



**End  
TB.**

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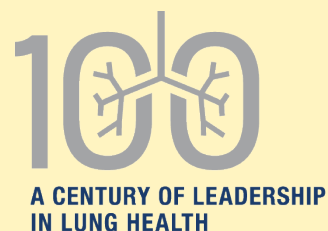
**VIRTUAL TB CONFERENCE**

**FEB 24 - 27**

**The Union - North America Region**

## SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS:

**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
LUNG ASSOCIATION**



## EDUCATIONAL GRANTS PROVIDED BY:

Pittsfield Anti-Tuberculosis Foundation

## FOR POST-CONFERENCE INQUIRIES CONTACT:

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# CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of Curry International Tuberculosis Center and The Union-North America Region. The International Tuberculosis Center is accredited by ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The activity is approved for up to 19 continuing education credits.

The Curry International Tuberculosis Center designates this educational activity up to **19 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The Curry International Center is approved as a provider of continuing education by the California State Board of Registered Nursing, Provider CEP 12308. This educational conference is approved for up to 19 continuing education hours. Board requirements prevent us from offering CE credit to people who arrive more than 15 minutes after the start of the training or leave the training early. Therefore, partial credit will not be awarded.

Certificates will be available on the Curry International Tuberculosis Center website approximately twelve weeks after the educational conference to all participants who successfully complete the training. Successful completion includes attending the entire educational conference and completing an online evaluation. To view your certificate, you will need to go to the training page on the Curry International Tuberculosis Center [www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/trainings](http://www.currytbcenter.ucsf.edu/trainings), log in and click on “training history”.

All CME recipients will be contacted 4 months after the course to assist with long-term evaluation activities.

# M E S S A G E S



## C. ROBERT HORSBURGH, MD

PRESIDENT, THE UNION-NORTH AMERICA REGION

We welcome you to the 25th Annual Meeting of The Union-North America Region – Our first in a virtual format! We have an exciting program that addresses current issues and controversies confronting TB and lung disease in North America and around the globe. We have scheduled the sessions to maximize the ability of viewers to see and hear them in real time, but we have also developed an archiving function so that you can view them at your leisure. As always, the meeting also highlights the work of promising junior investigators from throughout the North America Region. We look forward to interacting with you and learning about the capacity of this new communication technique.

## SARAH BRODE, MD

2021 PROGRAM CHAIR/VICE PRESIDENT



We hope you will join us online for the END TB: 25th Annual Conference of The Union – North America Region! Our multidisciplinary planning committee has assembled an engaging lineup of speakers that will cover timely topics in TB prevention and care, including the impacts of COVID-19 on TB prevention, care, and research, digital health and applications in TB, post-TB morbidity and mortality, the latest clinical advances in latent, active, and pediatric TB, and TB science. We are also thrilled to include keynote addresses from Dr. William Burman on lessons learned from COVID-19 and Dr. Frank Cobelens on biomarker-based testing for incipient TB. As in prior years, the program will also include a session on challenging clinical TB cases chaired by a multidisciplinary expert panel. We also hope you will join us early for our free pre-conference postgraduate course on the role of the laboratory in the diagnosis and management of TB. We look forward to welcoming you online, along with a diverse group of TB advocates, survivors, scientists, clinicians, and program managers, to virtually network and discuss the latest in TB.

# COMMITTEES

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Geneva, Switzerland

**Digby Warner, PhD**

Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular  
Medicine  
University of Cape Town Observatory, South Africa

## THE GEORGE COMSTOCK LECTURE

The George Comstock Lecture acknowledges Dr. Comstock's pioneering work and leadership over many decades. His direct and personal involvement in advanced research of tuberculosis spanned the period of early BCG trials to the modern era of molecular biology. His steadfast advocacy and tremendous depth of wisdom solidly based on experience was a guiding force for all health workers in the various fields of tuberculosis research all around the world, not only in the United States. His mentorship led us to many fruitful investments in research in tuberculosis prevention. This year's George Comstock Lecture is presented by Prof. Frank Cobelens.



### PROF. FRANK COBELENS

Frank Cobelens is Professor of Global Health at the Amsterdam University Medical Centers, The Netherlands. Trained as a physician he worked in infectious disease control and tropical and travel medicine before starting as an international research consultant with KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation, a globally operating NGO, of which he later became scientific director. He holds PhD in infectious disease epidemiology.

His scientific interest is in multidisciplinary approaches to problems at the interface of biomedical aspects of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, their socioeconomic context and control policy, combining classical epidemiology with operational research and cost-effectiveness modeling. Recent work focuses on TB diagnostics, including tests for incipient TB, and evaluation of novel interventions for TB control.

Frank Cobelens has supervised numerous junior researchers and doctoral students at home and abroad, has served on several global expert panels for TB and is one of the initiators and scientific co-chairs of The Union's TB Science conference.

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## THE BEYOND TB LECTURE

When The Union was founded in 1920, the organizers rallied around the dream of eliminating tuberculosis as a public health threat. Since that time, we have seen the development and implementation of the DOTS strategy, the identification of linkages between poverty and TB, and the introduction of new technologies. Yet, TB remains a global threat. The Beyond TB Lecture of The Union-NAR conference serves to focus attention on forces outside the traditional TB world, assisting us to look beyond the usual partners, usual paths, and usual solutions to innovation and novel public health strategies to achieve our goal - A World Free of TB. This year's Beyond TB Lecture will be presented by Dr. William Burman.

### DR. WILLIAM J BURMAN



Dr. Bill Burman, is passionate about using the size and breadth of Denver Public Health to improve health in our community. He leverages the hospital's resources in his current role as director of Denver Health's Public Health department. He also teaches about infectious diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Bill joined Denver Public Health in 1995 as an infectious disease physician and was promoted to director in 2011. His early career focused on research to improve clinical care and treatment of persons with HIV and tuberculosis. He then shifted to developing effective community collaborations to address key health challenges in Denver.

Notable achievements include leading the successful expansion of health insurance coverage in Denver through the Affordable Care Act and creating collaborative efforts to decrease health disparities in the community: The Mile-High Health Alliance (a collaboration of medical, behavioral and social service providers in Denver) and the Denver Metro Partnership for Health (a collaboration of public health agencies across the metro area).

# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Each year, The Union-North America Region recognizes the valuable contributions of our colleagues working in the field of tuberculosis control and prevention. The Lifetime Achievement Award is the highest award of the region. It is given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of TB over a lifetime. This year's recipients are Dr. Jeffrey Starke and Dr. Richard Chaisson.



## DR. JEFFREY STARKE

Jeffrey R. Starke, M.D. is a Professor of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. He graduated with a B.Sc. degree from Brown University in 1976, and received his M.D. from the University of Rochester in 1980. After completing a residency in pediatrics and fellowship in pediatric infectious diseases, he joined the Baylor faculty where he has remained. His major area of study has been tuberculosis in children, having cared for over 1,000 children with TB disease. He is an author of over 150 papers and 40 chapters on childhood tuberculosis, and is the editor of the multi-authored international book "Handbook of Child and Adolescent Tuberculosis". He has served on numerous expert and guideline writing groups for the American Thoracic Society [ATS], Infectious Disease Society of America, American Academy of Pediatrics [AAP], the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], and World Health Organization. He served two terms and is a past chairman of the CDC Advisory Council for the Elimination of Tuberculosis. He has been active in medical education, having given over 100 national and international presentations on tuberculosis. He has won many teaching awards at his home institution including the Robertson Award, the highest education award given by Baylor College of Medicine.

# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

## DR. RICHARD CHAISSON



Richard E. Chaisson, M.D., is Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology, and International Health and directs the Center for AIDS Research and the Center for Tuberculosis Research at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, MD, USA. His research interests focus on tuberculosis and HIV infection, including epidemiology and natural history, clinical trials, diagnostics, and population-level interventions. He plays a leading role in a number of TB networks, including the ACTG and TBTC. Dr. Chaisson has published over 500 scientific papers and chapters, and his Handbook of Tuberculosis, co-edited with Jacques Grosset, was published in 2017.

# EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARD

The Union-North America Region (NAR) Early Career Investigator Award was established in 2019 by the North America Region Executive Committee to recognize an early career researcher for work in tuberculosis (TB) within the first five years of their academic appointment/independent professional career. This year's recipient is Dr. Ruvandhi Nathavitharana.



## DR. RUVANDHI NATHAVITHARANA

Dr. Ruvandhi Nathavitharana is a TB researcher and attending physician in Infectious Diseases at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and an Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Nathavitharana's research interests center around the use of implementation science to optimize TB diagnostic algorithms to decrease TB transmission and improve TB care delivery in high TB incidence countries, with a focus on Peru and South Africa. She is primarily funded by an NIH K23 Career Development Award and ASTMH Burroughs Wellcome Fellowship. Dr. Nathavitharana has served as a technical expert analyzing data to inform WHO guideline development group panel recommendations on the use of line probe assays for the diagnosis of TB and the impact of the urine lipoarabinomannan test. Dr. Nathavitharana is also the Vice Chair of TB Proof, an advocacy organization based in South Africa that seeks to destigmatize TB and mobilize national and global resources to end TB.

# P R O G R A M

## DATE / TIME (PST)

## TOPIC / SPEAKERS

Wednesday, February 24

### **POSTGRADUATE COURSE**

**CHAIRS: Dr. Max Salfinger, Dr. Connie Haley**

1:00pm - 1:05pm

*Welcome and Overview*

Max Salfinger, MD, FAAM, FIDSA, ATSF & Connie Haley, MD

1:05pm - 1:35pm

*The Role of the Laboratory in the Diagnosis & Management of TB*

Angela Starks, PhD & Beverly Metchock, DrPH

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### **CASE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LAB - Angela Starks, PhD & Beverly Metchock, DrPH**

1:35pm - 2:15pm

*Diagnostic Challenges*

Amee Patrawalla, MD & Connie Haley, MD

2:15pm - 2:25pm

BREAK

2:25pm - 3:30 pm

*Resistance Testing & Interpretation of Discordant Test Results*

Lisa Chen, MD, Lisa Armitige, MD & Barbara Seaworth, MD

3:30pm - 3:40pm

BREAK

3:40pm - 4:05pm

*The Role of MICs in Optimizing TB Treatment*

Connie Haley, MD & Marie-Claire Rowlinson, PhD, D(ABMM)

4:05pm - 4:15pm

*Q&A and Wrap up*

Max Salfinger, MD, FAAM, FIDSA, ATSF & Connie Haley, MD



# P R O G R A M

## DATE / TIME (PST)

## TOPIC / SPEAKERS

Thursday, February 25 - Morning Session

### ***WELCOMING REMARKS***

Dr. Robert Horsburgh - President of NAR

Dr. Sarah Brode - Vice-President and Program Chair

8:00am - 8:30am

Patient Perspective - Ms. Dhana Hamal, Baltimore, MD, USA

8:30am - 9:30am

### ***BEYOND TB LECTURE: (KEYNOTE)***

*From TB to the Pandemic - Back to the Basics of Public Health*

Dr. William J. Burman, Denver Public Health, Denver, CO, USA

9:30am - 9:35am

### ***STOP TB SESSION: COVID AND TB***

***CHAIRS: Dr. Elizabeth Rea, Dr. Randall Reves, and Dr. Cynthia Tschapl***

*Introduction*

Elizabeth Rea, MD, Toronto Public Health, Toronto, ON, Canada

9:35am - 10:05am

*The Devastating Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on TB Care and Research.*

Dr. Madhukar Pai, McGill International Tuberculosis Centre, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

# P R O G R A M

## DATE / TIME (PST)

## TOPIC / SPEAKERS

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### Thursday, February 25 - Morning Session

10:05am - 10:15am

***ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION:***

*How is the COVID-19 Pandemic Affecting Tuberculosis Surveillance in the United States?*  
Molly Deutsch-Feldman, ScM, PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, USA

10:15am - 10:35am

Break

10:35am - 11:05am

*Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 on TB and TB Programs - The Role of the Global Fund*  
Dr. Eliud Wandwalo, Global Funds to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, Geneva, Switzerland

11:05am - 11:35am

*Current Threats to LTBI Care*  
Dr. Hanna Haptu, Lynn Health Center, Lynn, MA, USA

11:35am - 12:00pm

*TB Expertise to the Rescue: Contact Tracing for COVID-19*  
Dr. Lisa Chen, Curry International Tuberculosis Center, Berkeley, CA, USA

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12:00pm - 1:00pm

***Industry-Sponsored Satellite Symposium (Oxford Immunotec)***  
*Diagnosing TB with IGRAs: Answers to Important FAQs*  
Roy F. Chemaly, MD, MPH, FIDSA, FACP, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA

Moderator: Carmen Sierra, DNP, MBA RN

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### Thursday, February 25 - Afternoon Session

***NURSING SPONSORED SESSION: DIGITAL HEALTH, TELEMEDICINE, AND TUBERCULOSIS: AN UPDATE CHAIRS: Dr. Joan Mangan, Ms. Shaila Jiwa, Ms. Carolyn Bargman***

1:00pm - 1:10pm

*Welcome and Overview*  
Dr. Joan Mangan

# P R O G R A M

## DATE / TIME (PST)

## TOPIC / SPEAKERS

1:10pm - 1:30pm

*Results of the eDOT Study: An Evaluation of Traditional In-Person Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) and Electronic Forms of DOT for TB Treatment*  
Dr. Joseph Burzynski, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, USA

1:30pm - 1:50pm

*The VMALT Study: Video DOT for Monitoring Adherence to LTBI*  
Dr. Richard S. Garfein, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA, USA

1:50pm - 2:10pm

Break

2:10pm - 2:30pm

*Adopting and Adapting Virtual Health for TB Care in British Columbia*  
Ms. Devon Haag, BC Centre for Disease Control Vancouver, BC, Canada

2:30pm - 2:50pm

*Digital Adherence Technology and TB Care Delivery: What Gaps in Information Still Exist? What Is on the Horizon?*  
Dr. Ramnath Subbaraman, Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, USA

2:50pm - 3:00pm

**ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION:**  
*Chest X-Rays Analyzed by Artificial Intelligence-Based Software as Triage Tests for Pulmonary Tuberculosis: An Individual Patient Data Meta-Analysis of Diagnostic Accuracy for Detection of Microbiologically-Confirmed Disease ®*  
Gamuchirai Tavaziva, MScPH, BSE, McGill International Tuberculosis Centre, Montréal, QC, Canada

3:00pm - 3:30pm

Panel Discussion/Question and Answer

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Poster Session #1

4:30pm - 5:30pm

Awards Ceremony and 25th Anniversary Reception

# P R O G R A M

## DATE / TIME (PST)

## TOPIC / SPEAKERS

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### Friday, February 26 - Morning Session

7:30 am - 8:30am

Stop TB Canada/USA Meeting

***POST-TB MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY***

***CHAIRS: Dr. James Johnston and Dr. Jonathan Golub***

8:30am - 8:35am

Introduction

Dr. Jonathan Golub

8:35am - 9:05am

*Pulmonary Complications of TB*

Dr. Akshay Gupte, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA

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9:05am - 9:35am

*Extrapulmonary Complications*

Dr. James Johnston, BC Centre for Disease Control, Vancouver, BC, Canada

9:35am - 10:05am

*Potential Interventions to Reduce Post-TB Sequelae*

Professor Robert Wallis, Aurum Institute, Johannesburg, SA

10:05am - 10:35am

*The Fourth 90*

Dr. Anthony Harries, The Union, Paris, France

10:35am - 10:45am

***ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION:***

*Depression Risk Trends Before and After TB*

*Treatment: Longitudinal Analysis of a South African TB Patient Cohort*

Sarah Weber, BS, Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA, USA

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10:45am - 11:00am

Break

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11:00am - 12:00pm

***THE GEORGE COMSTOCK LECTURE (KEYNOTE)***

*Biomarker-based Testing for Incipient TB*

Professor Frank Cobelens, Global Health at the Amsterdam University Medical Centers, Amsterdam, Netherlands

# P R O G R A M

## DATE / TIME (PST)

## TOPIC / SPEAKERS

12:00pm - 1:00pm

***INDUSTRY-SPONSORED SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM  
(QIAGEN)***

*Tuberculosis and Cardiovascular Disease*

Moises A. Huaman, MD MSc, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

Moderators: Ms. Elizabeth Jimenez and Mr. Neil Grossman

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### Friday, February 26 - Afternoon Session

***CLINICAL TB UPDATE***

***CHAIRS: Dr. Lisa V. Adams, Dr. Terence Chorba***

1:00pm - 1:40pm

*Updates on Rifapentine-based Treatment Shortening Regimens for Active Tuberculosis: TBTC Study 31/A5349*

Dr. Payam Nahid, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA

1:40pm - 2:10pm

*Designing Better Clinical Trials to End TB: Practical Examples of Recent Innovations*

Dr. Patrick Phillips, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA

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2:10pm - 2:20pm

Break

2:20pm - 2:50pm

*Clinical Trials for Treatment of Latent TB Infection: The Current State of Affairs*

Dr. Timothy R. Sterling, The Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health, Nashville, TN, USA

2:50pm - 3:15pm

*Implementing BPaL in U.S. TB Programs - Developing a Science and Laboratory-informed Approach to Clinical Care*

Dr. Connie Haley, Southeastern National TB Center, Gainesville, FL, USA

3:15pm - 3:25pm

***ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION:***

*Primary Care Providers Knowledge, Attitudes, and Skills Regarding Latent Tuberculosis Infection Testing and Treatment in Rhode Island, USA*

Daria Szkwarko, DO, MPH, Brown University, Providence, RI, USA

# P R O G R A M

DATE / TIME (PST)

TOPIC / SPEAKERS

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Poster Session #2

## Saturday, February 27 - Morning Session

8:00am - 9:30am

***CHALLENGING TB CASES - JOINT MEDICAL, NURSING, AND PUBLIC HEALTH***  
***CHAIRS: Dr. Victoria Cook, Dr. Sapna Morris, Dr. Alfred Lardizabal, Dr. Elizabeth Talbot, and Ms. Cheryl Giffin***

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### ***PEDIATRICS***

***CHAIRS: Dr. Rachel Dwilow, Dr. Ian Kitai, Dr. Lisa Armitige***

9:30am - 9:40am

*Pediatric TB in North America Region - In A Few Words*  
Dr. Ian Kitai, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON, Canada

9:40am - 9:50am

*Pediatric Clinical Vignette*  
Dr. Lisa Armitige, Heartland National TB Center, San Antonio, TX, USA

9:50am - 10:15am

*An Update on the Global Burden of TB in Children and a Whistle - Stop Tour of Developments in Diagnostics*  
Dr. James A. Seddon, Imperial College of London, Norfolk, UK

# P R O G R A M

DATE / TIME (PST)	TOPIC / SPEAKERS
10:15am - 10:25am	Break
10:25am - 10:50am	<i>The Clinical Application of Emerging Data on Antituberculosis Drug Pharmacokinetics and Dosing in Children</i> Dr. Anthony Garcia-Pratts, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA
10:50am - 11:15am	<i>PK/PD Modeling in TB Meningitis</i> Dr. Rada Savic, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA
11:15am - 11:50am	Panel Discussion
11:50am - 12:00pm	<b>ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION:</b> <i>Spatial Characterization of Pediatric Tuberculosis in Ukraine Using Geographic Information System</i> Michal Rajski, BA, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, RI, USA
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Annual General Meeting (Including Presentation from Union Paris)
<b>Saturday, February 27 - Afternoon Session</b>	<b>TB SCIENCE</b> <b>CHAIRS: Dr. Karen Jacobson and Dr. Amy Barczak</b>
1:00pm - 1:05pm	Introduction
1:05pm - 1:30pm	<i>Beyond Bacterial Burden: A New Molecular Approach to Evaluating Treatment Efficacy</i> Dr. Nicholas Walter, University Colorado, Denver, CO, USA

# P R O G R A M

DATE / TIME (PST)	TOPIC / SPEAKERS
1:30pm - 1:55pm	<i>The Role of M. tuberculosis Within the Host Heterogeneity: Can It Inform TB Patient Care?</i> Dr. Maha Farhat, Department of Biomedical Informatics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA
1:55pm - 2:20pm	<i>Immunologic Characteristics of Highly TB-Exposed Persons Who Fail to Become Infected</i> Dr. Chetan Seshadri, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA, USA
2:20pm - 2:45pm	<i>Catching Bacilli in Flight: Towards Understanding Who Releases Mycobacterium tuberculosis, When and Where</i> Professor Digby Warner, Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine, UCT, Observatory, South Africa
2:45pm - 2:55pm	<b>ORAL ABSTRACT PRESENTATION:</b> <i>Gene Expression Profile of Individuals Recently Infected with Mycobacterium Tuberculosis</i> Mariana Herrera Diaz, MSc, PhD, Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Medellin, Antioquia, Colombia
3:00pm - 3:15pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
3:15pm - 4:15pm	Post Conference Meeting



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