

New solutions for TB management during and after the COVID-19 pandemic: Updated WHO TB recommendations

Date: Tuesday, 28 September 2021

Time: 13:00 to 16:00 CEST

Registration link for course:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rdemupzlvG9Aj7_2EjsOVRuCVg81G_Mih

Objectives of the course: The course will provide updates on the development, adoption and implementation of the WHO evidence-based recommendations on various aspects of prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and care of tuberculosis.

Expected outcomes:

- Participants of the course will 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.
- Participants will stay updated with the innovations in implementation of the End TB strategy.
- Additionally, there will be a 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: Dr Matteo Zignol, WHO and Prof Charles Daley, National Jewish Health

Coordinators: Dr Linh Nguyen, WHO and Kerri Viney, WHO

Target audience: Physicians, nurses, public health professionals, NTP managers, policy-makers, academia, international technical partners, civil society, NGOs, donors

Speakers:

Dennis Falzon, WHO: Rapid access to TB guidance and implementation aids: the WHO TB Knowledge Sharing Platform & recommendation mapping

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 developed in 2020-2021 to disseminate WHO recommendations and implementation aids more effectively. This tool, available for both desktops and mobile devices, allows users to search, scroll and customize content to their needs. In addition, WHO has created a database of recommendations that permits quick access to the recommendations text and the associated evidence.

Cecily Miller, WHO; Avinash Kanchar, WHO: Updated recommendations on TB screening and prevention

This talk will present the latest WHO recommendations for systematic screening for TB disease, updated March 2021, and for programmatic management of TB preventive treatment, highlighting the synergy of screening and preventive treatment for ending TB. The new recommendations for TB screening include novel TB screening tools such as computer-aided detection software for use with chest x-ray, C-reactive protein for people living with HIV, and molecular WHO-recommended rapid diagnostic tests as screening tools. Accompanying operational guidance for screening and preventive treatment will also be presented, including algorithms and digital tools for implementation to facilitate an integrated approach to country adoption.

Nazir Ismail, WHO; Fuad Mirzayev, WHO: Updated recommendations on TB diagnosis and treatment

This presentation will focus on the new recommendations on TB diagnostics and treatment of drug-susceptible tuberculosis in the newly updated WHO Consolidated guidelines on tuberculosis. The 2021 diagnostic guidelines include new recommendations on initial tests for simultaneous detection of rifampicin and isoniazid resistance and follow-on tests for the rapid detection of fluoroquinolones and pyrazinamide resistance. The treatment guideline update in 2021 includes new recommendations on the use of 4-month regimen for treatment of drug-susceptible TB. The presentation also provides updates on the upcoming review of the drug-resistant TB treatment guidelines.

Kerri Viney, WHO; Ernesto Jaramillo, WHO: Updated recommendations on the management of TB in children and adolescents and guidance on TB ethics and palliative care

WHO's Global Tuberculosis Programme is currently updating the Guidance for national tuberculosis programmes on the management of tuberculosis in children (2014). Priority questions being

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addressed include diagnostic approaches using Xpert Ultra, treatment decision algorithms, shortened treatment for children with non-severe TB, the treatment of TB meningitis, treatment of drug-resistant TB and models of care. The updated guidelines will be released in late 2021. TB disease and its treatment negatively affects quality of life and adds suffering to vulnerable populations. Palliative consists of all measures complementing recommended treatment, aimed at relief suffering of TB patients, especially when treatment options are limited.

Yana Terleeva, National Tuberculosis Control Program in Ukraine; Mike Frick, TAG: National TB programme and community perspectives on rapid adoption of new approaches to TB management

The presentation will address aspects of WHO guideline adoption and implementation at the country level, with an example of Ukraine, that needs to take into account all important aspects such as local context, costs, training needs and involvement of various stakeholders. The presentation will also address how TB-affected communities and civil society use WHO guidelines to 1) build demand for new TB tools and services; 2) improve treatment literacy among people with and at risk of TB; and 3) push for policy alignment between global and local standards of care.

Chairs and Speaker biographies

**Chair: 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.

**Chair: Charles Daley**

Dr Daley is Professor of Medicine at National Jewish Health, the University of Colorado, and Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He is Chief of the Division of Mycobacterial and Respiratory Infections. He has served on and chaired expert panels for WHO, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Infectious Diseases Society of America and American Thoracic Society. He has participated on multiple guideline panels for these organizations including guidelines that address diagnosis, treatment (drug-susceptible and drug resistant) and prevention of tuberculosis. His academic interests include TB global health policy and clinical and translational research in TB and NTM infections.

**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 worked as a medical epidemiologist at the EuroTB surveillance project in France, and previously worked in public health in both state and non-governmental sectors. Dr Falzon currently leads a team working on TB prevention, research and innovation. He has been involved in guidance on the treatment of TB disease and TB infection; the integration of digital technologies in efforts to support the End TB Strategy; novel methods to disseminate guidance; and operational research on TB innovations.

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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.



Avinash Kanchar

Dr. Avinash Kanchar is MD in preventive and Social Medicine who works as Medical Officer in the TB Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Care & Innovation unit at WHO's Global TB Programme in Geneva. His focus is policy development and implementation support for programmatic management of TB preventive treatment. Prior to joining WHO he worked as WHO field consultant for national TB and HIV programmes in India for 10 years. He contributed to development of several WHO documents, latest being the WHO operational handbook for TB preventive treatment.



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 passing his fellowship with distinction. 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.



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. T



Ernesto Jaramillo

Dr Ernesto Jaramillo is a Medical Officer at the WHO Global TB Programme, trained in medicine and surgery (1990, Universidad del Valle, Cali, Colombia), with a PhD in Health Education (1998, University of London, London, UK). His professional career in TB ranges clinical and programmatic management of TB and MDR-TB and operational

and social science research. Global policy on MDR-TB prevention, care and control has been at the centre of his work in the last twenty-five years; 19 of them at the WHO Global TB Programme. where he has been editor of several policy documents on TB treatment and care.

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Yana Terleeva

Yana Terleeva is currently the head of the National Tuberculosis Control Program in Ukraine, a qualified phthisiatrician with specialization in organization and management in the field of health protection. For over 15 years she has been working in the field of combating tuberculosis. Since 2012 I have been working in government structures at the national level, including as a grant manager for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Dr Terleeva is the head of the department for coordinating tuberculosis diagnostics and treatment programs at the Public Health Center of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.



Mike Frick

Mike Frick co-directs TAG's tuberculosis program where he leads TAG's advocacy to support universal access to TB prevention, including research to develop new TB vaccines and preventive therapies; research to track global funding for TB research and development; and work to define and apply the human right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress to advance TB research and access. Mike holds a BA in international studies from Kenyon College and an MSc in global health and population from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.