**Patient testimonies**

**TB-PRACTECAL: MSF clinical trial finds short, effective and safe drug-resistant tuberculosis treatment**

"My treatment course, six months, was short. There were difficult moments, but it's still better compared to a two-year course of treatment. When I was in the hospital, I talked to other guys who were also undergoing treatment. And they said, "Oh, we will be treated for two years, and you are only 6 months." I understood how they felt looking at them."

* Abdirahman, 24, completed the treatment for drug-resistant tuberculosis in the TB-PRACTECAL clinical trial in Nukus (Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan).
* *Photo: MSB107028*

“I was probably very lucky to participate in this trial. This treatment is shorter than the standard regimens, and I tolerated it really well. During the treatment, it was important to follow all the rules and doctors’ advice, but everything was explained to us in a clear way. I would like to say a special thank you to people who brought me to this – the doctors, nurses who explained the treatment to us in accessible way, were caring and always in touch.”

* Anastasia, 26, TB-PRACTECAL trial participant in Minsk, Belarus

“I was one of the first participants in the TB Practecal clinical trial. In a way, we were learning how and what to do along with our doctors and nurses. It was a very special experience of collaboration. Ethical issues were always considered during the treatment. We received the fullest support both in terms of information and protection of our rights, as well as psychosocial support. The medical staff were always ready to answer our questions and explain different nuances, and they always did it in a considerate way. I wish to express my gratitude to the medical staff, the sponsors and organizers of the trial program, of course, to the team of researchers who developed these drugs and regimens, to the management of the site where I received my treatment, and my peer patients for their friendship and mutual support.”

* Olga, 42, TB-PRACTECAL trial participant in Minsk, Belarus

“[The shorter treatment] would mean a lot as I think when you are on treatment, some parts of your life feel like they are put on hold. Before [the trial] gave me hope, I couldn’t even see the slightest glimpse of recovering from MDR-TB.”

* Awande, TB-PRACTECAL trial participant at the THINK Hillcrest Clinical Trial Unit in South Africa.
* *Photo: MSB107027*