



TB Times

Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis (MCCT)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Select links for details

[Innovations in TB Series](#)

LBTI

January 16, 2025
Webinar

[Civil Surgeons Series](#)

IGRA

Interpretation
February 6, 2025
Webinar

[Save the Date Union NAR TB Conference](#)

Feb 26-March 1
Vancouver, BC

[Save the Date NTCA Conference](#)

June 2-6, 2025
Atlanta, GA



From Left to Right: Joaquin Nasa, James Gaensbauer, Richard Brostrom, Rebecca Mussack, Minister Ota Kisino, Acting Secretary Francyne Wase-Jacklick, Frank Underwood, Zelalem Temesgen, Jennifer Curran, Samantha Malley, Shea Rabley

USAPI Hosts Regional TB Conference in Majuro



RMI Training – Tuberculin Skin Testing Practicum

MCCT, in collaboration with the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Ministry of Health and Human Services, organized the US Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI) Regional TB Conference this December. The event took place in Majuro, the capital of the Marshall Islands.

The four-day event began with two days of clinical presentations, including tuberculosis (TB) infection, disease, and clinical care through a multidisciplinary approach. The last two days offered hands-on experience in TB management, including case management, Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) strategies, and a Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) practicum.

Rates of TB in the USAPI are the highest in the United States and affiliated jurisdictions, but tremendous work has been done — including several mass screening events — to identify patients with TB and start to reduce the burden. It is our honor to provide educational support to the outstanding TB programs and dedicated individuals in RMI and across the USAPI.



Ota Kisino - Minister of Health in the Marshall Islands

Welcome Dr. Banerjee & Dr. Hunt!

Joining the Consultation Team!



W. Garrett Hunt, MD joined the Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) and CHRISTUS Children's Hospital (CCH) in San Antonio as Senior Faculty, Division Chief of Infectious Diseases, and the Medical Director

of Infection Prevention and Control. Dr. Hunt has been an on-call TB consultant for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention TB Center of Excellence from 2016 – present. He has distinguished himself as an expert in tuberculosis infection and disease in children and adolescents.



Ritu Banerjee, MD, PhD is Professor in the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She is the Director of the Pediatric Antimicrobial Stewardship Program

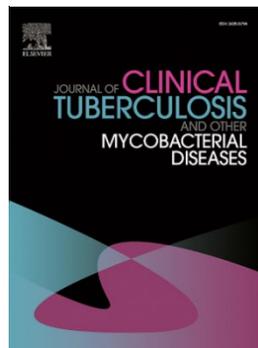
at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. She completed Pediatrics residency and Pediatric Infectious Disease fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco.

JCTUBE Spotlight

[A Predictive Score for Early In-patient Tuberculosis Mortality: A Case-control Study](#)

A study at Kiruddu National Referral Hospital in Kampala, Uganda took a close look at the deaths of tuberculosis (TB) patients within the first 7 days of admission. Researchers found that more than 40% of TB deaths occurred in the first 7 days, with factors like wasting and hypoxemia predicting this early inpatient mortality.

They developed a "PROS score" using tachycardia, tachypnea, hypoxemia and hypotension to predict early death. This was highly accurate in identifying patients at risk.



CDC Updates

Tuberculosis (TB) Survivor Personal Stories Series

CDC's Division of Tuberculosis Elimination is proud to share seven new stories as part of our ongoing Tuberculosis (TB) Survivor Personal Stories series. These new stories feature six TB survivors discussing their experiences with TB disease.

You can view the videos and print stories on [CDC's TB Personal Stories website](#).

These stories can be helpful resources for patient education, community outreach, and other TB awareness activities. Please promote these stories through your organization's email lists, newsletters, social media, and other communication channels.

Recent Development on Availability of PZA Test Kits

In late September, BD resumed releasing new lots of BD BACTEC™ MGIT™ 960 PZA kits for testing Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex (MTBC) to pyrazinamide (PZA) after a supply interruption due to a Medical Device Correction. However, a recent raw materials error led to further supply interruptions, with kits unavailable until early 2025. Assistance with pncA sequencing of MTBC continues, showing high sensitivity and specificity for predicting PZA resistance. CDC's MDDR service remains available for testing drug resistance, and submitters should coordinate with testing labs to manage specimen submissions. Updates will be provided as new information becomes available.

World News

[BREAKING NEWS: Only \\$1.50 to Detect TB Infection with the Next-Generation SIILTIBCY Test](#)

The Stop TB Partnership's Global Drug Facility (GDF) has launched the SIILTIBCY skin test for detecting tuberculosis (TB) infection at \$1.50 per dose. Manufactured by the Serum Institute of India, this test offers improved specificity and is recommended by WHO. It aims to increase enrollment in TB preventive treatment, especially among household contacts of TB patients. The test has been approved for global procurement by the Global Fund's Expert Review Panel. Read this [Fact Sheet](#) for more information.

Newsletter Content Suggestions

We invite you to be active participants in shaping the content of our newsletter. We will do our best to provide clarity on your TB related questions and include topics and events you would like to showcase. Simply submit your ideas to [TB Times Content Suggestion](#). Each issue we will feature suggested content, making this newsletter a true reflection of your needs.

Vision

To become a regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized Center of Excellence for tuberculosis.

Mission

To contribute, in a meaningful way, to the control, management, and elimination of tuberculosis regionally, nationally, and globally.



Medical Consultation

MCCT provides expert medical consultation to public health and medical professionals in our assigned region. We have colleagues with expertise in public health nursing, pharmacy, laboratory, occupational health, pediatrics, and radiology just to name a few.

Consultations can be requested using one of the following options:

- Submit at [IDCrowd Platform](#)
- Email tbcenter@mayo.edu
- Call 507-284-0275

IDCrowd is the preferred platform for submitting requests used by all TB COEs. If you are using IDCrowd for the first time, choose the option to register for a new membership. Additional information on how to submit a request can be found [here](#).

Mini Fellowships

As part of the TB COE initiatives, MCCT is providing mini-fellowship opportunities for healthcare professionals seeking to deepen their understanding of TB.

Experiences will be curated to meet individual learning needs. Some experiences that may be offered include shadowing healthcare professionals as they interact with patients, observing directly observed therapy (DOT), and participating in TB case reviews.

You can find out more information by emailing tbcenter@mayo.edu. To be considered for a mini fellowship, please submit an [application here](#).

Educational Requests

MCCT is able to support a variety of TB related needs including virtual and in-person training, educational material development, and technical assistance. Please contact us to discuss ways we can support your work in treating and preventing tuberculosis.

Contact Us



TBcenter@mayo.edu



centerfortuberculosis.mayo.edu



507-284-0275