



The Union

**Joint GLI-GDI Workshop:
Novel treatment regimen and
DST methods**

COURSE INFORMATION

Date: Tuesday 22 November 2022

Time: 14:00 to 17:00 CEST

Registration link for course:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtdOuqqD0qHt16hbCtFI7v_PByUVH9Pdux

Detection, treatment, and care of individuals with TB continue to be a challenge, particularly in settings with a high burden of disease and weakened healthcare infrastructure. More recently, the COVID-19 pandemic has added complex layers of stress to health systems worldwide, hampering progress in the fight against TB. The Global Laboratory Initiative (GLI) and the Global Drug-Resistant TB Initiative (GDI) are working towards strengthening laboratory and clinical management capacity for the programmatic management of TB.

Through this workshop participants will be able to :

- Explore the challenges encountered in countries
- Steer the discussion on how to address these as protect progress in the fight against TB

Session sponsor: World Health Organization

Chairs: Dr. Marguerite Massinga, Africa CDC and ASLM and Dr. Sarabjit Chadha, The Foundation For Innovative New Diagnostics

Coordinators: Medea Gegia, WHO and Carl Nathanson, WHO

Target audience: NTP managers, Laboratory specialists, TB clinicians, Nurses, Community health care workers

Ignacio Monedero (Spain): Approach to DR-TB management in conflict areas. Priorities and lessons learned from the EMRO region

On this lecture, we present the interim analysis of a GDI study that pretends to capture lessons learnt in the expansion of DR-TB in countries under conflict. There will be a description on the scope of the problem in the EMRO region and the interaction between conflicts, disruption of basic services and the impact in DR-TB care, incidence, mortality and transmission. However, there had also been successful experiences. The results obtained on the yield of different activities and technologies to better plan and be successful in future similar circumstances will be presented.

Alberto Roggi (Italy): Short treatment regimen: uptake, benefit and challenges in Damien Foundation supporting countries

This presentation will show the impact and key points of the implementation of Short Treatment Regimen for drug resistant TB patients in some countries supported technically and financially by the Damien Foundation. Results obtained and considerations with the use of injectables in the treatment regimen will be shown, as well as the different steps for the transition to the all-oral regimen. Special attention will be given to the diagnostic capacity of the different countries and the availability of sensitivity/resistance profiles of patient samples during all treatment phases.

Sophia Georghiou (United States): The TB diagnostic gaps undermining current regimens

Novel treatment regimens have the potential to accelerate WHO End TB efforts, with an increasing number of new and repurposed compounds either recommended or undergoing evaluation. However, the efficacy of these regimens remains dependent on the detection and/or rule-out of resistance to key drug compounds prior to initiating treatment. In the context of currently recommended TB treatment regimens, and considering the importance of optimal drug susceptibility testing data in guiding TB treatment, key diagnostic gaps are identified and evaluated.

Shaheed Vally Omar (South Africa): Country experience of use of DST for drug resistant TB

An overview of the South African TB diagnostic landscape advancement to adapt to the introduction of new drugs as well as implementation of newer diagnostic technologies to improve and strengthen the National TB programme.

BIOGRAPHIES OF CHAIRS & SPEAKERS



Dr. Marguerite Massinga Marguerite Massinga Loembe is a senior laboratory advisor with Africa CDC and ASLM, overseeing laboratory networks and systems strengthening. She is a member of the Stop TB Partnership Global Laboratory Initiative (GLI) core group, and a rGLC laboratory consultant for programmatic management of drug resistant tuberculosis. Dr Massinga Loembe has 18 years' experience working at the interface of clinical research and national laboratory systems reinforcement for better infectious diseases control. She aims at fostering better linkages between researchers, policy makers and national health authorities to ensure better uptake of new recommendations, technologies and scale up new diagnostic tools.



Dr. Sarabjit Chada Sarabjit Chadha is a clinician by training with over 15 years of experience treating TB (including drug resistance TB) and public health. Earlier, he worked with International Union Against TB and Lung Disease (The Union) as Deputy Regional Director heading the TB and Communicable Diseases Unit for South-East Asia, and currently, he is working with Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) as the Regional Technical Director for India and South East Asia. In addition, he serves as the Chair of the Global Drug-Resistant TB Initiative and is also a Core Group member of the Global Laboratory Initiative.



Dr. Ignacio Monedero is a Senior TB Advisor at The Global Fund. In this role, she is involved in providing technical advice on investment of Global Fund resources to Global Fund teams and grant implementers and works closely with national programs and technical partners. Grania has previously worked for The International Union Against TB and Lung Disease (The Union) as the Director of TB, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Access Campaign as a TB Advisor and with Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) in Uganda, and in Banda Ache, Indonesia with Medic Global Sikhs. Grania studied medicine at University of Aberdeen and completed her specialist training in general and respiratory medicine in the UK.



Dr Alberto Roggi Dr Alberto Roggi PhD, MD, specialised in infectious disease. He has worked for the University of Brescia, a WHO Collaborating Centre, as technical Advisor for the National TB Program of Burkina Faso. He has joined The Union in 2015 as a consultant to provide technical assistance to National TB Programs in some African developing countries. Since 2018 he has been working for Damien Foundation as medical advisor for projects in African and Asian countries. He is the organisation's focal point for TB infection control.



Dr Sophia Georghiou Sophia is a molecular epidemiologist with postgraduate training in molecular biology (MS) and global health (PhD) from the University of California San Diego. She has over a decade of infectious disease research experience, working with many different academic institutions, clinical laboratories and industry partners, and has contributed to a diversity of NTD, HIV and TB research projects. Sophia joined the TB program at FIND in August of 2016. Her work has informed WHO review and guideline development group meetings as well as technical documents for the use and implementation of TB diagnostics.



Dr Shaheed Vally Omar I hold a PhD in Medical Microbiology and focused on Mycobacterium tuberculosis research for over a decade. I am currently the Acting Head of the Centre for Tuberculosis at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, South Africa. I lead diagnostic evaluations; drug resistance surveillance; molecular epidemiology, and the application of novel technologies for these purposes. I have been instrumental in the implementation laboratory applications for diagnosis and surveillance shaping our capacity to include advanced phenotypic testing and next-generation sequencing applications. I serve on several local and international TB consortia and committees advising policy guidance.
