GREETINGS!

This is one of the hardest greetings to write – The energy and excitement for our World TB Day activities are tempered by the loss of TB giant Paul Farmer and the invasion of Ukraine. As we all know, war will further challenge our ability to #EndTB. Please take a moment to grieve; take a pause if you feel overwhelmed, because we need to redouble our efforts!! To help with that, we’d encourage you to join our annual meeting on the 4th and our first media advocacy workshop on the 9th (details below, along with an above-average list of events;). Bring friends along!

THE COMPREHENSIVE DC UPDATE

Call your Senators and Representatives!

The Comprehensive TB Elimination Act of 2021 has now been reintroduced in both the Senate and in the House of Representatives. This reauthorizing bill is meant to fund domestic TB programs and focus TB elimination and research resources on priority populations in the US. Please read more about the legislature here and join the effort to gain cosponsors for the bill by contacting your senators and representatives. A sample script and instructions can be found on our website.

2022 Global Fund Replenishment Conference

The United States will be hosting the 2022 Global Fund Replenishment Conference for the first time! Read about the investment case from the Global Fund and from the Friends of the Global Fight. The Friends of the Global Fight are asking the Biden Administration for a pledge of a minimum of $6 billion to the Global Fund over the 2023-25 replenishment cycle and for Congress to appropriate a minimum of $2 billion to the Global Fund for the 2023 fiscal year.

Stay tuned for more information, new action alerts, and updates related to this landmark event. If you want to be active, we have a Global Fund Replenishment Work Group, just email us at leadership@stopbusa.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Annual Stop TB USA Membership Meeting will take place virtually during the NAR conference on March 4th, 10:30-11:30AM EST. All are welcome to attend! Registration for the NAR conference is not required. Be prepared for great guest speakers (and a catch up on our latest activities)!

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83702744231?pwd=TFhBSVJjSGtwbUVKTTkxM2Z6ZVJPDz09

Meeting ID: 837 0274 4231

Passcode: 404239
We are also holding a **Media Advocacy Training Workshop** on March 9th, 5:00-6:15PM EST. Join to learn some great skills and prepare to submit media pieces around World TB Day. This training will include how to write a Letter to the Editor and we will discuss what is or isn’t appropriate for a public health TB worker who is employed by a government entity to write and submit. Please register via this link.

**Rifampin Shortage:** CDC is receiving reports of interruptions or shortfalls of the rifampin supply in U.S. jurisdictions. CDC and the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association (NTCA) remain in communication with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to stay abreast of this situation. If you encounter a new shortage or stockout of rifampin, we encourage you to complete a standard reporting form (found on the NTCA website). We also encourage reporting to FDA at drugshortages@fda.hhs.gov.

Our Chair-Elect Cynthia Tschampl gave TB background for Seattle Channel 5 and our latest partners - the young innovators Ria and Pragnya, who are collaborating with us within our Media Work Group. Read more about their efforts here.

**WHO:** Public call for whole genome sequencing and phenotypic data from clinical isolates of *M. tuberculosis complex*, deadline for submissions is May 31st, 2022. Email Carl-Michael Nathanson (nathansonc@who.int) at the Global TB Program, WHO, with the subject line “TB mutation catalogue”.

Applications for Stop TB Partnership Challenge Facility for Civil Society Round 11 are now open! The award is USD 9 million for civil society and communities from TB High Burden Countries. Deadline to submit applications is March 14th, 2022 (18:00 Central European Time).

**HIGHLIGHTED TB REPORTS/UPDATES**

- IN MEMORIUM: Dr. Awe and Dr. Blok
- IN MEMORIUM: Dr. Paul Farmer
- TB Elimination Alliance Impact Report 2020-2021
- FACT SHEET: The Biden Administration’s Commitment to Global Health
- Progress and challenges *en route* to improved tuberculosis treatment
- WHO: What is the evidence on existing national policies and guidelines for delivering effective tuberculosis, HIV and viral hepatitis services for refugees and migrants among Member States of the WHO European Region? (2022)
- European Commitments to TB R&D Investments: Promises Made to Be Broken?

*Read more reports and updates on our website page ‘From TB Wire’!*

**TB IN THE NEWS**

- **Opinion:** The pandemic crushed treatment for other diseases. But it may give us an edge in the future.
- **Before COVID, TB was the world's worst pathogen. It's still a 'monster' killer**
- ‘Phantom Plague’ Review: Tuberculosis Past, and Future
- Beyond the Booster Shot [on the broader benefits of vaccines such as BCG]
- Georgia Tech: TB on campus raises concern from Stamps
- Decreased notification of TB cases during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Impact of COVID-19 on extrapulmonary TB and the benefit of decentralised TB services
- Inmate dies at Bexar County jail due to COVID-19 complications, authorities say

*Read lots more TB news on our website page ‘TB in the News’!*
TB RESOURCES

CDC World TB Day 2022

CDC has developed resources, including a news and events timeline and a digital media toolkit, to recognize World TB Day on March 24th. Join CDC in commemorating the progress towards TB elimination, as well as learning what needs to be done to end TB in the United States, and abroad.

Provisional CDC Guidance for the Use of Pretomanid as part of a Regimen [Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, and Linezolid (BPaL)] to Treat Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis Disease.

CDC has released “Provisional Guidance for the Use of Pretomanid as part of a Regimen [Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, and Linezolid (BPaL)] to Treat Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis Disease”. The guidance includes considerations for clinicians, dosing and administration, precautions and adverse event monitoring, microbiologic monitoring, and more. CDC encourages clinicians, pharmacists, and public health professionals to review the new provisional guidance. Clinicians can contact state and local TB control offices and TB Centers for Excellence for Training, Education and Medical Consultation for additional information on diagnosing and treating drug-resistant TB disease.

- The Mantoux Tuberculin Skin Test Wall Chart
- Building Resilience: Keeping Mentally Healthy to Keep Moving Forward
- Pediatric Tuberculosis Research and Development: Progress, Priorities and Funding Opportunities
- Can Patents Affect Access to TB Preventative Treatment
- The Global Fund: Seventh Replenishment Investment Case
  - Social Media Toolkit

Find more TB resources on our website page ‘TB Resources’!

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Biomarkers That Correlate with Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis Treatment Response: a Systematic Review and Meta-analysis
- Building the Evidence for a Rights-Based, People-Centered, Gender-Transformative Tuberculosis Response: An Analysis of the Stop TB Partnership Community, Rights, and Gender Tuberculosis Assessment
- Incomplete contact investigation and risk of developing TB among healthcare professionals
- Determinants of treatment outcomes in patients with multidrug-resistant TB
- Treatment outcomes and safety in children with rifampicin-resistant TB
- Paediatric admissions to a TB hospital: reasons for admission, clinical profile and outcomes

Discover many more peer-reviewed articles on our website page ‘Peer-Reviewed Publications’!

COURSES/WORKSHOPS

March 9th, 5:00-6:15PM EST – Stop TB USA Media Advocacy Training Workshop – Register here!
The Union: Programmatic and Clinical Management of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis

EVENTS, MEETINGS, & CONFERENCES

March 2nd, 13:30-15:00 CET – WHO #EndTB Webinar: Tuberculosis Prevention and Care Among Refugees and Other Populations in Humanitarian Settings

March 2nd-5th, 2022 – Annual TB Conference: The Union – NAR

March 4th, 10:30-11:30AM EST – Annual Stop TB USA Membership Meeting – Save this link!

March 15th, 2022 – Breathe Pennsylvania's 2022 Tuberculosis Conference

March 18th, 2022 – New York City World TB Day 2022 - Virtual Conference

March 18th, 2022 – Social Justice & the TB Epidemic: it is time to invest in human rights

March 24th, 2022 – Annual Thomas Q. Garvey Public Health Lecture

March 24th, 2022 – UCSF Center for Tuberculosis and Curry International Tuberculosis Center World TB Day Symposium

May 13th-18th, 2022 – American Thoracic Society International Conference

May 23rd-26th, 2022 – NTCA 2022 National TB Conference - TB Elimination: Back in Focus

Stop TB USA: Where we unite to #EndTB!

Please consider supporting our efforts.

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