RESISTANCE PATTERNS OF RIFAMPICIN RESISTANT M. TUBERCULOSIS STRAINS ISOLATED IN TAJIKISTAN

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CONCLUSIONS:

• MDR-TB is a major public health problem in Tajikistan affecting mainly the population in the most productive age.
• Analysis of resistance patterns of Rifampicin-resistant strains shows that in most of the cases (91.4%), it is associated with resistance to Isoniazid, which provides a rationale for use of Rifampicin resistance as a proxy for MDR-TB.
• Second-line resistance among Rifampicin resistant strains is also high, identifying pre-XDR and XDR in 30.5 % of all tested strains.
• Rapid, molecular tests for DST are a valuable tool for early detection of resistance to first and second line anti-TB drugs and should be applied directly in all Rifampicin resistant cases.