

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

[WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026](#)

Postgraduate Courses:

Updates in Nontuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM)

Chairs: Dr. Sarah Brode and Dr. Max Salfinger

9:00–12:00 pm

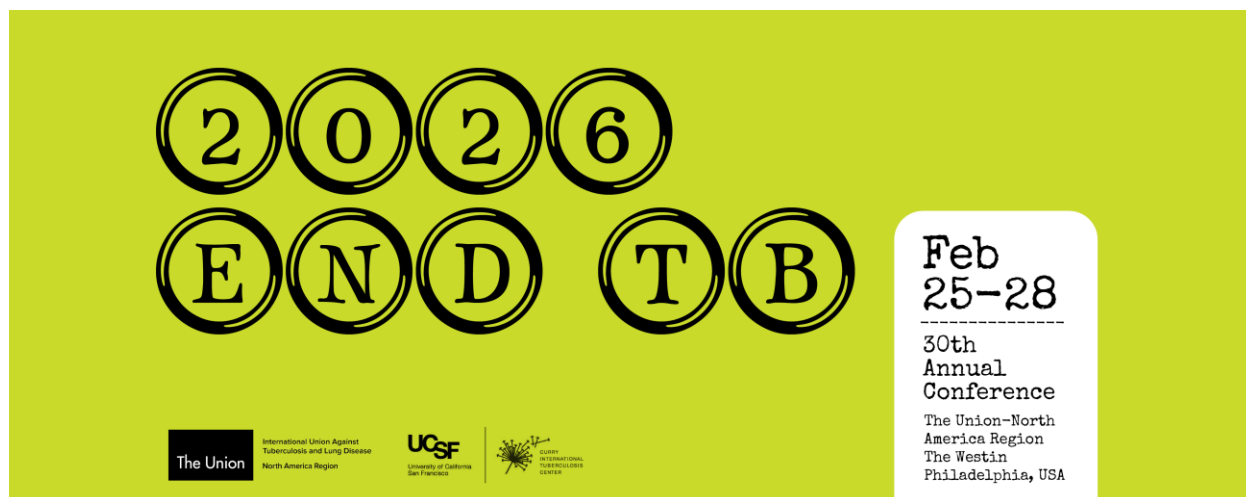
- 9:00-9:30 **Laboratory Approaches to Identification of NTM and Approach to NTM Outbreaks**
Dr. Adrian Zelazny, NIH Clinical Centre, Bethesda, MD, USA
- 9:30-10:00 **NTM Epidemiology and the Environment**
Dr. Theodore Marras, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Can
- 10:00-10:30 **BREAK**
- 10:30-11:00 **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

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

Chair: Dr. Jonathan Golub

5:00–8:00 pm

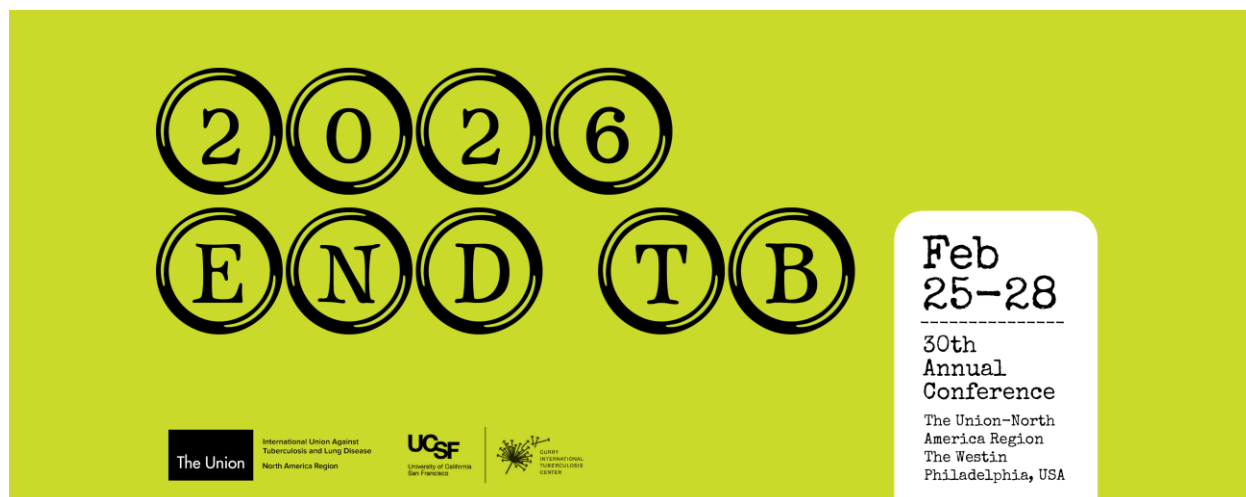
5:00-8:00: In person workshop for junior investigators to present research and engage with senior researchers.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

Welcome/Opening of the Conference

8:00-8:45 am

- Opening prayer
- Welcome address:
 - Dr. James Johnston, President, The Union-NAR
 - Dr. Rachel Dwilow, Vice-President, 2026 Program Chair, The Union-NAR



- Patient Perspective

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 Tschamp

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

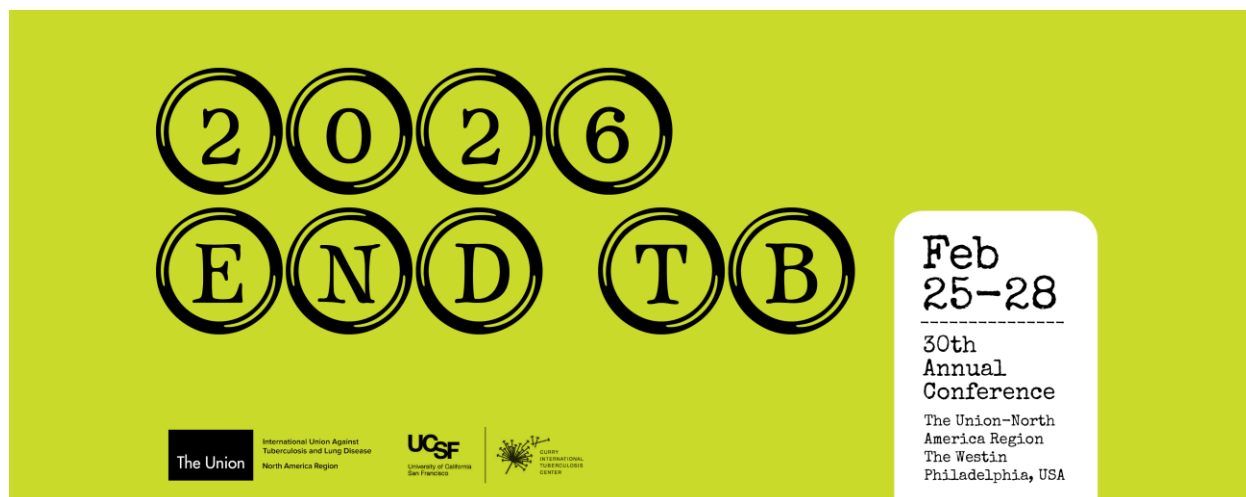
Ms. Olya Klymenko (Ukraine) virtual

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 - Updated Estimates of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb) Infection Prevalence in the United States to Guide Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention Efforts

Ms. Jessica Rothman, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA



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

Dr. Cynthia A. Tschampl, Moderator

Social Networking/Lunch Break/ Satellite Symposium

Chairs: Dr. Karen Jacobson

12:00-1:00 pm

Poster Session 1

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

2:00–2:10 **Introduction**

2:10–2:40 **Science/ Biology of TB and Nutrition**

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

2:30–2:50 **BREAK**

2:50–3:20 **TB and Nutrition Roadmap**

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

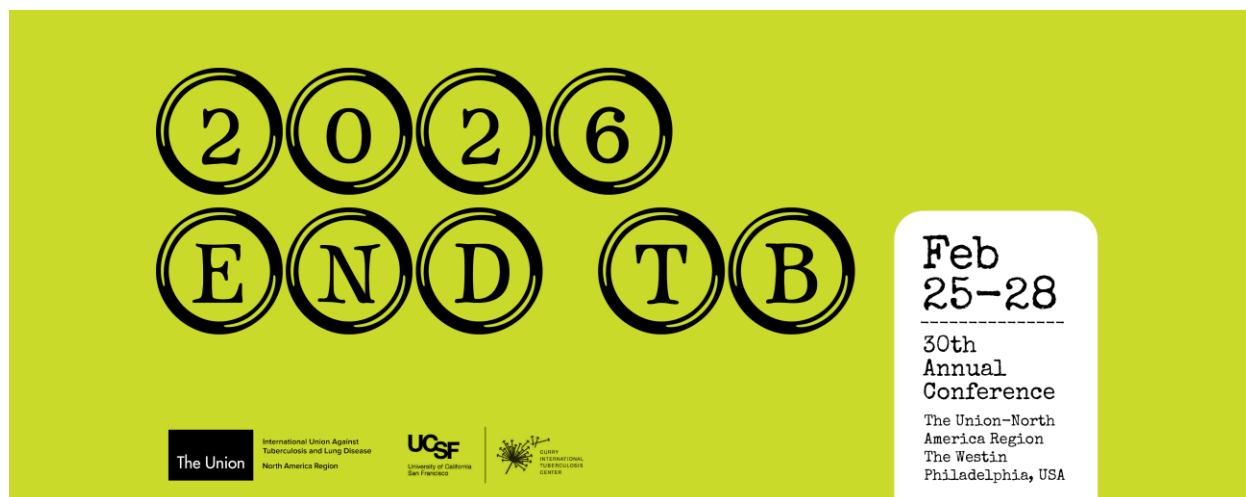
3:20–3:50 **Cultural and Relationship Aspects of Food in TB Nursing Care**

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

3:50–4:10 **Patient Perspective**

4:10–4:20 **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



Awards Ceremony

Chairs: Dr. Lisa Chen and Dr. Jonathan Golub
5:00–6:00 pm

Stop TB Meeting Canada/USA

Chairs: Dr. Cynthia Tschampl and Dr. Elizabeth Rea
6:00–7:00 pm

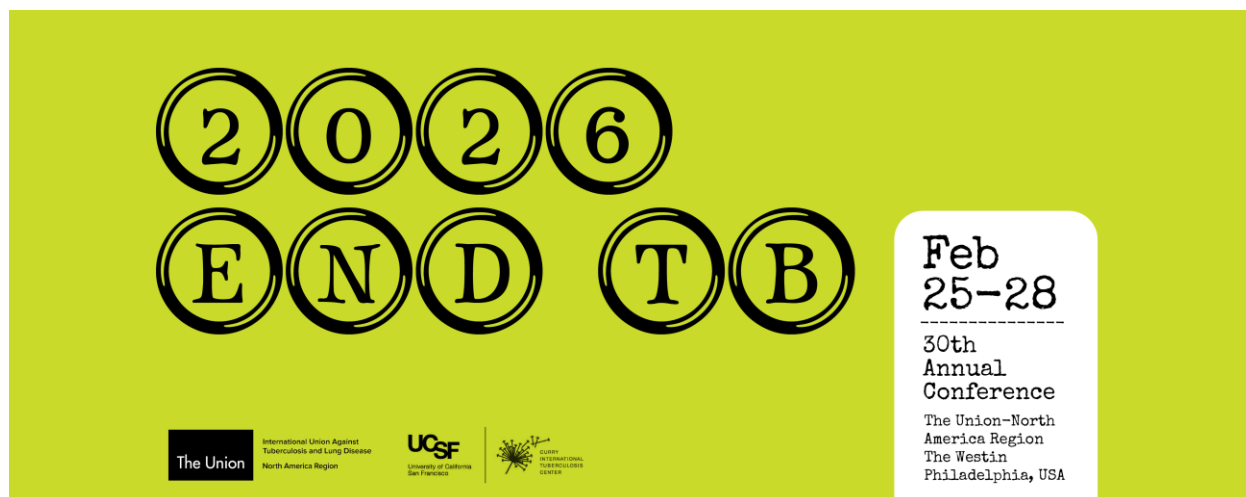
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

Session 3: Early Career Investigators Session

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**
- 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

Lunch/Non-CME-Industry Sponsored Satellite Symposium

12:00–1:00 pm

Poster Session 2

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

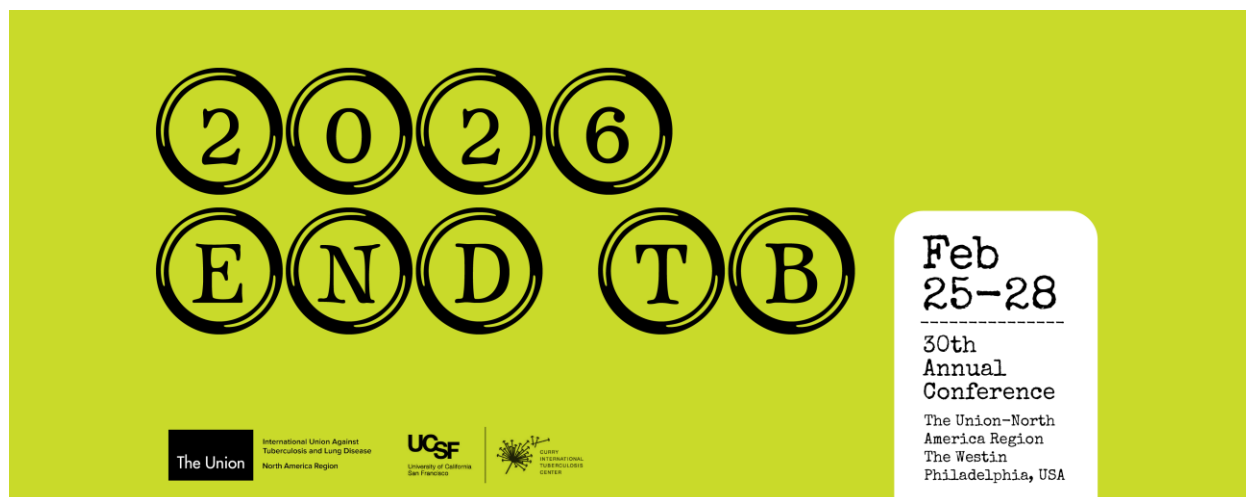
3:30 – 3:35 **Introduction**

3:35 – 3:45 **Side -effects: Patient Perspective**

3:45 – 4:00 **How Often, When and How Bad? The Epidemiology of Side-effects.**

Dr. Mayara Bastos, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Can

4:00 – 4:15 **What Does it Mean? The Impact of Side-effects on Treatment Outcomes**



- Dr. Bill Burman, DHHA, Denver, CO, USA*
- 4:15 – 4:30 BREAK
- 4:30 – 4:45 **What Might Make Treatment Easier to Take?**
Dr. Maria Florencia Martins, Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA, USA
- 4:45 – 5:00 **What Is Next? Towards Evidence-based Guidelines for Side-effect Prevention and Management**
Dr. Dick Menzies, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada
- 5:00 – 5:10 **Oral Abstract Presentation# 4 - What Is "safe and well-tolerated": Critical Review of Triple-dose Rifampin Trials in Tuberculosis Treatment**
Dr. Bill Burman, DHHA, Denver, CO, USA
- 5:10 – 5:30 **Question and Answer**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

Challenging Clinical Cases: Session 2

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

Session 5: TB and Public Health Law

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

- 9:30-9:35 **Introduction**
- 9:35-9:55 **Ethical Considerations in TB Decision-Making**
Dr. Olivia Kates, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA
- 9:55-10:15 **Due Process Considerations for Persons with TB**
Ms. Ashley Park, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA
- 10:15-10:30 **BREAK**



10:30-10:50 **Legal Considerations in Approaching Interventions for Infectious Public Health Threats**

TBA Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

10:50-11:00 **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

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

Report from the Union

Dr. Bess Miller and Dr. Christoph Lange

12:00–1:00 pm

Annual General Meeting

Chairs: Dr. James Johnston/Dr. Rachel Dwilow

1:00-1:50 pm

Post-Conference Meeting

Chairs: Dr. Rachel Dwilow and Dr. Karen Jacobson

2:00–3:00 pm