



# Rifapentine access in Europe: growing concerns over key tuberculosis treatment component

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**Lack of access to rifapentine in Europe denies patients optimal care for active tuberculosis and latent tuberculosis infection, and deprives healthcare providers of adequate tools to pursue tuberculosis control and elimination** <https://bit.ly/3jz85eh>

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*To the Editor:*

Rifapentine, a synthetic derivative of rifampicin which was developed in 1965, has interesting pharmacological properties, including a long terminal half-life (13 h, compared to 2–3 h for rifampicin) and promising bactericidal activity against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Despite being approved in 1998 by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, its global use has been limited by unavailability. In the past decade, new evidence has emerged to define rifapentine as a key component for treatment of active disease and latent infection with *M. tuberculosis* (LTBI).