



**Antimicrobial
Chemotherapy
Conference**

4 & 5 February 2026

This open-access, virtual conference is jointly organised by GARDP and BSAC.

For ACC2026, the collaborating organisations are ADVANCE-ID and Mahidol University.



Mahidol University

More information about ACC2026 as well as previous and future ACC conferences can be found here: www.acc-conference.com

Learn more about the conference organisers and collaborators:

GARDP: www.gardp.org

BSAC: www.bsac.org.uk

ADVANCE-ID: www.advance-id.network

MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY: mahidol.ac.th





0800

Introductory remarks

Dr Mike Allen, Regional Medical Advisor
(Antibiotics), MSD UK

Session one: Keynote presentation

Chair: Dr Mike Allen, Regional Medical Advisor (Antibiotics), MSD UK

0805

**Optimising multinational clinical trials with antimicrobials, the key role of
clinical trial networks**

Professor David Paterson, National University of Singapore & ADVANCE-ID

0825

Q&A

0835

BREAK

Session two: Drug discovery: new targets and new chemistry

Chair: Professor Lori Snyder, Kingston University London

0845

**Old drugs, new
connections: a systems
view on antimicrobial
resistance**

Dr Elisabetta Cacace,
ETH Zurich

0900

**Discovery of lariocidin:
A knotty solution to
antimicrobial resistance**

Dr Manoj Jangra,
McMaster University

0915

**Cyclic-di-GMP
signaling as a target
for biofilm control**

Professor Tim Tolker-Nielsen,
University of Copenhagen

0930

Q&A

0940

BREAK

Session three: Preclinical antimicrobial development

Chair: Professor Ronan McCarthy, University of Southampton

0950

**Lysin Biotherapeutics:
From Microbiome
Modification to the
Clearance of Severe
Invasive Infections**

Dr Assaf Raz, Precisio
Biotix Therapeutics

1005

**Extracellular strategies:
Anti-virulence therapies
to halt chronic multidrug
resistant infections**

Dr Christopher Jonkergouw,
Arivin Therapeutics

1020

**Development of
cysteamine as an
adjunct antimicrobial
therapy and anti-
biofilm agent for
drug resistant and
recalcitrant respiratory
infections**

Dr Deborah A. O'Neil OBE,
Novabiotics

1030

Q&A

1045

BREAK

Session four: Panel discussion – Equitable TB care: Closing the treatment gap for vulnerable populations

Chair: Dr Methee Chayakulkeeree, Mahidol University

1055

Panellists:

Professor Nick Paton, National University of Singapore
& The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Professor Chen-Yuan Chiang, Wan Fang Hospital,
Taipei Medical University, Taiwan

Dr Wanatpreeya Phongsamart, Mahidol University

1150

Q&A

1200

Closing remarks

Dr François Franceschi, GARDP



0800

Introductory remarks

Dr François Franceschi, GARDP

Session five: Clinical development and use of new agents

Chair: Dr Abi Manesh, ADVANCE ID & NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health

0805

Novel antibiotic combination for *A. baumannii*

Dr Glenn Dale, BioVersys

0820

Chlamydia trachomatis vaccine development

Dr Alvaro Borges, Statens Serum Institut

0835

The clinical development of gepotidacin: a novel oral antibiotic for the treatment of uncomplicated UTI

Dr Jeremy Dennison, GSK

0850

Q&A

0900

BREAK

Session six: Oral poster presentations

Chair: Dr Chung The Hao, ADVANCE-ID & National University of Singapore

0910

Investigating the aetiology and contribution of antimicrobial-resistant infections to illness and death among hospitalised adults with advanced HIV disease: observations from a retrospective cohort in South Africa

Dr Emily Prendergast, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

0915

Co-Resistance mapping of Ciprofloxacin and Ceftriaxone in Uropathogenic *E. coli* and *Klebsiella*

Hena Sojitra, Krishna School of Science, India

0920

Post-fluoroquinolone treatment molecular events and nutrient availability modulate *Staphylococcus aureus* antibiotic persistence

Dr Nisha Mahey, UConn Health, USA

0925

Reviving the activity of antibacterial agents against Gram negative bacteria

Elissar Mansour, University of Sydney, Australia

0930

Widespread Colonization by the *Candida parapsilosis* species complex in Spanish Critical Care Units

Laura Alguacil Cuéllar, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, Spain

0935

Q&A

0945

BREAK

Session seven: From womb to world: Antimicrobial innovation for pregnancy and childhood

Chair: Dr Esther Bettiol, GARDP

0955

**Crossing the placenta:
The case for including
pregnant women in
antimicrobial trials**

Dr Sumati Nambiar,
Johnson and Johnson

1010

**STIs and silent harm:
Maternal infections and
neonatal sepsis**

Dr Teodora Elvira C. Wi,
World Health Organization

1025

**Tiny doses, big stakes:
Designing antibiotics
for neonates and
children**

Professor Julia Bielicki,
University Children's
Hospital Basel & City
St George's, University
of London

1040

Q&A

1050

BREAK

Session eight: Panel discussion – Access isn't the end, it's the beginning: Reclaiming the purpose of antibiotic innovation

Chair: Dr Jovana Albig, GARDP

1100

Panellists:

Dr Manica Balasegaram, GARDP
Dr Anita Kotwani, University of Delhi
Dr Jeffrey Smith, Unitaid

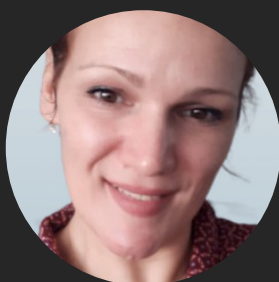
1155

Q&A

1205

Closing remarks

Dr Mike Allen, Regional Medical Advisor
(Antibiotics), MSD UK



Dr Jovana Albig

Associate Medical Lead, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), GARDP

Dr Jovana Albig is the Associate Medical Lead for STIs at the Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP), where she leads global strategy on antimicrobial innovation for sexually transmitted infections, with a dedicated focus on women, maternal, and neonatal health.

With a background in clinical medicine, infectious diseases, and a PhD in STI-related reproductive health, Dr. Albig brings a career that spans hospital-based medical practice, pharmaceutical industry roles, and leadership in medical affairs, clinical development, and implementation research.

Her research centers on the intersection of STIs, female reproductive health, and pregnancy outcomes, and she brings a visionary approach to building inclusive, equity-driven R&D pipelines that serve historically overlooked populations and translate scientific innovation into meaningful impact, where it matters most.



Dr Mike Allen

Regional Medical Advisor (Antibiotics), MSD UK & BSAC General Secretary

Mike Allen has over 35 years of UK and Global pharmaceutical industry experience within the field of antibiotics, antimicrobial resistance and infectious disease. Mike started his career as a clinical pharmacologist working with the Pain & Opiate Research Group at the Nuffield Department of Anaesthetics in Oxford from 1979 to 1986.

Following appointments in Lederle Laboratories (later became Wyeth Pharmaceuticals), Novartis Pharmaceuticals and Cubist, Mike currently works as the Regional Medical Advisor (Antibiotics) and MSD Ltd UK, with medical responsibilities for MSD's broad portfolio of licensed antibiotics and pipeline molecules. Over his career in the pharmaceutical industry, he has worked collaboratively with the medical, commercial, policy and development teams at National, European and Global levels, including the coordination of a highly successful international antibiotic registry and multiple clinical and in vitro antibiotic studies.

Mike was elected to serve his first 3-year term as General Secretary of BSAC in 2022 and re-elected in 2025 to serve a further 3-year term. Mike has been an Ordinary Member of BSAC Council since 2018, having previously served as an Ordinary Member of Council from 2012-2015. He is a member of the BSAC Resistance Surveillance Project (BSAC RSP) Legacy Working Group, having served on the BSAC RSP Steering Committee since the inception of the project in 1999, initially as an industry representative and from 2010 as a core member.

Mike has co-authored over 40 publications with lead researchers in the UK and internationally, looking particularly at antibiotic resistance surveillance and the association between antibiotic use and infections caused by clinically significant pathogens including; *Clostridium difficile*, glycopeptide-resistant enterococci, MRSA, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and ESBL-producing Enterobacterales



Dr Manica Balasegaram

Executive Director, Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP)

Dr. Manica Balasegaram trained as a medical doctor at the University of Nottingham, UK from where he started his career in internal and emergency medicine. From 2001 onwards, he worked as a doctor and researcher in several countries including in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. He has gained significant experience working in humanitarian emergencies and responses, largely with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

In 2007, Dr. Balasegaram joined the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative as Head of Leishmaniasis Clinical Program. In 2011, he returned to MSF as Executive Director of their high-profile Access Campaign. He was appointed Executive Director of GARDP and has led the organization since 2016 through its incubation to an independent legal entity, during which time GARDP launched four programmes and built a skilled and dedicated team with expertise from a range of sectors and backgrounds.

Dr. Balasegaram has significant experience in organizational governance and is currently a board member of the Medicines Patent Pool as well as of FIND's Scientific Advisory Committee. He has also previously served as a Board Member and Secretary of Médecins Sans Frontières (Switzerland).

His experience spans clinical and public health practice in infectious diseases to international work on health policy & access to medicines. He has served on numerous technical and health policy panels, including notably as a Member of the Expert Advisory Group of the UN High Level Panel on Access to Medicines (2015-16), a Member of the WHO Scientific Advisory Group for the Blueprint on Research & Development Preparedness and most recently, as a Member of the WHO Independent Allocation of Vaccines Group (IAVG).

With over 20 years' experience in Global Health, Dr. Balasegaram has a proven track record in partnership building, resource mobilization, public and private sector stakeholder management and governance.



Dr Esther Bettiol

Associate Lead Medical Sciences, GARDP

Esther Bettiol, is Associate Lead Medical Sciences at GARDP. Esther has been working in the antibiotic R&D field for over 10 years. Prior to joining GARDP in 2018, she worked in orphan drug clinical development and then at the University of Geneva in the Innovative Medicine Initiative (IMI) COMBACTE and DRIVE-AB projects. Esther has an MD and PhD degrees from the University of Geneva, Switzerland and underwent postdoctoral training on malaria and Chagas disease at New York University.



Professor Julia Bielicki

University Children's Hospital Basel & City St George's, University of London

Professor Julia Anna Bielicki is a Professor of Paediatric Infectious Diseases at City St George's, University of London, Professor of Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Basel. Julia trained in Social and Political Sciences and Medicine at the University of Cambridge, where she graduated top of her year, and holds a Medical Doctorate from the University of Zurich, as well as an MPH and PhD from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Her research focuses on optimising antibiotic use in neonates and children and developing innovative infection prevention and control strategies across high-income and low- and middle-income country settings. She has led and co-led multiple randomised controlled trials, including cluster and platform trials, funded by organisations such as NIHR, Horizon 2020, EDCTP, IMI and the Wellcome Trust, with the aim of generating robust evidence to inform clinical practice and health policy in the context of rising antimicrobial resistance.



Dr Alvaro Borges

Chief Medical Officer, Serum Institut in Denmark

Álvaro Borges is a physician–scientist educated in Brazil, the United Kingdom and Denmark. He has an MSc degree in Tropical and Infectious Diseases by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (2011) and a PhD in Immunology and Infectious Diseases by the University of Copenhagen (2015). He has joined the Center for Vaccine Research (CVR) at Statens Serum Institut in Denmark as Chief Medical Officer to work on clinical trials testing new candidate vaccines in humans.

Álvaro has been actively involved in 1) design and coordination of clinical trials and research projects primarily within vaccines, 2) studies of pathogen mechanisms and natural immunity / vaccine immunity in human cohorts, 3) clinical data interpretation, preparation of scientific manuscripts and presentations at international meetings and 4) fundraising for clinical trials.

Álvaro has more than 8 years' experience working as a medical officer of multinational trials involving participants with infectious diseases. He has considerable expertise in clinical research, clinical trials, infectious diseases, vaccines, epidemiology, tropical medicine and HIV.



Dr Elisabetta Cacace

Lecturer at the Department of Health Sciences and Technology, ETH Zurich

Elisabetta is a trained medical doctor, microbiologist and systems biologist. She obtained her medical license from the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and University of Pisa in Italy. After her PhD in the Typas group at EMBL Heidelberg (2021) and a postdoc in the Göttig group at Frankfurt University Hospital, she joined the Sunagawa and Slack groups at ETH Zurich in 2023. In 2025 she was awarded an Ambizione grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation to start her own group at the EPFL in Lausanne, focusing on the impact of innate immunity on bacterial physiology and evolution.



Dr Methee Chayakulkeeree

Professor of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand

Methee Chayakulkeeree is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand. He completed a research fellowship in Molecular Mycology at Duke University Medical Center, USA, and earned his PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of Sydney, Australia.

His research focuses on infections in immunocompromised hosts, fungal infections, and transplant-related infectious diseases. Internationally recognized for his expertise, he serves as a Board Member of the Asia Fungal Working Group (AFWG), Vice President of the Thai Medical Mycology Forum (TMMF), and an expert in the WHO Working Group on Fungal Diseases.

Dr Chayakulkeeree is an active member of several leading medical organizations, including the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology (ISHAM) and the International Immunocompromised Host Society (ICHS). He has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and multiple book chapters in his field.



Professor Chen-Yuan Chiang

Vice Superintendent, Wan Fang Hospital, Taipei Medical University, Taiwan

Current professional tasks:

- Technical Advisory Group on Tuberculosis (TB TAG) in the Western Pacific Region, WHO
- Steering Group, Global Asthma Network
- Core Group, the Global Drug-Resistant TB Initiative (GDI), World Health Organization
- Associate Editor, International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
- Board of Directors, Taiwan Anti-Tuberculosis Association
- Board of Directors, Taiwan Society of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease

Other experience:

- have provided technical assistance to National TB Programmes of several (>20) countries in Asia and Africa.
- have coordinated and/or facilitated several international training courses on clinical and programmatic management of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and operational research
- have published more than 180 papers, chapters of books, and monographs on tuberculosis and lung health.



Dr Glenn Dale

Chief Development Officer, BioVersys

Glenn is Chief Development Officer of BioVersys. He is a distinguished expert in infectious diseases, the author of numerous publications, and inventor on many patents. Since February 2019 Glenn has led the clinical development activities at BioVersys, applying his 25 years of R&D experience and significant knowledge in the modern development of antibiotics. Glenn obtained his Ph.D. in Biochemistry in 1993 from the University of Basel. Following post-doctoral studies in Basel he has held the following positions; Group Leader at Roche, Head of Biology, Site Head at Morphochem AG and Scientific Coordinator responsible for pre-clinical research at Arpida. In 2009 he joined Polyphor where he led the Antibiotic Research and Early Development, successfully transitioning Murepavadin (POL7080) from pre-clinical activities to Phase 3 studies. Glenn is an expert in developing and implementing modern antibiotic clinical development plans (e.g. devising pathogen specific development) and is experienced in presenting to and discussing with European and US regulatory authorities, e.g. scientific advice meetings (MHRA, EMA), Type C meetings (FDA) and End of Phase 2 meeting (FDA).



Dr Jeremy Dennison

Clinical Development Director – infectious diseases, GSK

Jeremy Dennison is a Physician Scientist with a background in Infectious Diseases having gained a masters and PhD in the immunology of cerebral malaria from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. He is also an experienced clinical pharmacologist and clinical development specialist having recently served as a clinical lead on the GSK team that brought the novel antibiotic gepotidacin to successful approval.



Dr François Franceschi

Head of Asset Evaluation and Development and Serious Bacterial Infections Project Leader, GARDP

François Franceschi is Head of Asset Evaluation and Development and Serious Bacterial Infections Project Leader at the Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP).

François has over 25 years of experience in antimicrobial research and development. He previously served as Program Officer for Therapeutics Development (antibacterial and antifungal) at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) in Maryland, US. Here, he also served as NIAID's liaison to CARB-X and as a member of its Scientific and Milestone Review Boards. François has held various director positions within antimicrobial R&D such as at Rib-X Pharmaceuticals (now Melinta Therapeutics). François was previously a principal investigator at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics (MPI) in Berlin, Germany, where his research focused on the structure and function of ribosomes, especially in complex with antibiotics. His group was a pivotal part of an international consortium headed by Ada Yonath, who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2009.

François earned his PhD in Chemistry at the Freie Universität Berlin, Germany after being awarded his Bachelor's degree in Biology at Universidad Simon Bolívar, Venezuela.



Dr Chung The Hao

Senior Research Fellow, ADVANCE-ID & National University of Singapore

Dr Hao is a visiting senior research fellow at Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore, and a Postdoctoral fellow in Molecular Epidemiology at Oxford University Clinical Research Unit, Vietnam. He is a trained microbiologist fascinated at how microbes evolve and interact with human. His research seeks to combine high-resolution genomic data and clinical studies to answer relevant public health questions on infectious diseases epidemiology and evolution, and to translate understandings on bacterial evolution and ecology into better approaches in healthcare.



Dr Manoj Jangra

Senior Postdoctoral Fellow, McMaster University

Dr. Manoj Jangra is a Senior Postdoctoral Fellow in Dr. Gerry Wright's laboratory at McMaster University, where he specializes in natural product discovery, synthetic biology and preclinical development of antibacterial agents, focusing on innovative approaches to combat antimicrobial resistance.

Dr. Jangra has established himself as a productive researcher with 18 publications, including peer-reviewed research articles and book chapters in his field. His work contributes significantly to the understanding and development of novel therapeutic compounds derived from natural sources. In his presentation, Dr. Jangra will discuss his team's groundbreaking discovery of lariocidin, a promising new antibiotic that represents a major advancement in the fight against bacterial infections. This significant research breakthrough was recently published in *Nature* in March 2025, highlighting the impact and importance of his contributions to antibiotic development and natural product research.



Dr Christopher Jonkergouw

CEO, Arivin Therapeutics

Promising science has the potential to combat rising antibiotic resistance—but too often, it never reaches patients due to a long and difficult development path. To change that, I co-founded Arivin therapeutics with three experienced, ambitious partners and now serve as CEO. I hold an MSc in Biotechnology from the University of Edinburgh and a PhD from Aalto University (Summa Cum Laude), during which I also worked as a visiting scholar at Stanford University's Division of Pulmonary Medicine, deepening my expertise in drug development. At Arivin Tx, I've helped secure over €5M in equity and non-dilutive funding to advance our bold and novel Future-Proof therapies targeting some of the most resistant infections of our time, including *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.



Dr Anita Kotwani

University of Delhi, India

Dr Anita Kotwani is an independent research professional with 41 years of teaching and research experience in pharmacology and public health. She retired as a Professor and the Head of Department of Pharmacology at the Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI), University of Delhi, India. She has a PhD from the University of Delhi and has published about 100 papers in peer-reviewed journals. At present, she works as an independent consultant and is involved in a multidisciplinary project on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and labour migration in India and Nepal.

Dr Kotwani's primary areas of interest include surveillance of antimicrobial medicine use, containment of AMR, access to essential medicines including antibiotics, and the rational use of medicines. She served on a one-year assignment with the World Health Organization (WHO) in New Delhi, where she worked with Member States to improve access to essential medicines and promote the rational use of antibiotics. She has continued to collaborate frequently with WHO on methods for assessing antimicrobial use in outpatient settings, developing national action plans on AMR, creating targeted educational materials to increase AMR awareness among healthcare professionals, evaluating access to antibiotics, and developing methodologies for antimicrobial use surveillance in low-resource settings.



Dr Abi Manesh

ADVANCE ID & NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health

Abi Manesh is an infectious diseases physician, affiliated to ADVANCE ID, NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, Singapore and Christian Medical college, Vellore, India. He is interested in the design and implementation of large-scale, multicentric clinical trials, with a particular emphasis on addressing the unique challenges and perspectives of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). His research is centered on combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and brain infections.



Professor Ronan McCarthy

Professor in Microbial Biofilms, University of Southampton

Ronan McCarthy is currently a Professor in Microbial Biofilms at the University of Southampton. He leads a research programme on antibiotic resistance, antimicrobial discovery and biofilm regulation and disruption with a particular focus on *Acinetobacter baumannii* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. This programme of work is supported by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, NC3Rs, Academy of Medical Sciences, Horizon 2020, British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, Innovate UK, Natural Environment Research Council and the Medical Research Council. He serves as an Editorial Board Member for *npj Antimicrobials and Resistance*.



Dr Sumati Nambiar

Senior Director in the Child Health Innovation and Leadership Department, Johnson and Johnson

Dr Nambiar is board certified in paediatrics and paediatric infectious diseases and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Paediatrics. She has over 25 years of experience in drug development and regulatory science. Currently, she is a Senior Director in the Child Health Innovation and Leadership Department at Johnson and Johnson, where she provides regulatory and strategic input for pediatric development programs. Prior to joining J&J, Dr. Nambiar worked at the US Food and Drug Administration for 22 years in various capacities, including 8 years as Director, Division of Anti-Infectives providing regulatory oversight for the development of anti-infective products.



Dr Deborah O'Neil OBE

Founder & CEO, NovaBiotics

Deborah is founder and Chief Executive Officer of NovaBiotics, a biotechnology business with a portfolio of first-in-class solutions for unmet health and personal care needs.

Deborah chairs the boards of Opportunity North East (ONE) Life Science and BioAberdeen Ltd., is a member of the Scottish Life Sciences Industry Leadership Group and chairs the UK's Cystic Fibrosis AMR Syndicate steering group. Deborah also serves on and chairs a number of scientific advisory boards including Pathways to Antimicrobial Clinical Efficacy (PACE) and the CF AMR Collaborative Discovery programme (CDP).

Deborah obtained her PhD in immunology from UCL and then worked in postdoctoral positions in San Diego, Ghent and Aberdeen. Elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2018, Deborah is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine and in 2020, was awarded an OBE, for services to biotechnology, industry and charity.



Professor David Paterson

Professor of Medicine, National University of Singapore & ADVANCE-ID

David Paterson is a Professor of Medicine at the National University of Singapore, where he also directs ADVANCE-ID. This is a clinical trials network comprising more than 100 hospitals across Asia. Professor Paterson's previous appointments have included Chief of Transplant Infectious Diseases at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Director of the University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research, Brisbane, Australia. He has more than 650 peer-reviewed publications, including in journals such as *NEJM*, *JAMA* and *Lancet*. His major research interest is in clinical trials, and he was the leader of the MERINO trial of antibiotic options for ESBL producers.



Professor Nicholas Paton

Professor of Infectious Diseases, National University of Singapore & The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Nicholas Paton is a professor of infectious diseases at the National University of Singapore and at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. His research interests are optimisation of HIV and tuberculosis treatment in resource-limited settings.

In the field of HIV, he has led pivotal clinical trials such as EARNEST and NADIA, testing options for second line therapy in Africa that have changed WHO and other major international treatment guidelines for management of drug-resistant HIV infection; and changed the approach to and interpretation of drug resistance testing in public health treatment programmes. He is the scientific lead of the CARES trial, testing 2-monthly injectable long-acting therapy for HIV that has changed WHO treatment guidelines for management of first-line treatment.

In the field of TB, he leads a programme of treatment trials coordinated from Singapore, including the TRUNCATE-TB trial, conducted in a network of 18 sites in Asia and Africa that evaluated a strategy for using 8 weeks of initial treatment instead of the standard 24-week regimen for TB; and various trials of host-directed therapy for TB. He is a core academic lead for the EU-funded UNITE4TB trials consortium and the Chief Investigator for the flagship trial of that network – the PARADIGM4TB trial – which is testing multiple new drug combinations for tuberculosis in a global network of clinical research sites.



Dr Wanatpreeya Phongsamart

Professor of Paediatrics Division of Infectious Diseases, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Dr Wanatpreeya Phongsamart is an Associate Professor of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand. With over two decades of experience, she specializes in Streptococcus pneumoniae, vaccine-preventable diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and paediatric HIV. She earned her medical degree with honours at Siriraj Hospital and completed training in paediatric infectious diseases at the Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto.

Dr Phongsamart conducted one of the first prospective studies on macrolide-resistant Mycoplasma pneumoniae in Thai children, contributing important clinical evidence on this emerging pathogen. She also leads research on pneumococcal disease and founded the Pneumococcal Laboratory Network—a collaborative platform that supports surveillance and informs treatment guidelines in Thailand. In 2025, she launched a nationwide genomic study of S. pneumoniae in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health.

She has authored over 75-peer reviewed publications and serves on expert committees for the Paediatric Infectious Diseases Society of Thailand and the Thai National Immunization Program. Internationally, she is a member of the Working Group on Infectious Diseases of the International Paediatric Association.



Dr Assaf Raz

VP of Research & Development, Precisio Biotix Therapeutics

Dr Assaf Raz is VP of Research and Development at Precisio Biotix Therapeutics. He obtained his PhD from Rockefeller University where he focused on the development of engineered phage lysins and related molecules to combat multidrug-resistant bacteria. At Precisio Biotix Therapeutics, he established and leads the company's research team, driving the development of the staphylococcal lysin LYSG101 from bench to first-in-human compassionate use. Dr. Raz played a key role in securing a \$2.5M out-licensing deal in China and a \$1.5M grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He also led the development of a topical lysin formulation, currently in clinical evaluation, as well as the discovery and patenting of multiple lysin assets.



Dr Jeffrey Smith

Senior Technical Manager, Unitaid

Jeffrey Smith, MD, MPH is Senior Technical Manager on the Strategy Team at Unitaid in Geneva. He is an obstetrician / gynecologist and global health strategist with 30 years of experience in maternal newborn health across Africa, Asia and Latin America. At Unitaid he leads a team that invests in approaches to optimize national procurement systems to ensure that women and families have access to the health products they need, when and where they need them.



Professor Lori Snyder

Professor of Microbiology and Genomics, Kingston University London

Professor Snyder's research focuses on two main areas: combating antibiotic-resistant infections and bacterial genetics and genomics. She and her research team have developed novel antimicrobials to stop infant blindness from multi-drug-resistant bacterial infections. Prof. Snyder also uses bacterial genome sequence data to uncover information about pathogens, informing our laboratory investigations. In 2013, Professor Snyder was awarded the W H Pierce Prize from the Society for Applied Microbiology in recognition of my substantial contributions to the science of applied microbiology. She was twice elected to the Prokaryotic Division committee of the Microbiology Society and served on the Editorial Boards of the journals *Microorganisms* (MDPI) and *Microbial Genomics* (Microbiology Society). In April 2020, her textbook *Bacterial Genetics and Genomics* was published, with a second edition published in 2024.



Professor Tim Tolker-Nielsen

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Tim Tolker-Nielsen has Master of Science (chemical engineering) and PhD degree (molecular microbiology) from the Technical University of Denmark, as well as a DMSc degree (biofilm infections) from the University of Copenhagen. His work has uncovered mechanisms of biofilm formation and dispersion, and the regulation of these processes via the signaling molecule c-di-GMP. He has developed anti-biofilm drug candidates that can force bacteria out of the biofilm state and into an antibiotic-susceptible single-cell state. Moreover, his research has uncovered mechanisms of biofilm-associated antibiotic tolerance.



Dr Teodora Elvira C. Wi

Global Health Consultant – HIV, STI & Hepatitis, World Health Organization, Western Pacific Region

Dr Teodora Elvira C. Wi is an internationally recognized global health leader with over 30 years of experience advancing HIV, sexually transmitted infection (STI), and hepatitis programmes across Africa, Asia, and Latin America. She currently serves as a Consultant to the WHO Western Pacific Region, providing strategic and technical leadership to strengthen national and regional responses to HIV, STIs, and viral hepatitis.

Previously, Dr Wi was Lead for Sexually Transmitted Infections at the WHO Department of Global HIV, Hepatitis and STI Programmes in Geneva, where she led the development and global rollout of WHO STI guidelines, coordinated the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance in STIs, and supported countries in implementing the Global Health Sector Strategy on STIs.

She also served as Medical Officer and Acting Team Leader for HIV/AIDS and STIs at the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, directing regional strategies, surveillance, and capacity-building across multiple countries.

Before joining WHO, Dr Wi held senior leadership roles at Family Health International (FHI), including Country Director for FHI Philippines, Senior Technical Officer for Asia and the Pacific, and Director of the STI/HIV Capacity Building Grant under the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-supported Avahan India AIDS Initiative, where she led large-scale quality improvement and service delivery reforms for key populations.

Dr Wi has worked with around 30 national HIV and STI programmes worldwide, shaping policy, strengthening surveillance, and improving service delivery. She has authored or co-authored over 70 peer-reviewed scientific publications and led the development of multiple WHO global guidelines and technical reports.

She holds a Doctor of Medicine and Bachelor of Science in Biology from Saint Louis University (Philippines), completed post-doctoral training in the Epidemiology of AIDS at UCLA, and advanced STI/HIV research training at the University of Washington, Seattle. She is a Fellow of the Philippine Society of Venereology (FPSVI).

DISCOVERY & EXPLORATORY RESEARCH

Photodynamic Antimicrobial Chemotherapy Enhanced by Ir(III) Nanoaggregates Targeting Staphylococcus aureus

Ayushi Chaudhary
PhD, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, India

Isolation and identification of bacteria from liquid herbal mixtures sold in gusau metropolis, Zamfara state, Nigeria

Salim Abubakar
Lecturer II, Federal University, Gusau, Zamfara State, Nigeria

Evaluation of the Biomerieux Vitek® Reveal™ and BioFire for rapid identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing direct from positive blood cultures

David Rencriccia
Senior BMS, Public Health Wales (PHW), UK

Antibiotic Resistance Profiling of Acinetobacter baumannii via Clinical MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry

Liang Wang
Professor; Organization: Guangdong Provincial People's

Hospital (Guangdong Academy of Medical Sciences), Southern Medical University, China

Captive Corals as Sustainable Reservoirs of Bioactive Microbiome Bacteria: Collagen Scaffold Activation of Silent Biosynthetic Gene Clusters Enables Anti-MRSA Antibiotic Bioprospecting

Muhammad Ridwan Adyatama
Student at Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

Antimicrobial and in silico molecular docking studies of trivalent metal complexes of tridentate Schiff base ligand

Ikechukwu Ejidike
Assistant Professor and Anchor University, Lagos, Nigeria

Bacterial epigenetics: The silent weapon in development of multi- drug resistance

Guru Prasad Manderwad
Department of Microbiology, Kamineni Academy of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, LB Nagar, Hyderabad. Telangana, India

Resveratrol-Based Combinations as Quorum Sensing Inhibitors: Targeting Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus Biofilms without Inducing Resistance

Gina Walid
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Fructose asparagine utilization pathway of Salmonella enterica: A novel target to control this clinically significant and antibiotic resistant bacterium

Khem Raj Meena
Researcher; Central University of Rajasthan, India

The Gene and Regulatory Network Involved in Ethambutol Resistance in Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Funmilayo Grace Boni
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The T6SS of N. subflava strain KU1003-01 is involved in competition with commensal and pathogenic Gram-negative Neisseria spp. as well Candida albicans

Alan Calder
Kingston University, UK

Decrypting genotypic antimicrobial resistance amongst colistin-resistant Gram-negative bacteria at a tertiary academic healthcare-facility in South Africa

Prenika Jaglal
Department of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, National Health Laboratory Services, Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, Johannesburg, South Africa

Formulation, Characterization, and Efficacy Evaluation of Moringa oleifera Leaf Polyphenols-Loaded Phytosome Delivery System

Jecinta Ndung'u
Department of Global Health and Biomedical Sciences, School of Life Science and Bioengineering, Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology, Arusha, Tanzania

Utilizing a GNN machine learning model to predict anti-tuberculosis compounds

Sohail Mahmood
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Screening for the Production of Antibacterial Compounds by Pseudomonas Species Isolated from Soil in Zaria

Oluwaseun Ojo
Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Life Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria

Flavonoid-Triterpenoid Synergy against Staphylococcus aureus Biofilms: Mechanistic Insights into Antivirulence Strategies

Zeina Khattab
Center for Genomics (CG) at Zewail City of Science and Technology, Egypt

Efficacy of bioactive metabolites from marine bacteria against selected multi-drug resistant gram negative bacteria

Blessing Nwadike
Lecturer and University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

Breaking Rings and Building Bonds: Decoding Monobactam-PBP1b Interactions

Vid Kavaš
Young researcher at Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

How good a predictor the in vitro antibiogram is, of in vivo antibiotic efficacy?

Vijay Kothari
Senior Faculty, Institute of Science, Nirma University, India

Harnessing Marine Alkaloid Chemistry to Overcome WHO Priority Multidrug-Resistant Infections: Study of Ascididemin Against ESKAPE, NMT and Neisseria gonorrhoeae

Dayana Santos Ferreira
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Antibacterial properties of a honey-like extract from Averrhoa carambola fruits

Saiful Azmi Bin Johari

Research Officer, Antimicrobial Laboratory, Bioactivity Programme, Natural Products Division, Forest Research Institute, Malaysia

Antibacterial activities of aqueous extracts of some selected spices on a gram negative organism (Pseudomonas aeruginosa) isolated from meat.

Uhiara Stella Chinonyerem
Principal Technologist, Ogbonnaya Onu Polytechnic Aba, Abia State. Nigeria

Identification of host microRNAs regulating the infection of macrophages by invasive and non-invasive Salmonella strains

Susana Costa
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Comparative Studies on the Antibacterial Activity of Annona muricata (Soursop) Leaf and Seed Extracts against Selected Clinical Bacterial Isolates

Patience Adaramola
Postgraduate Student, Lead City University, Nigeria

Defining the Molecular Basis of Clostridioides difficile Adaptation to Reactive Nitrogen Species

Margaret Opeoluwa
PhD Student, University of Waterloo, Canada

Reviving the activity of antibacterial agents against Gram negative bacteria

Elissar Mansour

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Development of novel FabI-targeting antibiotics against Gram-negative bacterial pathogens

Chandra Sekhar Gudla

Principal Scientist – Medicinal Chemistry, Foundation for Neglected Disease Research, Bengaluru, India

Investigating Commensal-Dependent Penicillin Resistance in Group A Streptococcus

Bonnie Hyatt

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Fighting Back Against Resistance: Evaluating Novel Antimicrobials Against Multidrug-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae

Areena Hoda Siddiqui

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Using Fragment-Based Drug Design to Inhibit the Bacterial Efflux Pump AcrAB-ToIC

Henri Peters

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Genotypic Characterization by DNA Microarray of Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacterales

Manel Ennaceur

Hôpital Habib Thamer de Tunis , Tunisie, Tunisia

Discovery & Exploratory Research at GARDP: Progress on Undeveloped Agents

Alan Hennessy

GARDP

Fragment-Based Discovery of Novel DXR Inhibitors Targeting the MEP Pathway in Escherichia coli

Frederik Gerteis

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Evaluating Antimicrobial Resistance Acinetobacter baumannii Porins for Antibiotic Permeability

Aliakbar Ebrahimi

Postdoctoral Researcher, Ankara Yıldırım beyazıt University, Turkey

Design and Screening of a Bespoke Small-Molecule Library to Identify Novel Hits Against WHO Priority Gram-Negative Pathogens

Ravindra P. Jumde

Senior Scientific Officer, GARDP-Foundation

The effect of the growth environment on the evolution of antibiotic resistance in E. coli in urinary tract infections

Julia Buijs

PhD student at Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research (LACDR), Leiden University, Netherlands

High-throughput Screening identifies compounds active against intracellular Staphylococcus aureus

Laura Alcântara

Junior Researcher – University of Coimbra, Portugal

Photodynamic Activation of Alkaloids-Antiseptic Dual Combinations for Targeting Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus

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Isolation and Characterization of Novel β -Lactamase Inhibitors Resistant to Burkholderia pseudomallei from Environmental Sources of Dhaka, Bangladesh

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Evaluation of in vitro and in vivo anti-Toxoplasma gondii activity of acridine and acridone derivatives

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Decoding Prophage Diversity in Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium Isolates from Nigeria: Insights into Genomic Plasticity, Variability and Virulence Potential

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Electrokinetic Analysis of Silver Nanoparticles and Carbapenem Antibiotic Combinations in Klebsiella pneumoniae Strains

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Multidrug-Resistant Urinary Pathogens: Insights into Antibiotic Gene Transfer and Biofilm Formation

Mohammad Saif

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Unveiling the biofilm-forming potential of wastewater-derived MDR Enterobacteriaceae on microplastic surfaces

Shayan Ahmed

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Post-fluoroquinolone treatment molecular events and nutrient availability modulate Staphylococcus aureus antibiotic persistence

Nisha y Mahey

Postdoctoral fellow at UConn Health, USA

Study of the antibacterial activity of oils essentials of Origanum vulgare and Rosmarinus officinalis against strains of Enterococcus faecalis isolated from endodontic infections

Bousselham Ammara

Faculty of medicine, Aboubekr Belkaid university, Tlemcen, University Hospital center of Tlemcen, Algeria

PRE-CLINICAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

ENABLE-2: Filling the antibiotic development pipeline

Douglas Huseby

Scientific Program Manager for ENABLE-2 at Department of Medical Biochemistry and Microbiology, Uppsala University, Sweden

Discovery and early development of a small-molecule inhibitor of the c-di-GMP signalling pathway to suppress acute virulence in Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Tim Lindsay

Veirulence Ltd

EARLY CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT (PHASE 1, 2)

Inhibitor Activity and Resistance Mechanism of Compound BTD7 against Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Haftay Abraha Tadesse
Mekelle University, Ethiopia

OTHER

Optimising Antibiotic Duration and Missed Doses in Respiratory Infections: A Quality Improvement Project at Royal Blackburn Hospital

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Clinical Experience with Daptomycin Therapeutic Drug Monitoring in a Tertiary Care Institution, Republic of Ireland

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Prevalence of Vancomycin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus and Associated Risk Factors in Well Water Used for Domestic Purposes in Ile-Ife, Southwestern Nigeria

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Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus colonization among Pregnant women in Eastern Sri Lanka: Prevalence, Antibiotic resistance, mecA gene detection, associated factors and outcomes

Fathima Siromiya Shamil Mafras
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of Allied Health Sciences, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka

Cracking the Code of Resistance: Carbapenem-Resistant Urinary Tract Infections in Public and Private Hospitals

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Smarter Prescribing for Small Patients: AWARe Antibiotic Use in Newborn Care Across 68 Hospitals implementing with NEST360 in Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, and Tanzania

Kristina Shemwell
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Challenges in managing pediatric post – hematopoietic stem cell transplantation cmv reactivation: salvage therapy with letermovir

Aswathi Gangadharan
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Breaking Out of Traditional Learning: Evaluating an Escape Room Approach to Antimicrobial Education

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Simultaneous comparative study of several antimicrobials against

several microorganisms

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Antibiotic susceptibility pattern of non-clinical *Escherichia coli* disseminating in abametropolis, Nigeria

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Detection of Rifampicin Resistance in Pulmonary and Extrapulmonary Tuberculosis Using Truenat: A Laboratory-Based Study

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Spectrum of uro-pathogens and their susceptibility to Fosfomycin: cross-sectional analytical study

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Drivers of Antibiotic Self-Medication in an Urban Liberian Setting: A Cross-Sectional Study from Liberia

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Bacterial spectrum and the prevalence of multidrug-resistant bacteria isolated from clinical samples processed at a secondary hospital in Lambaréné, Gabon: Implications for antimicrobial stewardship

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Antimicrobial Resistance in the Context of Microbial Biocontrol Agents: Current Approaches and the Need for Regulatory Integration

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Widespread Colonization by the *Candida parapsilosis* species complex in Spanish Critical Care Units

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Fosfomycin Susceptibility and *fosA*-Mediated Resistance Among Gram-Negative Uropathogens in a Tertiary Care Centre

Sandeepika Dubey

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Evolving Antimicrobial Susceptibility Patterns in Neonatal Sepsis: A Two-Year NICU Cumulative Antibigram Analysis

Sonali Tanpure

Government medical College, Aurangabad, India

Antibiotics susceptibility studies of uropathogenic bacteria isolated from urine samples of pregnant women attending selected hospitals in Gusau metropolis

Salim Abubakar

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The impact of clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (crispr) technology in combating the growing threat of anti-microbial resistance

Akinpelu Oluwaseyi

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Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance in Nigeria: Advocacy for a Prescription-Only Antibiotic Policy

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Prevalence of ESBL-Producing *Escherichia coli* isolates from goat and sheep in stallholder farms in Northeastern Côte d'Ivoire

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Investigating Antimicrobial Resistance in Escherichia coli from Urban Potable Water in Nairobi: A One-Health Pre-study Framework

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Occurrence of Carbapenem resistant Acinetobacter baumannii in effluent of Ahmadu Bello university Medical Center

Ibrahim Hussaini

Lead Author and Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria

Exploring Marburg and Nipah Viruses in Global Research: A Neglected Role of Natural Products in Comparison with COVID-19

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Comparative Burden and Clinical Outcomes of Fungal versus Bacterial Bloodstream Infections in Critically Ill Neonates at a Tertiary Hospital in Bangladesh

Gazi Md. Salahuddin Mamun
Assistant Scientist at

International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh

Difficult-to-treat Resistant Gram-negative Bacteria and their Genomic Similarities among Patients in an Intensive Care Unit of a Tertiary Hospital in Bangladesh

Gazi Md. Salahuddin Mamun

Assistant Scientist at International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh

Rising Artemisinin Resistance in Africa: Meta-analysis of Ten Years of PfK13 Molecular Surveillance

Yusuf Wada

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Understanding Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) Epidemiology in Malaysia: Pooled Prevalence, Diagnostic Differences, and High-Risk Populations

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Metagenomic Screening for Antibiotic-Resistant Clostridioides difficile in the Gut Microbiomes of Asymptomatic Humans and Animals

Sanjana Kalra

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Emergence of mcr-1-Mediated Colistin Resistance in Tunisia: Molecular Detection and Sequencing Confirmation

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Klebsiella pneumoniae: Epidemiology and Antimicrobial Resistance Profile

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Acinetobacter baumannii: Bacteriological Characteristics and Antimicrobial Resistance

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Investigating the aetiology and contribution of antimicrobial-resistant infections to illness and death among hospitalised adults with advanced HIV disease: observations from a retrospective cohort in South Africa

Emily Prendergast

Lead Clinician of ADVANCE GERMS-SA, Wits Mycology, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

Sustainable alkanolamine-based metalworking fluid: evaluation of antimicrobial activity and impacts on occupational health

Gabrielly Pellegrini

Universidade do Vale do
Paraíba (University of the
Paraíba Valley), Brazil

**Combating Mycobacterium
bovis tuberculosis in
Benin: Prevalence,
antibiotic resistance, and
implications for the health
of women of childbearing
age and children**

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Houecande

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Calavi, Benin

**Evaluation of the role of
hospital effluents in the
dissemination of antibiotic
resistance genes in the
waterways of Benin**

Curiace Théodule Coffi Hinnilo
Polytechnic School of Abomey-
Calavi, Benin

**A Study on Microbiological
Profile and Antibigram
in Cases suspected of
Paediatric Urinary Tract
Infection**

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Microbiology, Department of
Basic Medical Sciences, Manipal
Academy of Higher
Education (MAHE), Manipal,
India

**Detection of ESBL genes
in uropathogens isolated
from pregnant women in
Iagos university teaching
hospital**

Afeez Yusuf

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Lagos State University, Ojo,
Lagos State, Nigeria

**RiN Infectisafe AI enhance
to combat AMR**

Rania Sultan

Director of Technofest Institute
of Technology Belgium , former
academic at King Abdulaziz
University, inventor AI enhanced
to combat AMR, Belgium

**Unmasking the bug - young
healthcare workforce in the
fight against antimicrobial
resistance**

Simon Kiambati

President - Jomo Kenyatta
University Medical Research
Club, Kenya

ACCESS

**Antibiotic Use and Access
in Patients undergoing
Cardiothoracic Surgeries
in a Tertiary Care Setting
of a Lower-Middle Income
Country**

Dhanya Sasidharan
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Kottayam, India