



Newsletter

February 2017

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TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

Unitaid Technology Landscape for Fever Diagnostics

***SIMplicity*, first-of-its-kind connectivity service**



Connected diagnostics in low- and middle-income countries, when available, often rely on locally purchased, pay-as-you-go SIM cards, which have many associated problems, such as being uncontrolled and unsecured. ***SIMplicity***, a digital connectivity service for the global health community developed by FIND and powered by Telecom26, aims to reduce the burden of sourcing and managing SIM cards by providing reliable, global mobile data coverage at a low, fixed rate for use in connected healthcare devices in low-resource settings. [More...](#)

Today we launched a new access strategy



Watch [this short video](#) about our access strategy...

Maximizing the health impact of diagnostic solutions

The PDF of the strategy can be viewed [here](#).

Agenda for Action: Tackling AMR with



Unitaid Multi-disease Diagnostic Landscape



diagnostics



Following the regional stakeholders summit held in Cape Town last month, FIND released a consensus document on R&D priorities that contained concrete solutions for how to prevent and treat drug resistant infection in a wide range of diseases. Overall conclusions reinforced our newly launched AMR strategy, which stresses the role of diagnostics to optimize use of antibiotics, protect new drugs and support surveillance – key areas of concern for regional and international partners. [More...](#)

Supplemental MIC data files for TB researchers & diagnostics developers now on our website

Download all Supplemental MIC data generated data stratified by molecule.

Molecule	Drug	Country	Year	Strain	Strain ID	Sequence	Phenotype	Strain Type	Total MIC	Strain of Interest	Strain of Interest MIC	Strain of Interest Sequence	Strain of Interest Phenotype	Strain of Interest Strain Type
Isoniazid	INH	Belgium	2014	H	H01431	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype	8	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype
									0	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype
Rifampin	RIF	Belgium	2014	H	H01431	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype	16	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype
									0	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype
Ethambutol	EMB	Belgium	2014	H	H01431	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype	10	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype
									0	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype
Bedaquiline	OPC-67683	Belgium	2014	H	H01431	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype	0	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype
									0	2014	0	GATC	Drug Sensitive	Wildtype

Last year, the WHO Global TB Programme commissioned FIND to perform a systematic review of available minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) data for phenotypically wildtype and non-wild type strains of TB, including associated sequencing data for relevant resistance genes.

FIND is web-hosting the supplement for this work, including the MIC data files for each drug included in the review. Through these Excel files, researchers and diagnostic developers have the opportunity to filter compiled MIC data by drug for specific resistance mutations.

This work will allow TB researchers, pharmaceutical partners, and diagnostic developers to take a closer look at the value of different resistance mutations in molecular assays, the implications for treatment of TB infections with particular genetic profiles, and to highlight specific areas where additional research is needed. [More...](#)

5 new Requests for Proposals



RFP for selection of an implementation agency having expertise in patient management across the continuum of care, i.e., notifications, treatment and adherence along with close monitoring and reporting of stock and patient information. Country, India. **Deadline 8 March 2018** – [Full RFP](#)

RFP for platform to diagnose priority diseases with outbreak potential. **Deadline 16 March 2018** – go here for [more information](#), full RFP & FAQ

3 RFPs, listed below, for development of point-of-care hepatitis C virus tests. **Deadline 23 March 2018:**

- RFP for an automated, fully integrated, point-of-care immunoassay for hepatitis C diagnosis – [Full RFP](#)

- RFP for a rapid diagnostic test for hepatitis C diagnosis – [Full RFP](#)

- RFP for the development of a POC HCV RNA assay on polyvalent fully integrated platform – [Full RFP](#)

How we're fighting antimicrobial resistance in South Africa

by Heidi Albert

HIV, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections have claimed too many South African lives. Today, defeating these diseases is a national priority, with the mission of the latest National Strategic Plan to get our country on track to eliminate them as public health threats by the year 2030. But what happens when



the treatments we use to fight them no longer work? This is a reality for many people who are already living with drug-resistant strains of many common infections. Antimicrobial resistance occurs when bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi evolve and become able to survive in the face of drugs designed to cure or prevent the infections they cause.

[Read more...](#)

McGill Summer Institute in Infectious Diseases & Global Health: Registration ongoing



The **McGill Summer Institute** features internationally known faculty, a focus on highly applicable new knowledge, and an opportunity to network with fellow global health professionals from around the world. The unique format of short non-credit professional development courses attracts a diverse group of participants, from industry leaders to NGO's, academics and researchers, and advocacy group members. The Summer Institute is hosted by **McGill Global Health Programs**, the McGill International TB Centre, the MUHC-RI (Infectious Diseases and Immunity in Global Health), the McGill Interdisciplinary Initiative in Infection and Immunity (MI4) and the JD Maclean Centre for Tropical Diseases.

2018 McGill Summer Institute Schedule:

Week 1: June 11-15, 2018

- TB Research Methods
- Global Health Diagnostics
- Qualitative Methods in Global Infectious Diseases Research

Weekend: June 16-17, 2018

- Antimicrobial Resistance Special Session (June 16, 2018) – NEW!
- Clinical Tropical Medicine Laboratory Course (June 17, 2018)

Week 2: June 18-22, 2018

- Clinical Tropical Medicine (June 18-20, 2018)
- Clinical TB: a focused clinical & public health review for healthcare workers – NEW (June 18-20, 2018)
- Advanced TB Diagnostics
- Genomic Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases

Deadline: You are encouraged to apply early as evaluation for acceptance is rolling. The deadline for participants needing a Visa to travel to Canada is today - Feb 28th - and registration closes May 1st.

Website: www.mcgill-idgh.ca

Application: <http://mcgill-idgh.ca/registration-information/>

Partner News & Resources

Global Fund: [Making the world safe from the threats of emerging infectious diseases](#), by Peter Sands, Incoming Executive Director

Stop TB Partnership: [Leading the global market: Stop TB Partnership's GDF secured 41% of TB diagnostic cartridges in 2017](#)

Scientific articles by FIND staff & SAC

Tängdén T, Pulcini C, Aargard H, Balasegaram M, Hara GL, Nathwani D, Sharland M, Theuretzbacher U, Cars O. **Unavailability of old antibiotics threatens effective treatment for common bacterial infections.** *The Lancet Infect Dis*, March 2018. [Abstract](#)

Haraka F, Nathavitharana RR, Schumacher SG, Kakolwa M, Denkinger CM, Gagneux S, Reither K, Ross A. **Impact of diagnostic test Xpert MTB/RIF on health outcomes for tuberculosis (Protocol).** *Cochrane Library*, Feb 2018. [View article](#)

Mukhtar M, Ali SS, Boshara SA, Albertini A, Monnerat S, Bessell PR, Kubota Y, Mori Y, Ndung'u J, Cruz I. **Sensitive and less invasive confirmatory diagnosis of visceral leishmaniasis in Sudan using loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP).** *PLoS NTDs*, Feb 2018. [View article](#)

Büscher P, Bart J-M, Boelaert M, Bucheton B, Cecchi G, Chitnis N, Courtin D, Figueiredo LM, Franco J-R, Grébaut P, Hasker E, Ilboudo H, Jamonneau V, Koffi M, Lejon V, MacLeod A, Masumu J, Matovu E, Mattioli R, Noyes H, Picado A, Rock KS, Rotureau B, Simo G, Thévenon S, Trindade S, Truc P, van Reet N. **Do cryptic reservoirs threaten gambiense-sleeping sickness elimination?** *Trends in Parasitology*, Jan 2018. [View article](#)

Jobs at FIND

FIND India, New Delhi:

[Data Manager](#) – Application deadline: 9 Mar 2018

[Project Lead](#) – Application deadline: 9 Mar 2018

[State PPM Lead](#) – Application deadline: 11 Mar 2018

FIND Headquarters, Geneva:

[Senior Resource Mobilization Officer](#) – Application deadline: 9 Mar 2018

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