

Feb
25-28

30th
Annual
Conference

The Union-North
America Region
The Westin
Philadelphia, USA



International Union Against
Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
North America Region



University of California
San Francisco



CURRY
INTERNATIONAL
TUBERCULOSIS
CENTER

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Postgraduate Courses:

Updates in Nontuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM) -Ballroom I & II

Chairs: Dr. Sarah Brode and Dr. Max Salfinger

9:00-12:00 pm

9:00-9:30 **Laboratory Approaches to Identification of NTM and Approach to NTM Outbreaks**
Dr. Adrian Zelazny, NIH Clinical Centre, Bethesda, MD, USA

9:30-10:00 **NTM Epidemiology and the Environment**
Dr. Theodore Marras, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Can

10:00-10:30 **BREAK**

10:30-11:00 **Management of *Mycobacterium avium* complex and *Mycobacterium abscessus***
Pamela McShane, National Health Institute, Bethesda, MD, USA

11:00-11:30 **New and Emerging NTM Therapies**
Dr. Charles Daley, National Jewish Health, Denver, CO, USA

11:30-12:00 **Panel questions and discussion**

Practical Tools and Approaches for Conducting TB Contact Investigations -Ballroom I & II

Chairs: Ms. Anita Khilall and Mr. Derrick Felix

1:00-4:00 pm

1:00-1:05 **Introduction**

1:05-1:35 **TB Outbreak in Long Term Care Setting**

Ms. Amy Painter, South Carolina Dept. of Public Health, Columbia, SC, USA

1:35-2:05 **Source Case Investigation in a Daycare**

Ms. Kristin Bertrang, Nebraska Dept. of Health and Human Services, Lincoln, NB, USA



2:05-2:20 **BREAK**

2:20-2:50 **Contact Investigations in the Setting of Multiple Households and the Importance of Community Partnership**

Mr. Dayson Marar, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Topeka, KS, USA

Ms. Dawn Tuckey, Global Tuberculosis Institute, Newark, NJ, USA

2:50-3:20 **Genotyping and Epidemiologic Linkages in Contact Investigation**

Ms. Camille Dollinger, California Department of Public Health, Bay Area, CA, USA

3:20-3:50 **Panel questions and discussion**

TB Survivors' Meeting

1:00–4:00 pm

TB Research Advancement Centers (TRACs) and Early Career Investigator's Workshop -Ballroom I & II

Chair: Dr. Jonathan Golub

5:00–8:00 pm

In person workshop for junior investigators to present research and engage with senior researchers.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

Welcome/Opening of the Conference -Ballroom I & II

Welcome Address:

Dr. James Johnston, President, the Union-NAR

Dr. Rachel Dwilow, 2026 Program Chair and Vice-President, the Union NAR

Survivor's Perspective – Mr. Derrick Mapp

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The George Comstock Lecture

Revisiting TB Elimination Efforts in the Era of AI and Drug Resistance.

Dr. Carole Mitnick, *Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA*

9:00–9:50 am

Session 1: Stop TB Session: *Global Political and Financial Shifts: Impact on TB Communities and a Collective Action Response*

Chairs: Dr. Elizabeth Rea and Dr. Cynthia Tschampl

10:00–11:50 am

10:00-10:05 **Introduction**

Dr. Elizabeth Rea, Toronto Public Health, Toronto, ON

10:05-10:20 **TB Impact Tracker: Translating Modelling into Action for Policy and Advocacy**

Dr. Brooke Nichols, HE2RO, South Africa/USA

10:20-10:35 **Reprioritization and Efficiencies: The Global Fund Perspective on TB Programs**

Dr. Mohammed Yassin, Global Fund (virtual)

10:35-11:00 **The TB Community Coordination Hub: Building Collective Action in Crisis**

Dr. Robyn Waite, Community Coordination Hub, Canada

TB Lives Disrupted: The Human Cost of Interrupted Support in Ukraine

Ms. Olya Klymenko (Ukraine) virtual

11:00-11:15 **Programmatic Resilience and Vulnerability: Lessons from South Africa**

Dr. Norbert Ndjeka, South Africa, National TB Program (virtual), Pretoria, South Africa

11:15-11:25 **Oral Abstract Presentation #1 - Breaking Down Barries: An Umbrella Review of Patient, Provider, and System-level Determinants of Tuberculosis Services in High-burden Settings.**

Dr. Kilee Singh, University of California in San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA

11:25-11:50 **Panel Discussion**

2026
END TB

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Dr. Cynthia A. Tschampl, Moderator

NON-CME/ Industry Sponsored Satellite Symposium-Euroimmun/Lunch

Poster Session 1 – Ballroom III

Chair: Dr. Karen Jacobson

1:00-1:50 pm

Session 2: Setting The Table: TB and Nutrition

Chairs: Dr. Elizabeth Rea, Dr. Pranay Sinha, and Ms. Anita Khilall

2:00-4:50 pm

2:00-2:05 **Introduction**

2:05-2:35 **Science/ Biology of TB and Nutrition**

Dr. Peter Cegielski, Emory University Rollins School of Public Health, Atlanta, GA, USA

2:35-3:05 **TB and Nutrition Roadmap**

Dr. Pranay Sinha, Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine, Boston, MA, USA

3:05-3:20 **BREAK**

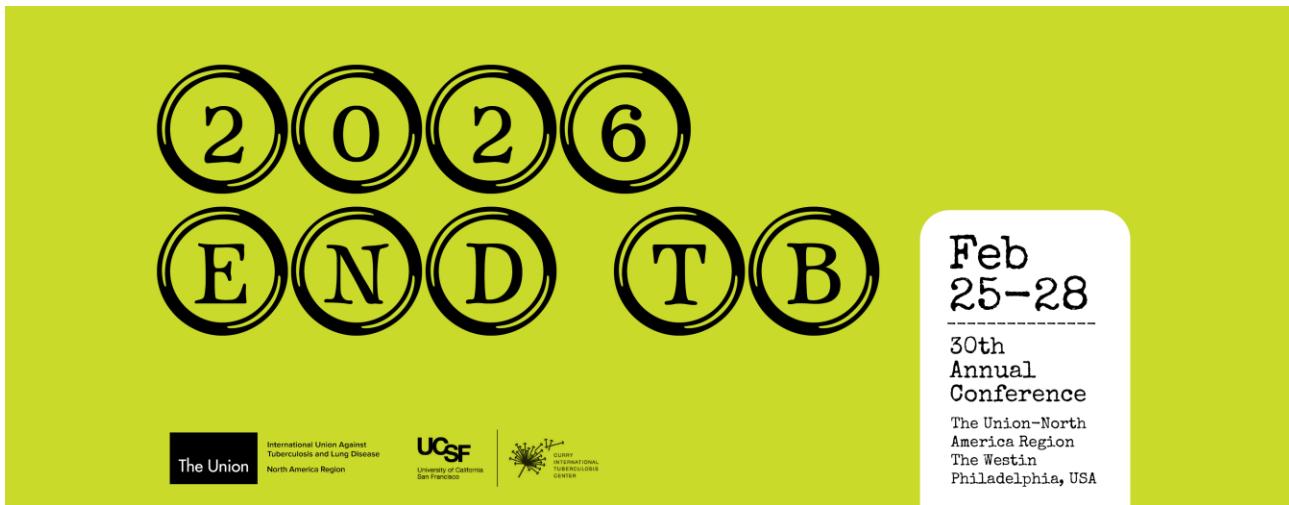
3:20-3:40 **Cultural and Relationship Aspects of Food in TB Nursing Care**

Ms. Krystin McDermott, Boston Public Health Commission, Boston, MA, USA

3:40-3:55 **Survivor's Perspective – Ms. Maggy Ngombi**

Oral Abstract Présentation#2 - Nutrition Support Modulates TB Antigen-Stimulated Cytokine Responses in Undernourished Household Contacts in India
Ms. Lindsey Locks, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA

4:05-4:30 **Q/A**



Awards Ceremony

Chairs: Dr. Lisa Chen and Dr. Jonathan Golub

5:00–6:00 pm

Stop TB Meeting USA -Georgia Room

Chairs: Dr. Cynthia Tschampl

Stop TB Meeting Canada-Independence 1&2

Chair: Dr. Elizabeth Rea

6:00–7:00 pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

Session 3: Early Career Investigators Session – Ballroom I & II

Challenges and Opportunities in Preventing and Caring for Tuberculosis Among Immigrant Populations.

Chairs: Dr. Jonathon Campbell, and Dr. Simon Grandjean Lapierre

8:00–10:50 am

8:00–8:10 **Introduction**

8:10–8:20 **TB Patient Perspective- Mr. Khalid Hasan**

8:20–8:45 **Meeting People Where They Are: Community TB Screening, with Youth Focus**

Dr. Meredith Brooks, Boston School of Public Health, Boston, MA, USA

8:45–9:05 **Challenges and Opportunities Created by Preimmigration IGRA Testing**

Dr. Pennan Barry, California Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA, USA

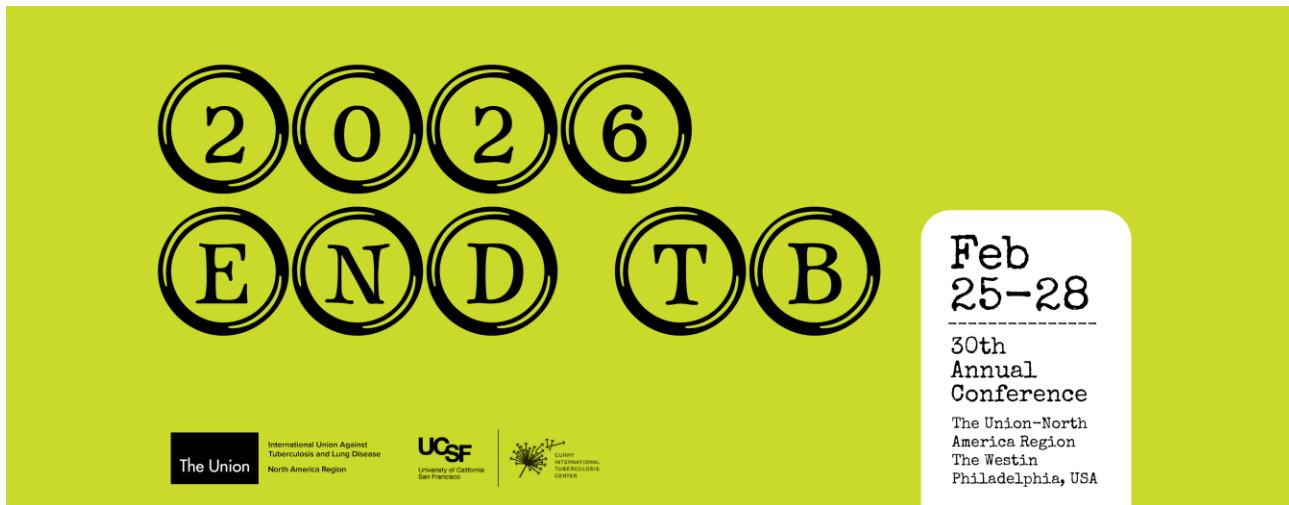
9:05–9:25 **BREAK**

9:20–9:40 **Challenges of Dealing with the Spectrum of Immigrant TB in British Columbia**

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

9:40–0:00 **Gaps and Bridges: Enhancing the TB Care Cascade in New York City**

Dr. Jean Sullivan-Meissner, New York City Department of Health & Mental



Hygiene, Long Island City, NY, USA

10:00-10:30 **Oral Abstract Presentation #3 - Program Implementation of One-Month Isoniazid-Rifapentine Regimen for the Treatment of Tuberculosis Infection in New York City**
Ms. Grace Gao, NYC DOHMH, Long Island, NY, USA

10:30-10:50 **Panel Discussion**

Beyond TB Lecture:

Solar Powered Oxygen Delivery to Address Oxygen Insecurity in Uganda

Dr. Michael Hawkes, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Can.

11:00–11:50 am

Non-CME-Industry Sponsored Satellite Symposium/Lunch - Qiagen

12:00–1:00 pm

Poster Session 2 – Ballroom III

Chair: Dr. Karen Jacobson

1:00–1:50 am

Challenging Clinical Cases: Session 1

Chairs: Dr. Tori Cook, Dr. Elizabeth Talbot, Dr. Alfred Lardizabal

2:00 – 3:20 pm

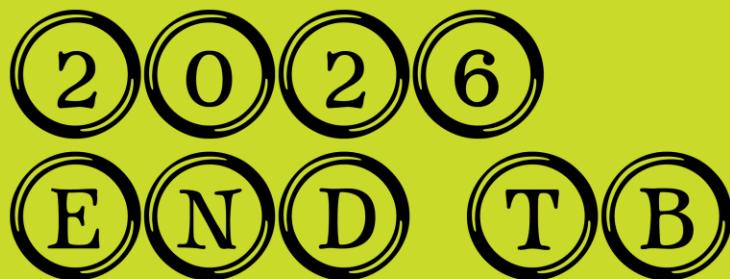
Session 4: When RIPE Becomes Rotten: Taking Side Effects Seriously

Chairs: Dr. Bill Burman, Dr. Dick Menzies, and Dr. Mayara Bastos

3:30 – 5:50

3:30 – 3:35 **Introduction**

3:35 – 3:45 **Survivor's Perspective – Ms. Iyan Nour**



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3:45 – 4:00	How Often, When and How Bad? The Epidemiology of Side-effects. <i>Dr. Mayara Bastos, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Can</i>
4:00 – 4:15	What Does it Mean? The Impact of Side-effects on Treatment Outcomes <i>Dr. Bill Burman, DHHA, Denver, CO, USA</i>
4:15 – 4:30	BREAK
4:30 – 4:45	What Might Make Treatment Easier to Take? <i>Dr. Maria Florencia Martins, Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA, USA</i>
4:45 – 5:00	What Is Next? Towards Evidence-based Guidelines for Side-effect Prevention and Management <i>Dr. Dick Menzies, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada</i>
5:00 – 5:10	Oral Abstract Presentation# 4 - What Is "safe and well-tolerated": Critical Review of Triple-dose Rifampin Trials in Tuberculosis Treatment <i>Dr. Bill Burman, DHHA, Denver, CO, USA</i>
5:10 – 5:30	Question and Answer

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

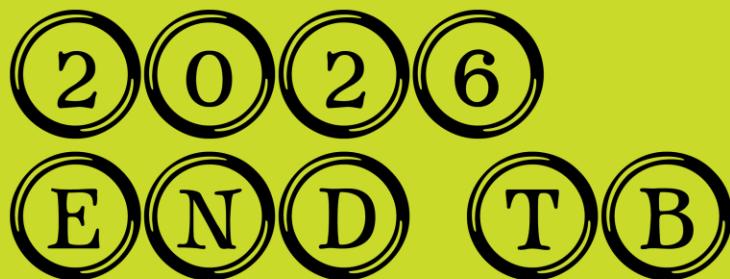
Challenging Clinical Cases: Session 2 -Ballroom I & II

Chairs: Dr. Tori Cook, Dr. Elizabeth Talbot and Dr. Alfred Lardizabal
8:00–9:20 am

Session 5: TB and Public Health Law-Ballroom I & II

Chairs: Dr. Ryan Cooper and Dr. Maunank Shah
9:30–11:50 am

9:30-9:35	Introduction
9:35-9:50	Survivor's Perspective – Ms. Crystal Fevreau
9:50-10:10	Ethical Considerations in TB Decision-Making



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Dr. Olivia Kates, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA

10:10-10:30 **Due Process Considerations for Persons with TB**
Ms. Ashley Park, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA

10:30-10:40 **BREAK**

10:40-11:00 **Legal Considerations in Approaching Interventions for Infectious Public Health Threats**
Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

11:00-11:10 **Oral Abstract Presentation #5 -Understanding Provider Perspectives on TB Isolation Decision Making in Massachusetts**
Dr. Amanda Marino, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA

11:50-12:00 **Case Study/Panel Discussion**

Report from the Union - Ballroom I & II

Dr. Bess Miller and Dr. Christoph Lange

12:00–1:00 pm

Annual General Meeting – Ballroom I & II

Chairs: Dr. James Johnston/Dr. Rachel Dwilow

1:00-1:50 pm

Post-Conference Meeting -Ballroom III

Chairs: Dr. Rachel Dwilow and Dr. Karen Jacobson

2:00–3:00 pm