



MHSC

Mine Health and Safety Council

MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY

JOURNEY

MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL e-NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER: WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY

24 MARCH 2023

Tuberculosis (TB) remains one of the leading causes of ill health and death globally. The World Health Organization's WHO's Global TB report of 2022 reported that about 6.4 million TB notifications globally in 2021. This is an increase of 0.6 from the 5.8 million reported in 2020.

The report further found that TB continues to be fuelled by the HIV epidemic and socio-economic status and that adult men are at a higher risk of developing the disease.

What also remains evident is that South Africa is still among the 30 high burden TB countries. The country is also one of the 10 countries with a triple burden of TB, TB/HIV and MDR-TB.

The South African Mining Industry has on the other hand been performing well in line with

keeping the TB incidence rate below the national one, however more effort needs to be put into eliminating TB.

MITHAC is entrusted with advising the SAMI on matters related to TB and HIV and this is done through various ways such as the development and review of guidelines and guidance notes and also hosting and attending of various fora where TB and HIV is discussed. On an annual basis, MITHAC hosts the TB Day Commemoration in the month of March, in solidarity with the globe and the nation.

This has been a platform where the industry remembers those who died due to TB, where those with past/present TB are encouraged and to further educate the SAMI on TB and also encourage multi stakeholder collaborations.

UNDERSTANDING TB:

- Caused by a bacterium called Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
- Usually attack the lungs, but TB bacteria can attack any part of the body such as the kidney, spine, and brain.
- Two TB-related conditions exist: latent TB infection (LTBI) and TB disease.
- It is preventable, but
- If diagnosed and not treated properly, TB disease can be fatal.

03/2023



Mine Health and Safety Council

MHSC (MITHAC) TB DAY COMMEMORATION

2023 CAMPAIGN

THEME: YES! TOGETHER WE CAN END TB

Through MITHAC, the Mine Health and Safety Council, together with the tripartite stakeholders and strategic partners are commemorating the World TB Day throughout the month of March. In solidarity with the world and our nation, the 2023 World TB Day for the South African Mining Industry will be commemorated under the theme 'Yes! Together we can end TB'. It will take each of us to stop TB and end TB related deaths. Mines are encouraged to incorporate this theme in the respective 2023 TB campaigns.

- TB awareness campaign for the SAMI through identified Regional Tripartite Forums (RTFs) in the regions with high prevalence of TB.
- Awareness TB material (pamphlets, posters etc) disseminated at these RTFs and also online for easy access by the mines.
- Participating at the National Department of Health TB Day in the Bojanala district in the North West Province on 23 and 24 March 2023. Surrounding mines and communities will be engaged.
- Short, impactful video clips promoting TB awareness, which will be disseminated via social media platforms

The MHSC has developed awareness material to be disseminated to the mine workers and guidelines and guidance notes to be utilised in the mines. Contact communications@mhsc.org.za to receive the TB and HIV related material, or for future collaborations on campaigns aimed at promoting health and safety of the mine workers.

