



Tuberculosis Research Advancement Center
Emory/Georgia

Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE

CPHAC MEETING

**CORE SERVICES
HIGHLIGHT**

RFA: PILOT GRANTS

PROTECT VISIT

**UPCOMING
PRESENTATIONS AND
WORKSHOPS**

TRACCOLADES

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Community and Public Health Advisory Committee meeting

The inaugural CPHAC meeting was held on August 17th, 2023. In attendance were members Mike Frick (Treatment Action Group), Jermone Francisco Delarosa and Louie Zepeda-Teng (TBPeople Philippines), Kate O'Brien (We Are TB), Dr. Lynn Paxton (Fulton County BoH) and Donna Wegener (NTCA). Additional members include Steven Anguva (Network of TB Champions, Kenya), Sara Zalwango (Medical Officer, Uganda) and Dr. Sandra Valenciano (District Director, Dekalb Health). The Admin Core was given invaluable input which we are excited to continue to incorporate as the Center grows.

Core Services Highlight: CPS Core Dataverse



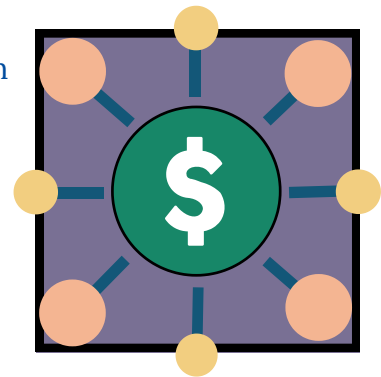
- Are you looking for a user friendly, searchable library of TB studies by TRAC investigators?
- Are you looking for well-characterized TB clinical research cohorts and archived samples available for secondary data analysis?

The TRAC Data Library has over 50 projects with hundreds of related publications for your review.

Access the Emory/Georgia TRAC Dataverse [HERE](#)

Request for Applications: TRAC Pilot Grants

We are excited to announce the second round of Pilot Grant Request for Applications for Tuberculosis related research from Early-Stage Investigators (ESI), Fellows, Post-Docs and investigators new to TB. The purpose of these pilot grants is to stimulate new research ideas, catalyze new research collaborations, provide resources for investigators to generate preliminary data to support external grant submissions, and attract established non-TB investigators to pursue multidisciplinary TB research.



The awards will have a budget of *\$50,000* in direct costs for a 12 month period. Full details of the RFA can be found [HERE](#).

PROTECT Investigators visit the TRAC



The Global TB Branch at CDC and TRAC Clinical and Population Science Co-Directors Drs. Shah and Benkeser hosted Drs. Herman Weyenga and Thomas Achia from CDC Kenya, on a two-week consultation regarding the PROTECT study. PROTECT aims to evaluate the impact of large-scale implementation of TB preventive treatment among people living with HIV in six countries. Dr. Weyenga and Dr. Achia's work during this visit spearheaded the launch of the PROTECT Analytical Working Group which will convene its first meeting in mid-September with all six countries.

Upcoming Workshops & Presentations

"SEARCHING FOR SUPPRESSION: SPATIAL TRANSCRIPTIONAL PROFILING IN TB"

DR. AMANDA MARTINOT DVM, MPH, PHD
TUFTS CUMMINGS SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 9AM
CNR 1000 AND ZOOM

[Add to Calendar](#)



"THE INTERSECTION OF TUBERCULOSIS AND DIABETES"

A special presentation on the progress and results of the systematic review conducted to create the forthcoming WHO module on the management of TB and Diabetes by members of the Emory team involved in the process.

DR. UNJALI GUJRAL, PHD, MPH AND DR. WASSIM ABDALLAH, MD

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 10AM
CNR 3001 AND ZOOM

[Add to Calendar](#)

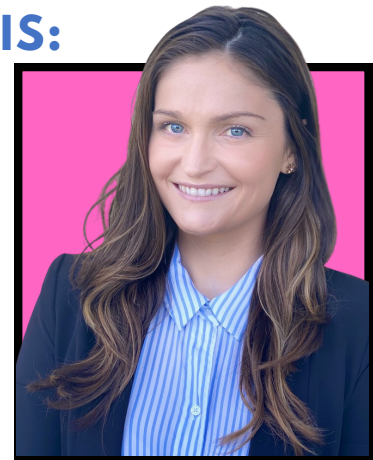
"SPATIAL INSIGHTS INTO TUBERCULOSIS: UNRAVELING INFECTION PATTERNS IN HUMAN TISSUE"

DR. ANNEKA HUTTON, MD
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA BIRMINGHAM

Recent findings from the application of micro-CT scan, RNAscope, and spatial transcriptomics in the analysis of human lung tissue specimens from both active and latent tuberculosis patients

FRIDAY OCTOBER 20, 2023 9AM
RRR 345 AND ZOOM

[Add to Calendar](#)



TRACcolades



TRAC members had a number of promotions last month! Clinical and Population Sciences core Co-Director **Dr. David Benkeser, MPH, PhD**, was promoted to Associate Professor in the Rollins School of Public Health. **Dr. Nadine Rouphael, MD MSc, FSSCI, FIDSA**, was granted tenure in the Emory School of Medicine, and **Dr. Sushma K Cribbs, MD, MSc, ATSF** was promoted to Professor in the School of Medicine. Congratulations to all!

August Publications

Nelson KN, Churchyard G, Cobelens F, Hanekom WA, Hill PC, Lopman B, Mave V, Rangaka MX, Vekemans J, White RG, Wong EB, Martinez L, García-Basteiro AL. **Measuring indirect transmission-reducing effects in tuberculosis vaccine efficacy trials: why and how?** *Lancet Microbe*. 2023 Aug;4(8):e651-e656. doi: 10.1016/S2666-5247(23)00112-X. Epub 2023 Jun 14. PMID: 37329893; PMCID: PMC10393779.

Kiria N, Lomtadze N, Solomonina N, Aspindzelashvili R, Danelia M, Gabisonia I, Janjgava M, Khonelidze I, Kipiani M, Tukvadze N, Blumberg HM, Kempker RR, Furin J, Avaliani Z. **Tuberculosis recovery in Georgia: implementing more by 24.** *Lancet Infect Dis*. 2023 Aug;23(8):893-894. doi: 10.1016/S1473-3099(22)00689-2. Epub 2022 Oct 27. PMID: 36354031; PMCID: PMC9612847.

Safdar N, Malik AA. **Prioritising health: cost and tuberculosis elimination in high-burden, resource-limited settings.** *Lancet Glob Health*. 2023 Aug;11(8):e1142-e1143. doi: 10.1016/S2214-109X(23)00301-7. PMID: 37474210.

Hussain H, Jaswal M, Farooq S, Safdar N, Madhani F, Noorani S, Shahbaz SS, Salahuddin N, Amanullah F, Khowaja S, Manzar S, Shah JA, Islam Z, Dahri AA, Shahzad M, Keshavjee S, Becerra MC, Khan AJ, Malik AA. **Scale-Up of Rifapentine and Isoniazid for Tuberculosis Prevention Among Household Contacts in 2 Urban Centers: An Effectiveness Assessment.** *Clin Infect Dis*. 2023 Aug 22;77(4):638-644. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciad245. PMID: 37083926.

Maseko TG, Ngubane S, Letsoalo M, Rambaran S, Archary D, Samsunder N, Perumal R, Chinappa S, Padayatchi N, Naidoo K, Sivro A. **Higher plasma interleukin - 6 levels are associated with lung cavitation in drug-resistant tuberculosis.** *BMC Immunol*. 2023 Aug 31;24(1):26. doi: 10.1186/s12865-023-00563-2. PMID: 37653422; PMCID: PMC10472663.

CITE THE TRAC
P30AI168386

WEBSITE
TB.EMORY.EDU

TWITTER
@EMORY_TB_CETNTER