End of year greeting

The end of 2015 is almost here – a time for looking back at the year gone by and ahead to the new year’s goals. We at FIND would like to thank our partners, allies and supporters for your confidence in us and for your commitment to the work we do together to enable the diagnosis of neglected and poverty-related diseases globally.

We wish you and yours a healthy and peaceful new year, and we look forward to new successes in increasing access to needed diagnostics in 2016.

FIND issues RFA for evaluation of new diagnostic platform & TB test

FIND has issued a request for applications for trials aimed at demonstrating the improved performance and impact of the new Cepheid GeneXpert®Omni system in combination with the new Xpert® MTB/RIF Ultra assay for detection of tuberculosis (TB) and rifampicin resistance...Read more

FIND & Janssen to accelerate access to TB diagnosis, treatment & care

In early December at the 46th Union World Conference on Lung Health, FIND announced an innovative collaborative agreement with Janssen Pharmaceutica NV (Janssen) to accelerate access to tuberculosis (TB) diagnosis, treatment and care. The agreement, the first of its kind for both organizations, formalizes a strategic partnership to increase access to diagnostic tools for TB case detection and multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) diagnosis, and to accelerate post-diagnosis links to the most effective treatments...Read more

FIND & Cepheid to advance point-of-care TB diagnosis
diagnosis

On December 3rd, FIND and Cepheid (Nasdaq: CPHD) announced that they are broadening their collaboration on bringing point-of-care tuberculosis diagnosis to all levels of the health system in low- and middle-income countries. The work under the collaboration will focus on evaluating and implementing Cepheid’s new GeneXpert® Omni system and Xpert® MTB/RIF Ultra test, in addition to assessing the system’s cloud-based connectivity. These efforts will ultimately benefit all stakeholders, as the resulting data and know-how will be made publicly available...Read more

8th FIND Symposium at Union Conference: Presentations & panel discussion audio available online

FIND held its 8th Annual Symposium at the 46th Union World Conference in Cape Town. Chaired by Dr Bill Rodriguez, FIND’s Chief Medical Officer, the session attracted an audience of more than 200 delegates. In the first half, presenters discussed the priority challenges in TB diagnostics development and implementation, which must be addressed to achieve the End TB Strategy targets, and they shared recent advances in the TB diagnostics pipeline. The second half was an inspiring panel discussion entitled Improving private sector access to quality diagnostics, introduced and moderated by Professor Madhukar Pai of McGill International TB Centre.

The presentations and the panel discussion audio are available on our website.

TAG HCV webinar series

Direct-acting antivirals drastically simplify HCV diagnosis and monitoring

Dr Teri Roberts, Senior Scientific Officer, Hepatitis and HIV, FIND, provides an overview of the HCV diagnostic technologies in development that are suited to resource-limited settings, along with suggested advocacy points for the international community to drive forward.

Download slides and listen to audio.

FIND joins Global Chagas Disease Coalition
In the fourth quarter of this year, FIND signed a partnership agreement with the Global Chagas Disease Coalition (GCDC), a group of researchers, clinicians, patients, funders, civil society, and public health practitioners that have come together to improve the management of Chagas disease worldwide. The aim of the coalition is to increase access to existing health tools and treatments to control Chagas disease, while also fostering innovations in these areas...

**Partner news**

**MMV launches the Pathogen Box** - 400 compounds made available for free to boost neglected disease drug research

**Development of serological biomarkers for malaria** - GHIT has invested $993,030 in the development of biomarkers for malaria, which could potentially catalyze new diagnostic tools. The project’s development partners include Australia’s Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Japan’s Ehime University, the Japanese biotech firm CellFree Sciences Co., Ltd. and Switzerland’s FIND. This is the second diagnostic project in the GHIT portfolio.

**WHO: 2015 World Health Snapshot**

**TDR: End of year news**

**McGill Summer Institute in Infectious Diseases & Global Health**

**Week 1:** June 13-17, 2016

- [TB Research Methods](#)
- [Global Health Diagnostics](#): course faculty includes William Rodriguez, Chief Medical Officer, FIND

**Week 2:** June 20-24, 2016

- [Advanced TB Diagnostics Research](#): course faculty includes FIND’s Head of TB and Hepatitis, Claudia Denkinger, and Samuel Schumacher, Scientific Officer
- [Molecular and Genetic Epidemiology](#)
- [Tropical and Parasitic Diseases](#)