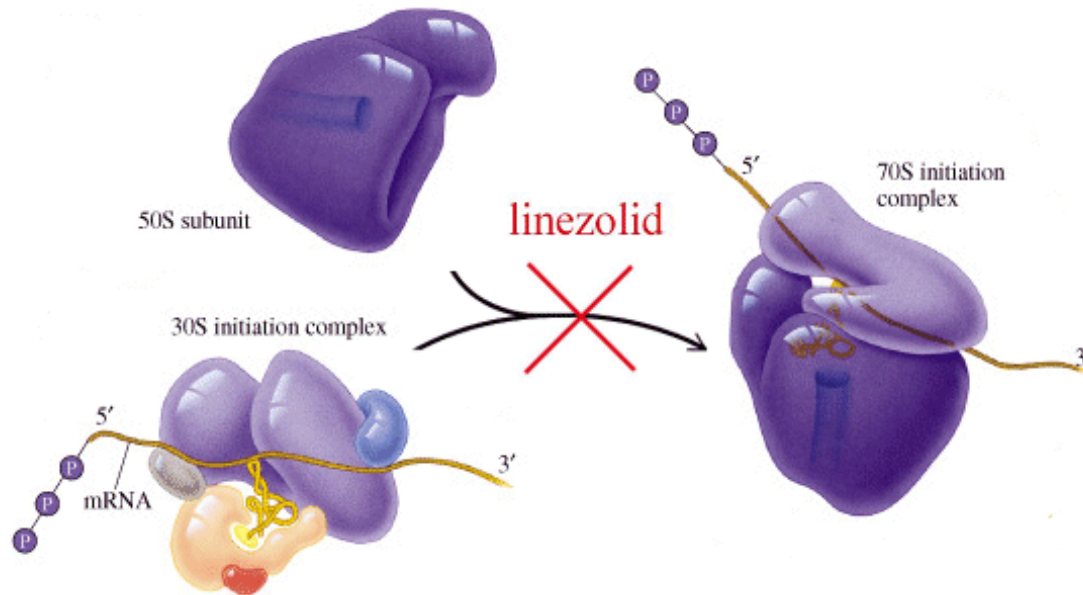
Mfx 400mg

vs

Mfx 800mg

	Deaths	Univariable	Multivariable	p value
Oral rifampicin 450 mg (n=31)	20 (65%)	1.00	1.00	0.03*
Intravenous rifampicin 600 mg (n=29)	10 (34%)	0.42 (0.20-0.91)†	0.42 (0.20-0.91)†	..
No moxifloxacin (n=22)	10 (45%)	1.00	1.00	0.55‡
Moxifloxacin 400 mg (n=19)	8 (42%)	0.74 (0.29-1.89)§	0.76 (0.30-1.94)§	..
Moxifloxacin 800 mg (n=19)	12 (63%)	1.40 (0.60-3.25)§	1.27 (0.53-3.02)§	..
HIV positive (n=7)	4 (57%)	..	1.80 (0.59-5.53)	0.31
Glasgow Coma Scale at baseline	..	..	0.82 (0.68-0.99)	0.04

# Intensified regimens with Linezolid



Oxazolidinone antibiotic

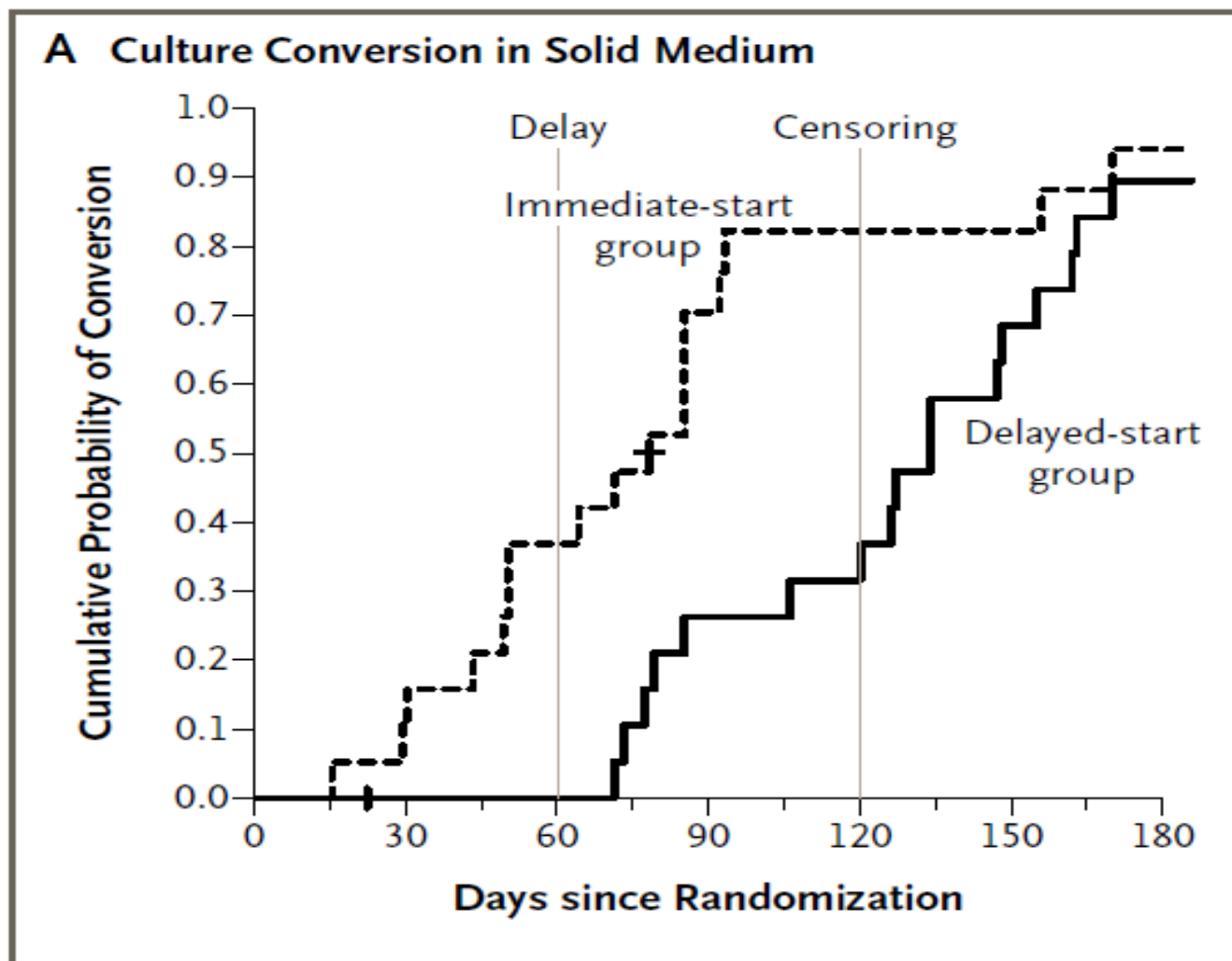
Interaction with 50S

for use against G<sup>+</sup> bacteria,  
including MRSA and VRE

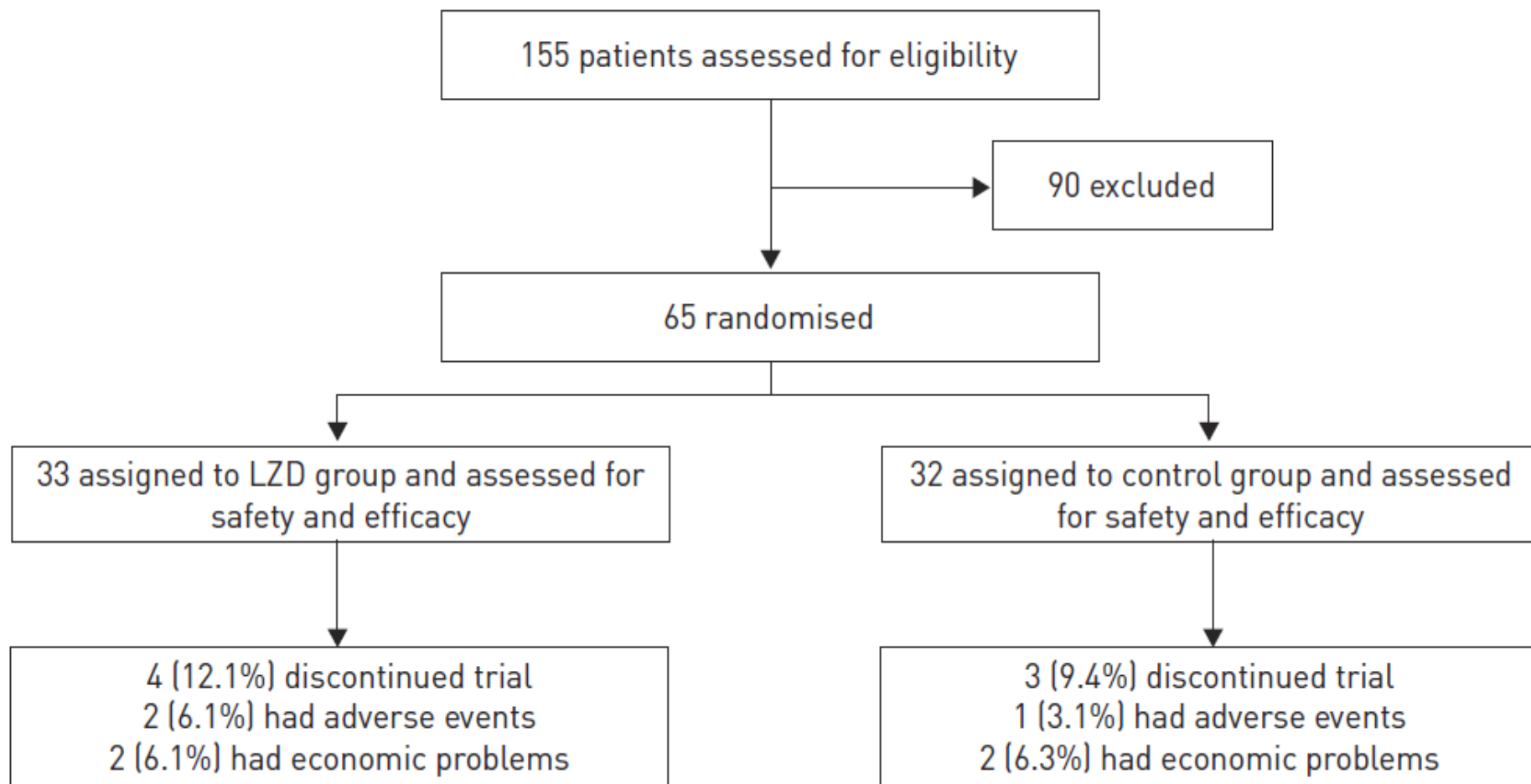
oral bioavailability is  
approximately 100%

allowing a shift from the  
intravenous route to the oral  
route without dose adjustment

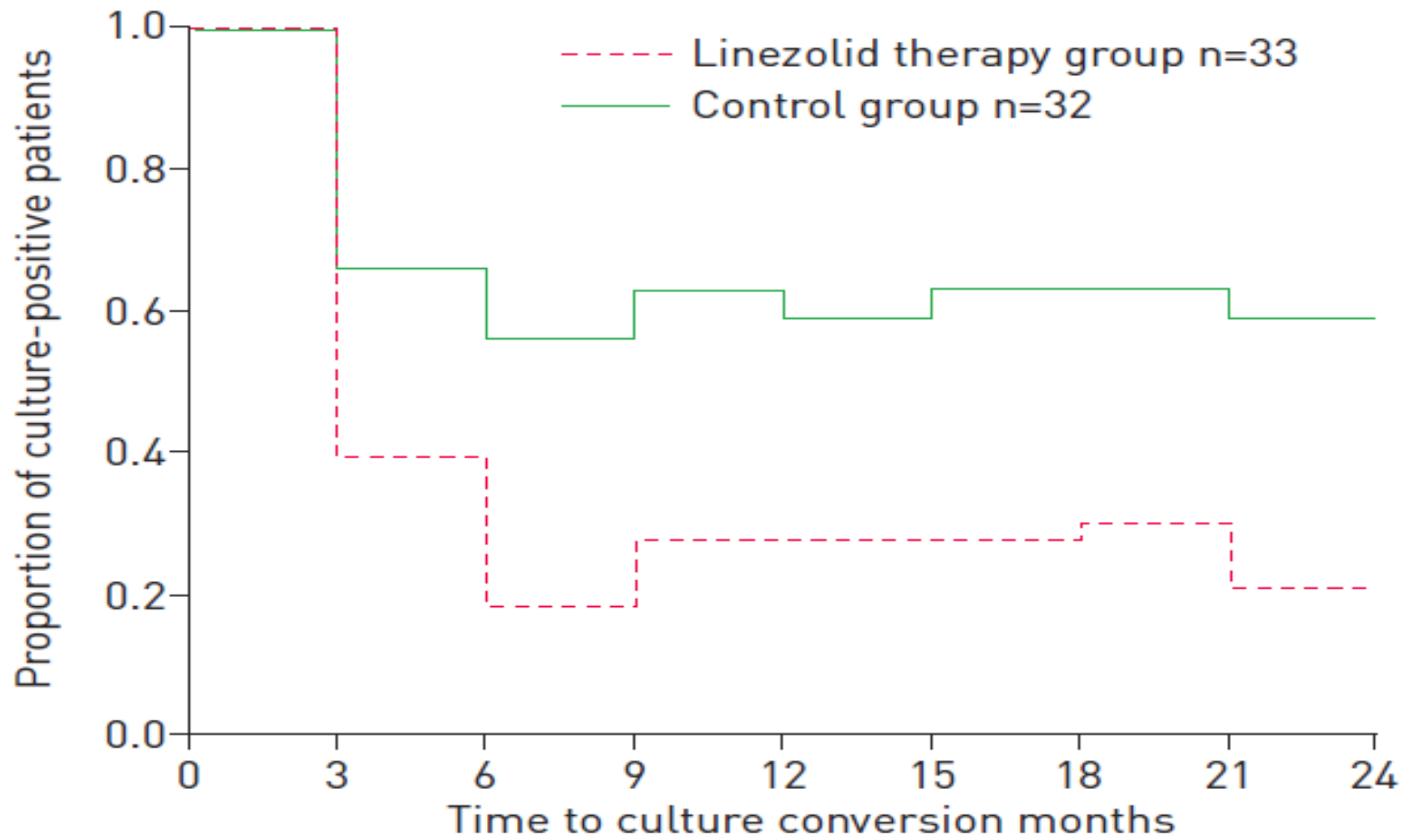
# Linezolid for XDR-TB



# Efficiency, safety and tolerability of linezolid for the treatment of XDR-TB: a study in china



# High Culture Conversion with Linezolid treatment



# LZD: for limited data to core agents

WHO 2011 TB drugs classification		WHO 2016 TB drugs classification	
GROUP 1. First-line oral anti-TB drugs	<div>Isoniazid</div> <div>Rifampicin</div> <div>Ethambutol</div> <div>Pyrazinamide</div>	GROUP A Fluoroquinolones	<div>Levofloxacin</div> <div>Moxifloxacin</div> <div>Gatifloxacin</div>
GROUP 2. Injectable anti-TB drugs (injectable or parenteral agents)	<div>Streptomycin</div> <div>Kanamycin</div> <div>Amikacin</div> <div>Capreomycin</div>	GROUP B Second-line injectable agents	<div>Amikacin</div> <div>Capreomycin</div> <div>Kanamycin (Streptomycin)</div>
GROUP 3. Fluoroquinolones	<div>Levofloxacin</div> <div>Moxifloxacin</div> <div>Gatifloxacin</div> <div>Ofloxacin</div>	GROUP C Other Core Second-line Agents	<div>Ethionamide/Prothionamide</div> <div>Cycloserine/Terizidone</div> <div>Linezolid</div> <div>Clofazimine</div>
GROUP 4. Oral bacteriostatic second-line anti-TB drugs	<div>Ethionamide/Prothionamide</div> <div>Cycloserine/Terizidone</div> <div>p-aminosalicylic acid (Bedaquiline)</div> <div>(Delamanid)</div> <div>Linezolid</div> <div>Clofazimine</div>	GROUP D Add-on agents (not core MDR-TB regimen components)	<div>D1</div> <div>Pyrazinamide</div> <div>Ethambutol</div> <div>High-dose isoniazid</div>
GROUP 5. Anti-TB drugs with limited data on efficacy and/or long-term safety in the treatment of drug-resistant TB	<div>Amoxicillin/Clavulanate</div> <div>Imipenem/Cilastatin</div> <div>Meropenem</div> <div>High-dose isoniazid</div> <div>Thioacetazone</div> <div>Clarithromycin</div>		<div>D2</div> <div>Bedaquiline</div> <div>Delamanid</div>
			<div>D3</div> <div>p-aminosalicylic acid</div> <div>Imipenem-Cilastatin</div> <div>Meropenem</div> <div>Amoxicillin-Clavulanate</div> <div>(Thioacetazone)</div>



Myrianthefs, P., et al. 2006

14 neurosurgical patients given linezolid  
at 600 mg twice daily (1h intravenous infusion)  
for the treatment of CNS infections caused by gram-positive pathogens.

TABLE 3. Mean ± SD steady-state CSF linezolid pharmacokinetic variables following intravenous administration of 600 mg twice daily to critically ill neurosurgical patients<sup>a</sup>

Patient no.	C <sub>max</sub> (µg/ml)	C <sub>min</sub> (µg/ml)	T <sub>max</sub> (h)	t <sub>1/2</sub> CSF <sup>b</sup> (h)	AUC <sub>CSF</sub> (µg · h/ml)	Ratio of AUC <sub>CSF</sub> to AUC <sub>serum</sub>
3	5.9	1.2	1.5	4.9	37.7	0.7
4	6.2	1.9	1.5	6.2	46.2	0.7
5	5.7	1.9	4	5.2	46.8	0.6
7	9.3	5.1	4	9.6	88.7	0.7
8	20.4	12.7	2.5	24.8	192.6	0.7
9	16.8	10.8	2.5	13.0	171.5	0.6
10	7.8	6.3	2.5	33.3	86.8	0.6
11	8.0	5.7	2.5	62.9	77.8	0.5
14	17.5	9.6	2.5	12.4	165.9	0.7
Mean	10.8	6.1	2.6	19.1	101.6	0.7
SD	5.7	4.2	0.9	19.0	59.6	0.1

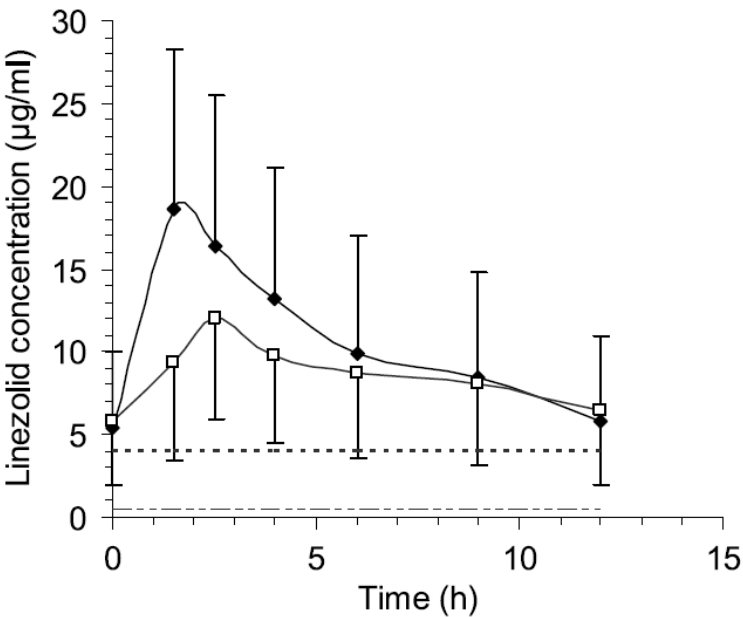
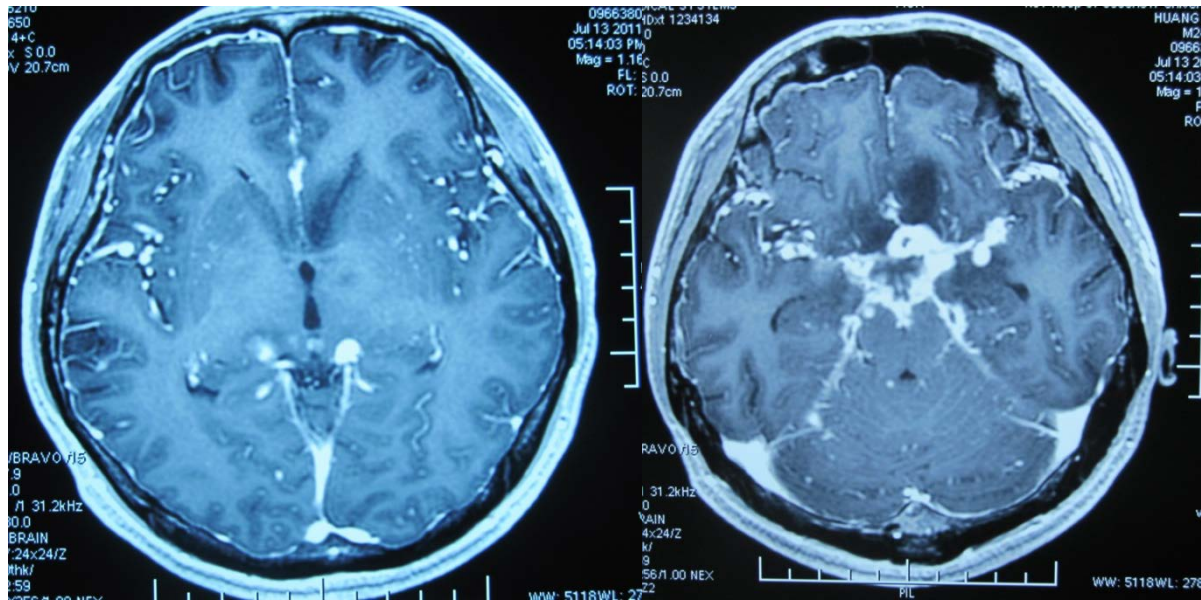


FIG. 1. Mean ± SD concentration-time profiles of linezolid in serum (◆; n = 14) and CSF (□; n = 9) after a study dose. The maximum inhibitory concentration (dotted line; 4 µg/ml) and the MIC (dashed line; 0.5 µg/ml) of linezolid for common pathogens are also shown (26).

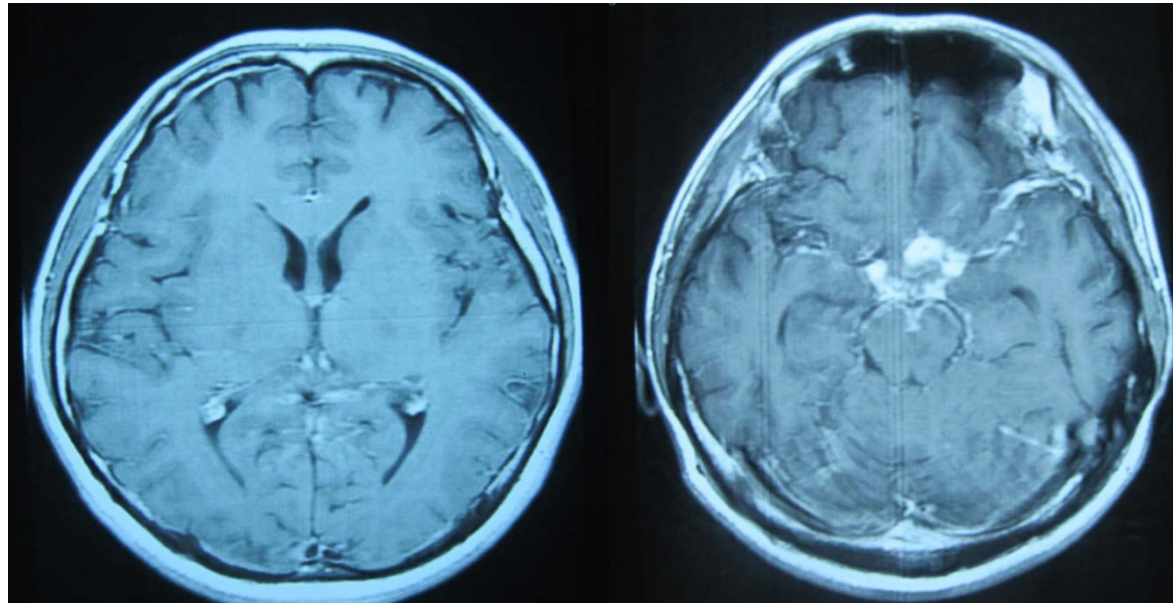
# First try of LZD in DR- TBM

2011.7

MDR-TBM  
HREZ plus Linezolid  
(1 month)



one month later





Two years later

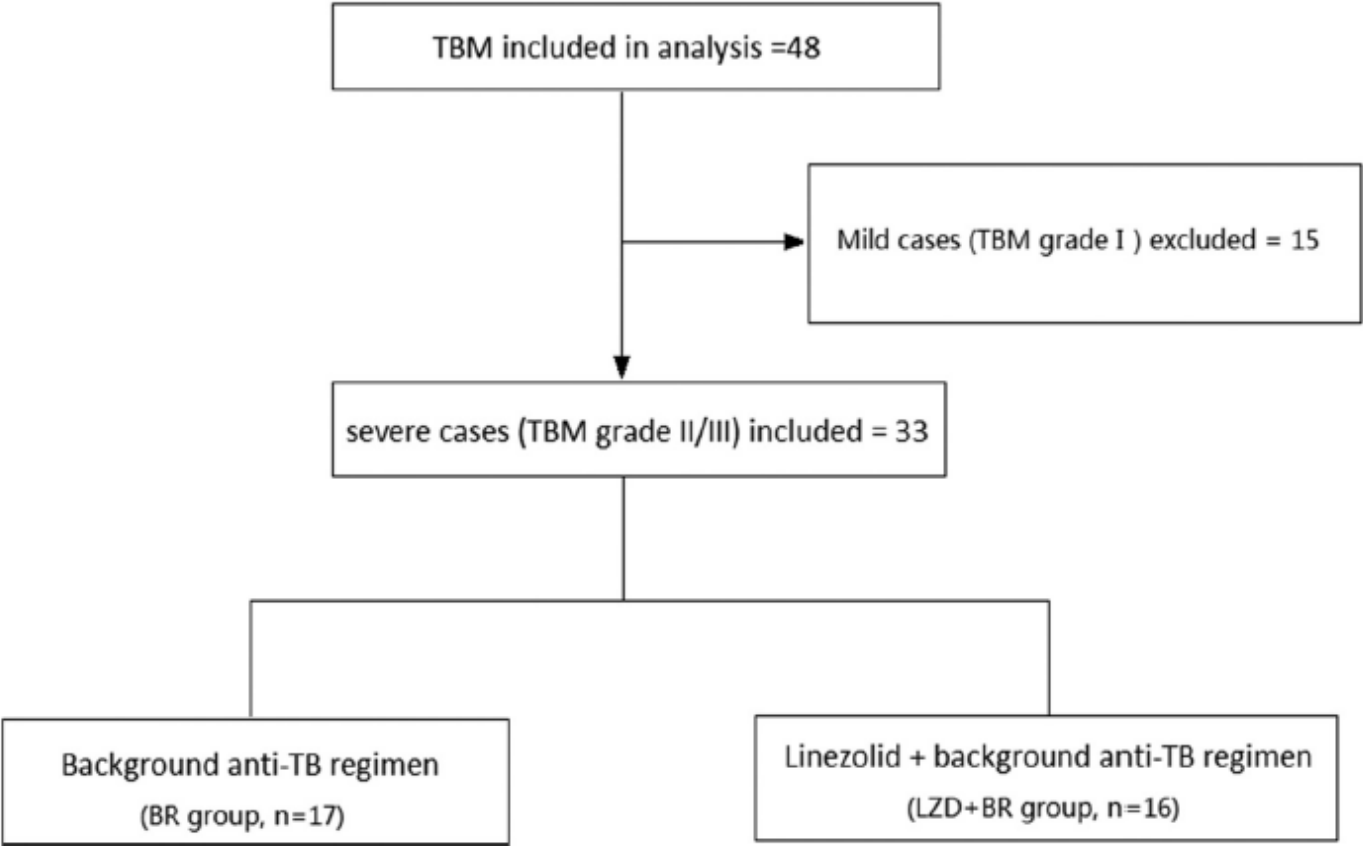


# LZD in Adult TBM Patients

Huashan hospital (2010-2012)

Retrospective cohort study

**33 TBM patients of MRC grade II/III**



# LZD in Adult TBM Patients

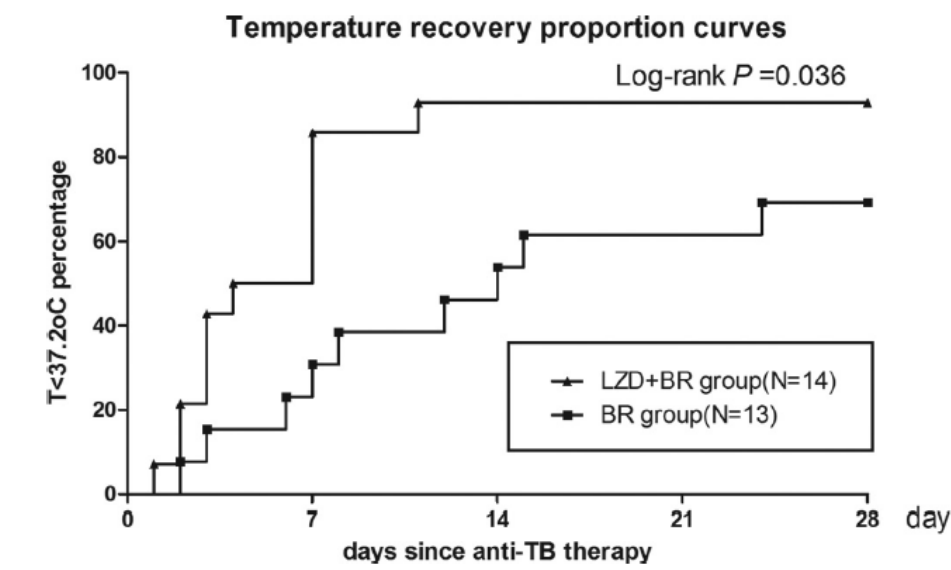
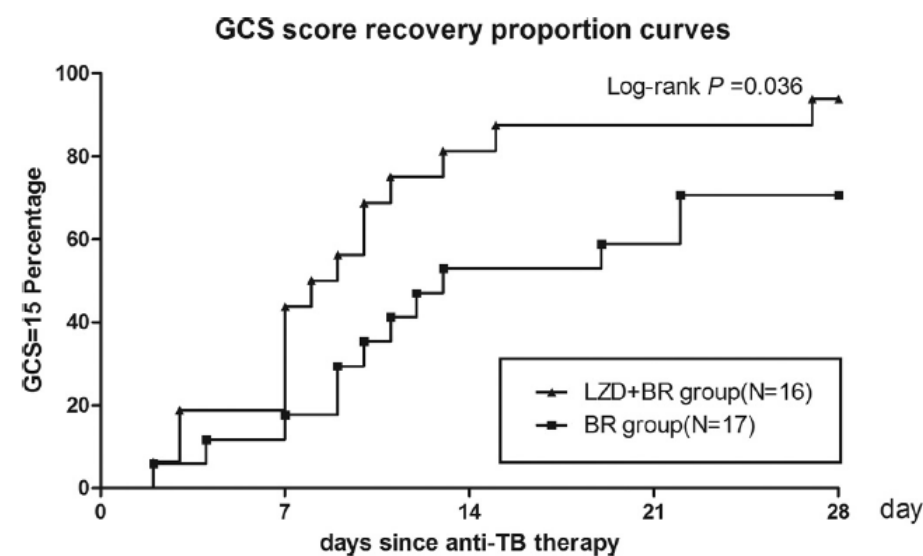


TABLE 2 Serial CSF findings in TBM patients from the LZD-BR and BR groups<sup>a</sup>

Finding	LZD-BR group data (median [IQR] <sup>c</sup> )	BR group data (median [IQR])	P value <sup>b</sup>
CSF/blood glucose ratio			
Baseline	0.26 (0.17–0.36)	0.28 (0.19–0.33)	0.79
After 2-wk treatment	0.29 (0.26–0.33)	0.33 (0.25–0.40)	0.35
After 4-wk treatment	0.40 (0.35–0.47)	0.34 (0.27–0.36)	0.04
CSF white blood cell count (×10 <sup>6</sup> /liter)			
Baseline	110 (50–255)	130 (52–250)	0.97
After 2-wk treatment	42 (9–80)	86 (25–120)	0.14
After 4-wk treatment	17 (8–40)	42 (23–105)	0.02
CSF protein concentration (g/liter)			
Baseline	2.23 (1.56–3.87)	1.55 (1.37–2.16)	0.10
After 2-wk treatment	1.44 (1.21–2.13)	1.33 (0.95–1.75)	0.55
After 4-wk treatment	1.07 (0.64–1.81)	1.41 (0.73–1.62)	0.52

## Result

Short-term LZD supplementation may be a more effective treatment for life-threatening TBM

# LZD in Childhood TBM Patients

**Beijing Children's Hospital**

**Retrospective cohort study**

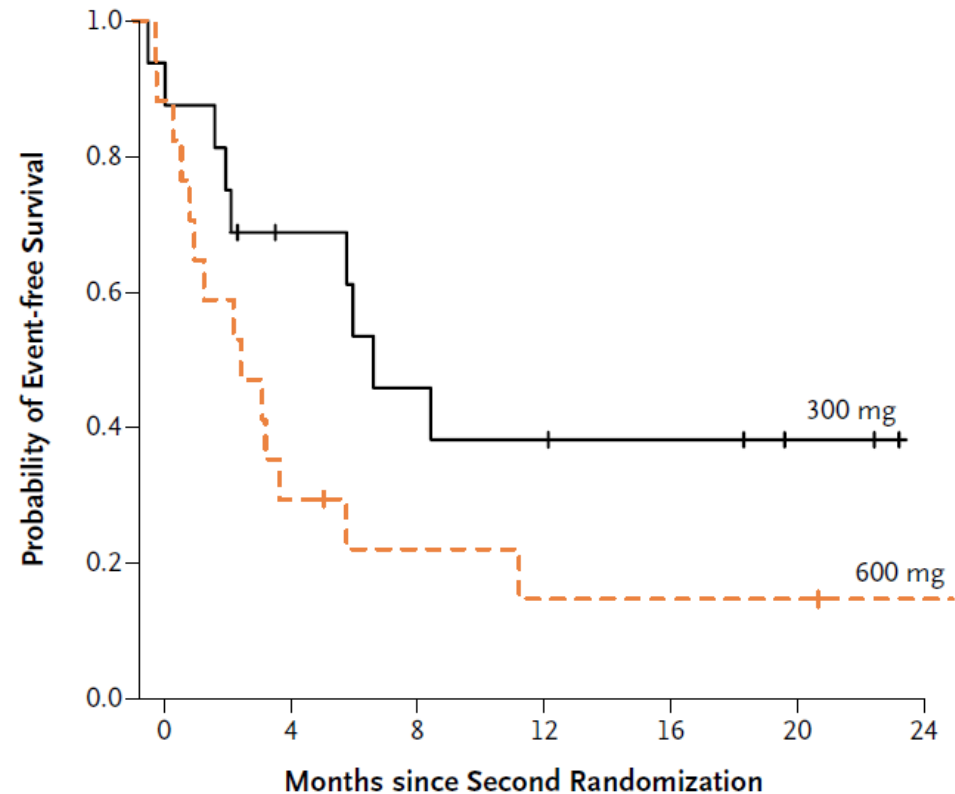
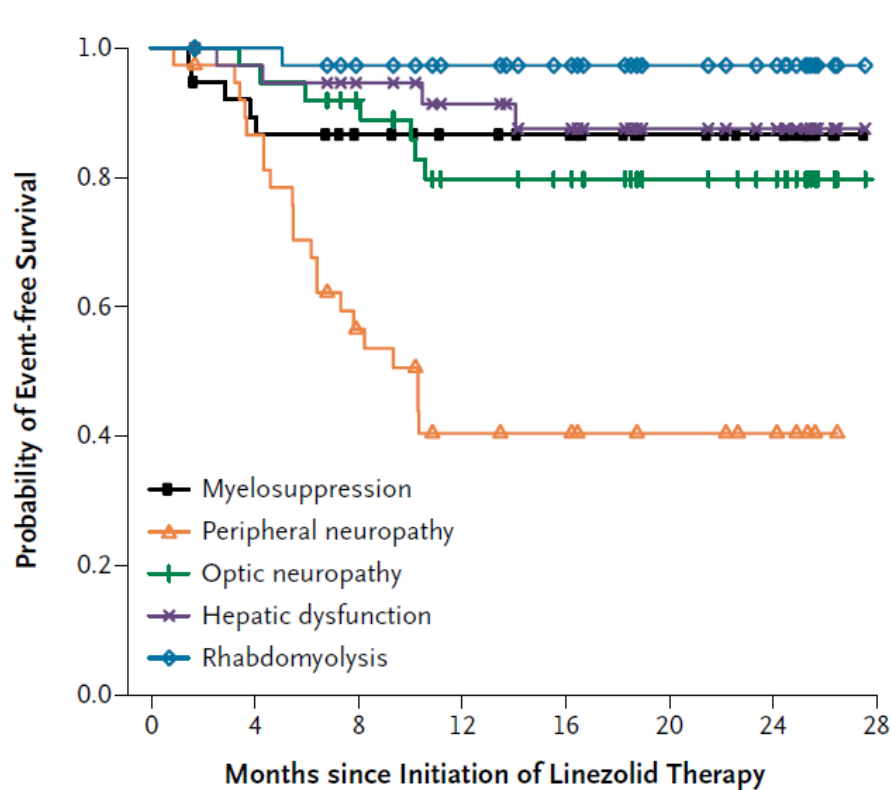
**86 childhood TBM patients younger than 15 years old**

LZD was administrated as the **supplementary drug** when the patients were treated by HRZ/HRZE for more than 2 weeks but their fever and neural symptoms had no improvement.

**TABLE 3.** Clinical Outcomes According to Different Treatment Regimens

Outcome and Group	Linezolid Group (n=36), No. (%)	Control Group (n=50), No. (%)	Relative Risk (95% Confidence Interval)	<i>P</i>
Outcome				
Favorable	32 (88.9)	35 (70.0)	1.00	—
Poor	4 (11.1)	15 (30.0)	3.43 (1.03–11.41)	0.037
Fever clearance time (wk)				
<1	18 (50.0)	6 (12.0)	1.00	—
1–4	12 (33.3)	18 (36.0)	4.50 (1.39–14.61)	0.010
>4	6 (16.7)	26 (52.0)	13.00 (3.61–46.82)	0.000
Duration time for hospital stays (mo)				
≤2	32 (88.9)	25 (50.0)	1.00	—
>2	4 (11.1)	25 (50.0)	8.00 (2.46–25.98)	0.000
Adverse event				
Yes	12 (33.3)	16 (32.0)	1.00	—
No	24 (66.7)	34 (68.0)	1.06 (0.43–2.65)	0.896

## ADRs of LZD is depended on the dosage: 0.3 vs 0.6 qd





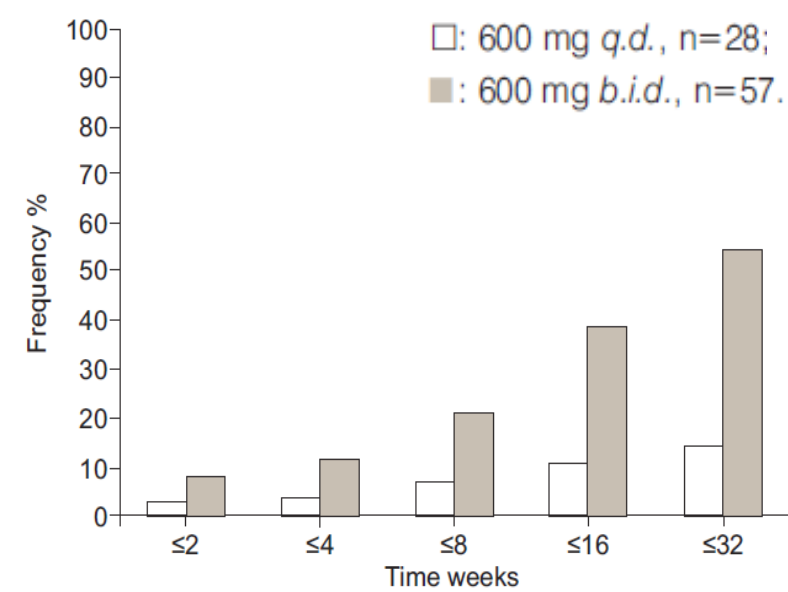
# ADRs of LZD 0.6 qd vs 0.6 bid

Migliori G B, et al. 2009

Retrospective cohort

195 MDR/XDR-TB patients

85 were treated with linezolid for a mean of 221 days.



**TABLE 1** Safety and tolerability of linezolid in patients treated for multidrug-resistant/extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis in Belarus, Germany, Italy and Switzerland, 2001–2007

	Total	600 mg q.d.	600 mg b.i.d.	p-value <sup>#</sup>
<b>Patients</b>				
Total n	85	28	57	
No adverse event	50 (58.8)	24 (85.7)	26 (45.6)	0.0004
Any adverse event	35 (41.2)	4 (14.3)	31 (54.4)	0.0004
Minor	8 (9.4)	0	8 (14)	
Major	27 (31.8)	4 (14.3)	23 (40.4)	0.01
<b>Episodes</b>				
Total n	52	5	47	
Anaemia	23 (44.2)	3 (60)	20 (42.5)	0.44
Thrombocytopenia	7 (13.5)	0 (0)	7 (14.9)	
Nausea/vomiting	4 (7.7)	1 (20)	3 (6.4)	0.25
Polyneuropathy	3 (5.8)	1 (20)	2 (4.3)	0.13
Others	15 (28.8)	0 (0)	15 (31.9)	

Data are presented as n (%), unless otherwise stated. <sup>#</sup>: comparison between 600 mg q.d. group and 600 mg b.i.d. group.

# Adverse events of LZD is associated with duration and dosage

## Haematologic toxicities

Thrombocytopenia  
Anemia

Reversible with  
cessation of drug  
or with lowering the  
dose of drug

## Optic neuropathy Lactic acidosis

Medical emergency

Reversible with  
cessation

## Peripheral neuropathy

May or may not  
improve with cessation  
of drug.

In ~1/3 of TBM  
patients using LZD at  
600mg bid for more  
than 2 month.

May or may not >90%  
of them did not  
resolve after at least 1  
year of cessation

# LZD for TBM: future treatment options

## LZD

Solid effect against Mtb

Good CSF penetration

Dramatic therapeutic effect in severe cases

ADRs relates to dosage and duration

## Indications

MRC grade II/III

No responding to traditional treatment

## Dosing

600mg bid or 600mg qd

## Duration of treatment

< 2 months



Acknowledgement

華山感染