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E N D T B



International Union Against
Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
North America Region



University of California
San Francisco



Feb
25-28

30th
Annual
Conference

The Union-North
America Region
The Westin
Philadelphia, USA

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

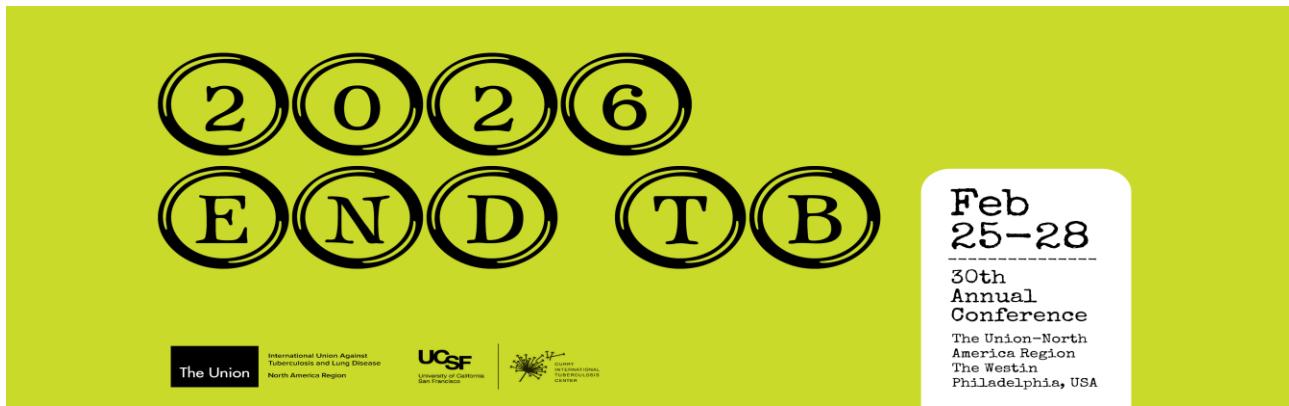
9:00-9:30	Laboratory Approaches to Identification of NTM and Approach to NTM Outbreaks <i>Dr. Adrian Zelazny, NIH Clinical Centre, Bethesda, MD, USA</i>
9:30-10:00	NTM Epidemiology and the Environment <i>Dr. Theodore Marras, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Can</i>
10:00-10:30	BREAK
10:30-11:00	Management of <i>Mycobacterium avium</i> complex and <i>Mycobacterium abscessus</i> <i>Pamela McShane, National Health Institute, Bethesda, MD, USA</i>
11:00-11:30	New and Emerging NTM Therapies <i>Dr. Charles Daley, National Jewish Health, Denver, CO, USA</i>
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 <i>Ms. Amy Painter, South Carolina Dept. of Public Health, Columbia, SC, USA</i>
1:35-2:05	Source Case Investigation in a Daycare <i>Ms. Kristin Bertrang, Nebraska Dept of Health and Human Services, Lincoln, NB, USA</i>
2:05-2:20	BREAK



2:20-2:50	Contact Investigations in the Setting of Multiple Households and the Importance of Community Partnership <i>Mr. Dayson Marar, Kansas Dept of Health and Environment, Topeka, KS, USA</i> <i>Ms. Dawn Tuckey</i>
2:50-3:20	Genotyping and Epidemiologic Linkages in Contact Investigation <i>Ms. Camille Dollinger, California Department of Public Health, Bay Area, CA, USA</i>
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

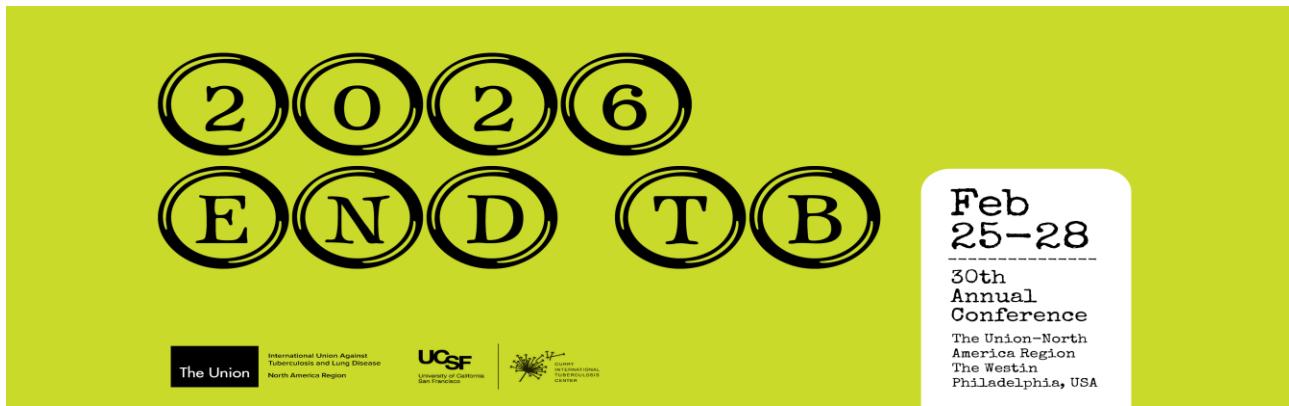
8:00 - 8:45 am

- 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 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)

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

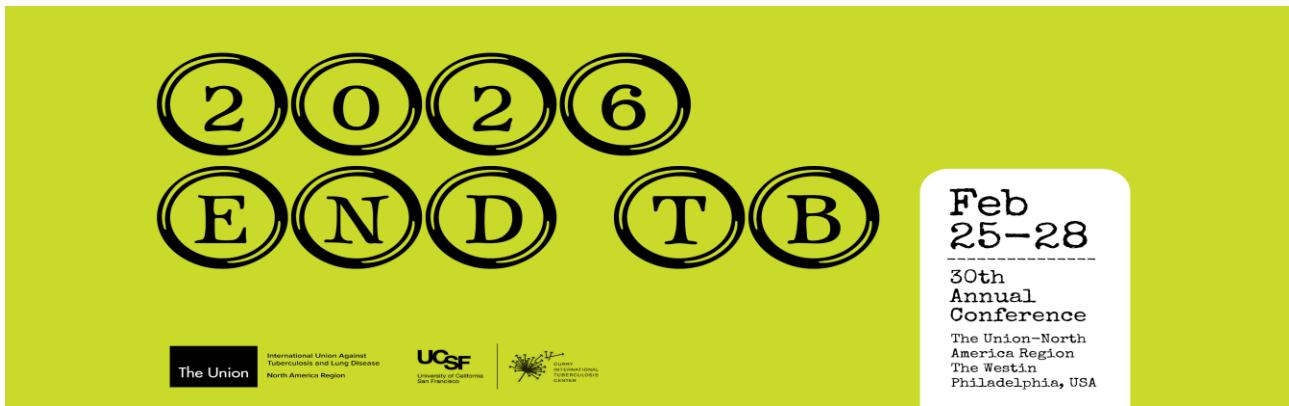
Social Networking/Lunch Break/ Satellite Symposium

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

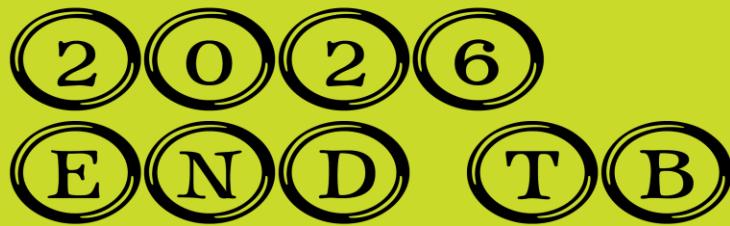
Stop TB Meeting Canada/USA

Chairs: Dr. Cynthia Tschampl and Dr. Elizabeth Rea

6:00-7:00 pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

Session 3: Early Career Investigators Session



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

Chairs: Dr. Leo Martinez, 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	ECIA Winner Presentation <i>TBA</i>
8:45–9:05	Challenges and Opportunities Created by Preimmigration IGRA Testing <i>Dr. Pennan Barry, California Department of Public Health, San Francisco, CA, USA</i>
9:05–9:25	BREAK
9:20–9:40	Challenges of Dealing with the Spectrum of Immigrant TB in British Columbia <i>Dr. James Johnson, BC Centre for Disease Control, Vancouver, BC, Canada</i>
9:40–0:00	Gaps and Bridges: Enhancing the TB Care Cascade in New York City <i>Dr. Jean Sullivan-Meissner, New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene, Long Island City, NY, USA</i>
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 <i>Ms. Grace Gao, NYC DOHMH, Long Island, NY, USA</i>
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

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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. Flor 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

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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**

Ms. 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 **Public Health Law**

TBA

10:50-11:00 **Oral Abstract Presentation #5 -Understanding Provider Perspectives on TB Isolation
Decision Making in Massachusetts**

Dr. Amanda Marino, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

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

Report from the Union

Dr. Bess Miller, 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