



The Union

Post-Graduate Course

Post Graduate Course

# Ending the TB pandemic with innovative and updated WHO TB recommendations

# COURSE INFORMATION

Date: **Thursday 13 October 2022**

Time: **14:00 to 17:00 CEST**

Registration link for course: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcof-qurTOiGtRyy8NGWZelgon8Mbcxu129>

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**The objectives of the course is to provide updates on the development, adaptation and implementation of the WHO evidence-based recommendations on prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and care of tuberculosis.**

**After attending this workshop participants will be able to:**

- Understand and keep up-to-date with the WHO evidenced-based recommendations in various aspects of TB management, including prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and care;
- Be updated with the innovations in implementation of the End TB strategy; and
- Have chance to discuss and understand various aspects on the adoption and implementation of the recommendations at the national level and in routine practice on clinical and programmatic management of TB.

**Session sponsor:** World Health Organization, Global Tuberculosis Programme

**Chairs:** Matteo Zignol, WHO and Norbert Ndjeka TB Control & Management, National Department of Health South Africa

**Coordinators:** Fuad Mirzayev, WHO and Linh Nguyen, WHO

**Target audience:** Health professionals, physicians, nurses, TB programme managers, policy-makers, donors, academia, civil society, NGOs, international technical partners

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**Dennis Falzon (Geneva, Switzerland): Rapid access to TB guidance and implementation aids: the WHO TB Knowledge Sharing Platform, recommendation mapping and e-learning modules**

The COVID-19 pandemic has accentuated the importance of rapid access to WHO guidance on essential health services like tuberculosis (TB). The presentation will highlight the key features of the WHO TB Knowledge Sharing Platform (“KSP”) launched in 2021 (<https://extranet.who.int/tbknowledge>) and its continued development since then with an offline instance for desktops when there is no Internet, interactive algorithms and dose calculators, access to training modules, and language interfaces. In addition, the KSP provides access to a database of WHO TB recommendations that permits quick access to their text and associated evidence.

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**Cecily Miller (Geneva, Switzerland); Avinash Kanchar (Geneva, Switzerland): Current recommendations and implementation of TB screening and prevention**

This talk will present the current WHO recommendations for systematic screening for TB disease (updated 2021) and for programmatic management of TB preventive treatment (updated 2020), as well as accompanying operational guidance, including digital tools for planning and implementation, to facilitate an integrated approach to country adoption and scale-up. Current progress in implementation will also be discussed, especially the uptake of TB preventive treatment globally.

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**Nazir Ismail (Geneva, Switzerland): Current recommendations on TB diagnostics**

This presentation will summarize the latest recommendations on diagnostics for TB disease and cover the new consolidated guidelines on tests for TB infection. The 2022 diagnostic guidelines include new recommendations on the use of TB antigen-based skin tests for the diagnosis of TB infection.

This new class of tests is an important new addition that uses the same principle as the existing Tuberculin Skin Test but uses specific Mycobacterium tuberculosis antigens. Key highlights from the accompanying new operational handbook will also be included.

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**Fuad Mirzayev (Geneva, Switzerland): Current recommendations on TB treatment and care**

This presentation will focus on the new recommendations on TB treatment of drug-susceptible and drug-resistant tuberculosis in the newly updated WHO Consolidated guidelines on tuberculosis. The treatment guideline update in 2022 includes new recommendations on the use of 4-month regimen for treatment of drug-susceptible TB. The presentation also provides updates on the upcoming updates of the drug-resistant TB treatment guidelines and upcoming release of the WHO consolidated guidelines and operational handbook on TB care and support.

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**Kerri Viney (Geneva, Switzerland); Annabel Baddeley (Geneva, Switzerland): Current recommendations on the management of TB in children and adolescents, and a new framework for collaborative action on TB and comorbidities**

This presentation will focus on WHO policy updates on the management of TB in children and adolescents and the management of TB and comorbidities. The new consolidated guidelines on the management of TB in children and adolescents feature new recommendations on TB diagnosis, treatment and models of TB care. The Framework for Collaborative Action on TB and Comorbidities aims to support countries in the evidence-informed introduction and scale-up of holistic people-centred services for TB and comorbidities. Future plans to update WHO guidance on TB and comorbidities and TB among vulnerable populations will also be presented.



# CHAIRS AND SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES



**Matteo Zignol** Dr Matteo Zignol is an infectious disease specialist and clinical epidemiologist, who joined the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2003. At WHO he coordinated activities related to drug resistance surveillance and managed a multi-country project on the use of genetic sequencing for surveillance purposes. Currently, as the Head of the TB Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Care & Innovation Unit of the WHO Global TB Programme, Dr Zignol leads the work on the development of new policies for universal access to diagnosis, treatment and care; as well as helping shape the TB research agenda and innovation.



**Norbert Ndjeka** Dr Norbert Ndjeka serves as the Chief Director TB Control and Management, under the National Department of Health in South Africa. He is a Specialist Family Physician with interest in TB and HIV. He has authored a numerous paper in peer-reviewed journals. He is currently the Chairperson of the Afro-GLC (African Green Light Committee), a committee that advises WHO on how to manage drug-resistant tuberculosis. He recently (July 2021) received an Honorary Doctorate from UCT in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the fight against DR-TB locally and globally. He was recently (January 2022) nominated as Honorary Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Cape Town.



**Dennis Falzon** Dr Dennis Falzon works at the Global TB Programme of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland. Before joining WHO in 2008 he was a medical epidemiologist at the EuroTB surveillance project in France, and earlier worked in public health in state and non-governmental sectors. Dr Falzon currently leads a team working on TB prevention and innovation. He is involved in guidance on the treatment of TB disease and TB infection and TB prevention; TB/COVID-19; the integration of digital technologies in support of the End TB Strategy; innovations in TB care and guidance; and evidence gathering.



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**Cecily Miller** Dr Cecily Miller is an epidemiologist and Technical Officer in the TB Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Care & Innovation unit at WHO's Global TB Programme in Geneva. Her focus is on screening for TB and digital innovations in TB care. Prior to joining the WHO she worked for 10 years in the Center for TB at the University of California San Francisco, focused on clinical and programmatic research on TB diagnosis and screening interventions and in global health education.



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**Avinash Kanchar** Dr Avinash Kanchar currently works as a Medical Officer in the TB Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Care & Innovation unit at WHO's Global TB Programme in Geneva, concentrating on TB policy development and country support for the implementation of TB preventive treatment and TB infection prevention and control. His medical degree was focused on preventive and social medicine, and prior to joining WHO he worked as WHO field consultant for national TB and HIV programmes in India for 10 years. He contributed to the development of several WHO documents, the latest being the WHO operational handbook on TB preventive treatment.



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**Nazir Ismail** Dr Nazir Ismail is a Team Leader in the TB Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Care and Innovation Unit at WHO's Global TB Department in Geneva, Switzerland. He leads the team responsible for the development of global policies, norms and standards in the field of TB Diagnosis and Laboratory Strengthening. He is the former Head of the Centre for Tuberculosis at the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) in South Africa. A medical doctor by training that specialized in microbiological pathology. He has special interests in novel diagnostics, epidemiology, public health responses and transmission of TB.



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**Fuad Mirzayev** Dr Fuad Mirzayev leads the Treatment team of the World Health Organization Global TB Programme (WHO/GTB) Unit for TB Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Care and Innovation. He joined the WHO in 2004 and his main areas of work were drug-resistant tuberculosis, access to second line anti-TB medicines, coordination of multi-country projects to expand access to innovative TB diagnostics and new TB medicines and policy development on TB infection prevention and control and treatment of drug-resistant TB. Prior to joining WHO he has worked for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

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**Kerri Viney** Dr Kerri Viney is a Team Lead in the Vulnerable Populations, Communities and Co-morbidities Unit, Global TB Programme, WHO. She leads the team responsible for the Global TB Programme's work on vulnerable populations, TB-HIV and co-morbidities. She has a background in public health and holds a PhD from Australian National University. She has expertise in the programmatic management of tuberculosis with a focus on vulnerable populations and co-morbidities; in global infectious diseases policy development and the translation of research into policy.

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**Annabel Baddeley** Annabel Baddeley is a Technical Officer working in the Vulnerable Populations, Communities and Comorbidities unit of WHO's Global TB Programme which she joined in 2010. Her work focuses primarily on the development of normative guidance on TB/HIV and comorbidities, global monitoring and evaluation of the joint burden and of TB/HIV collaborative activities, and on support to countries in the scale-up of policy on integrated action on TB, HIV, and other health-related risk factors for TB morbidity and mortality. Ms Baddeley holds an MSc in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

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