

Meet the TB Experts!

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Jennifer Furin, MD, PhD



Jennifer Furin, MD, PhD, is an infectious diseases physician and a medical anthropologist who focuses on global health. Dr. Furin is engaged in clinical and program work and operational research to support the treatment of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and HIV. She has been fighting drug-resistant TB since 1995 when she began working in Lima, Peru with Partners In Health.

Timothy H. Holtz, M.D., M.P.H.



Timothy H. Holtz, M.D., M.P.H., is a professor at the GWU Milken School of Public Health. He served as the Deputy Director of the Office of AIDS Research (OAR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from June 2019 through March 2024. From 2010–2019, Dr. Holtz served in global HIV and TB prevention and control programs overseas, as a country program director for both CDC's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Division of Global HIV and TB.

Carole Mitnick, Sc.D.



Carole Mitnick, Sc.D., is a professor at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Mitnick's research centers on the improvement of clinical management and programmatic policy for tuberculosis and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) globally. Her research questions are strongly influenced by the mission of Partners In Health, with which Dr. Mitnick has worked since 1996: she strives to conduct research that will affect changes in global policy to ensure the highest standard of care and best treatment outcomes for patients suffering from all forms of tuberculosis, regardless of where they live.



KJ Seung, MD



KJ Seung, MD, is a clinician-researcher with over 20 years of experience in infectious diseases, including TB, HIV and COVID-19. Dr. Seung joined PIH in 2001, after it was awarded a Gates Foundation grant to develop a scalable model for MDR-TB treatment. Dr. Seung worked closely with the Peruvian Ministry of Health to care for patients with MDR-TB, and to develop clinical protocols that eventually laid the foundation for WHO normative guidelines.

Melino Ndayizigiye, MD, MMSc



Melino Ndayizigiye, MD, MMSc, is the executive director of PIH Lesotho, where he leads PIH staff and community health workers in reforming the healthcare system and combatting MDR-TB. He grew up in Burundi, earned his MD there, then got his Masters in Global Health Delivery at Harvard. He has been working with PIH since 2008.

Maxo Luma, MD, MPH,



Maxo Luma, MD, MPH, is the Executive Director of PIH Liberia. He is a Haitian infectious diseases physician who began working with PIH in Haiti in 2005. He was recently nominated as a Commissioner for The Lancet Global Health Commission on People-Centered Care for Universal Health Coverage, convened by the Harvard Center for Primary Care.



Stephen McGill



Stephen McGill is a TB expert with PIH Liberia, and the cofounder and Executive Director of Stop AIDS in Liberia (SAIL), an organization that advocates for and provides HIV treatment and care. Stephen has worked with the Department of Public Health of the city of Philadelphia, PA and is a student and lecturer in public health at Marshall University in Huntington, WV.

Aishva Kothari, BPH



Aishva Kothari, BPH, is a fellow at StopTB USA and MD candidate at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine.

Amee Patrawalla, MD, MPH



Amee Patrawalla, MD, MPH, is the chair-elect for StopTB USA. She is an Associate Professor of Medicine in Pulmonary and Critical Care at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School and Medical Director of the Rutgers Global Tuberculosis Institute.



Cynthia Tschampl, PhD



Cynthia Tschampl, PhD, is the immediate past chair of Stop TB USA. She is a Research Scientist at The Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University with over 20 years of experience in U.S. and global health. Her research spans infectious disease prevention and treatment, healthcare financing, substance use disorder, health inequities, and quality measurement.

Sailesh Bhujel, MSc



Sailesh Bhujel, MSc, is a member of StopTB USA. He has worked for 14 years implemented HIV and TB programs in Nepal as well as disaster relief programs with a variety of organizations and partners, including Save the Children.

Leslie A. Enane, MD, MSc



Leslie A. Enane, MD, MSc, is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the Ryan White Center for Pediatric Infectious Disease and Global Health at Indiana University School of Medicine, and she serves as the Director of Pediatric HIV Services at Riley Hospital for Children. She conducts research on TB and HIV both in East Africa and in Indiana, with a particular focus on children and adolescents. She serves as Co-Chair of the Multiregional TB Sentinel Research Network of IeDEA.



Emily Kendall, MD, PhD



Emily Kendall, MD, PhD is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Infectious Diseases division at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Her research focuses on tuberculosis epidemiology and infectious disease dynamics.

David W. Dowdy, MD, PhD, ScM



David W. Dowdy, MD, PhD, ScM is an infectious disease epidemiologist and general internist at Johns Hopkins. He studies the epidemiology of tuberculosis. Most of his work is based in Malawi, as a core faculty member of the Uganda Tuberculosis Implementation Research Consortium, and in South Africa, in collaboration with the Perinatal HIV Research Unit and Setshaba Research Centre.

Samyra Cox, MPH, PhD



Samyra Cox, MPH, PhD is faculty in the Global Disease Elimination and Control program of the International Health Department at Johns Hopkins. She has fifteen years of global health research and implementation experience with a focus on TB. Samyra combines epidemiologic and implementation science methods to answer policy-relevant questions about optimizing TB interventions. Most of her projects are in India, including the TB Aftermath hybrid effectiveness-implementation trial and the TB Free Schools Initiative.



Kelly Curran



Kelly Curran is the Project Director of the SMART4TB (Supporting, Mobilizing, and Accelerating Research for Tuberculosis) consortium. She previously worked as the senior director for HIV and infectious diseases at Jhpiego. Curran's most recent role involved overseeing the \$391 million PEPFAR/USAID-funded Reaching Impact, Saturation and Epidemic control project, which is focused on supporting national HIV, COVID-19, mpox, and Marburg virus responses.

Nicole M. Salazar-Austin, MD, SCM



Nicole M. Salazar-Austin, MD, SCM is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University. She spent several years as a global health corps physician with the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative in eSwatini. Her research focuses on combining existing and new biomedical interventions in tuberculosis with novel health care delivery models to improve implementation of TB preventive treatment in TB-exposed pregnant women, children and adolescents with and without HIV worldwide.

Ted Cohen, DPH, MD, MPH



Ted Cohen, DPH, MD, MPH, is a Professor of Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases at the Yale School of Public Health. His research group studies the transmission and control of tuberculosis in high incidence settings, with a particular focus on the challenges associated with the emergence of drug-resistant *M. tuberculosis*. His work is supported by funding from NIH and the US CDC and has active collaborations in the US, Brazil, Malawi, South Africa, Moldova, China and Taiwan



Jenni Maple



Jenni Maple is the Associate Director of Advocacy for iavi. She works in advocacy for global health legislation with the US government and has helped develop and pass key legislation shaping impactful policy changes and influencing funding at the national, regional, and global levels.

Donna Wegener



Donna Wegener is the Executive Director of the National Tuberculosis Coalition of America (NTCA).

Jason Cummins, MPH



Jason Cummins, MPH, is the President of the National Tuberculosis Coalition of America (NTCA) and Director of TB Elimination Program at the Tennessee Department of Health.



Kelly White, MPH, CPH



Kelly White, MPH, CPH, is the Director of Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Prevention at the Indiana Department of Health and board member at the National Tuberculosis Coalition of America (NTCA).

Lauren Swensson, MPH, BHS



Lauren Swensson, MPH, BHS, is the Kansas state TB Controller and Director of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention. She is also a board member for the National Tuberculosis Coalition of America (NTCA).

Dr. Sonal Munsiff



Dr. Sonal Munsiff is an infectious diseases consultant and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center in NY. She has worked in the field of TB control for 30 years, including with NYC Bureau of Tuberculosis Control, and the CDC. She has conducted research on various aspects of TB treatment and complications, clinical trials, epidemiology, outbreak investigations, and program evaluation.



Riana Tadeo



Riana Tadeo is the Program Coordinator at the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), an organization dedicated to promoting advocacy, collaboration, and leadership that improves the health status and access of Asian Americans (AAs), Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (NH/PIs). AAPCHO envisions a world in which AAs, NH/PIs, and all communities have equitable access to affordable, high quality, and culturally and linguistically proficient health care.

Mukta Deia



Mukta Deia is the Program Manager, Health Partnerships at Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), an organization dedicated to promoting advocacy, collaboration, and leadership that improves the health status and access of Asian Americans (AAs), Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (NH/PIs). AAPCHO envisions a world in which AAs, NH/PIs, and all communities have equitable access to affordable, high quality, and culturally and linguistically proficient health care.

Chibo Shinagawa



Chibo Shinagawa is the Associate Director of Infectious Diseases at the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO). As the Project Director of the TB Elimination Alliance (TEA), Chibo is committed to advancing AAPCHO's leadership in tuberculosis (TB) elimination efforts. Chibo is actively involved with TB Centers of Excellence and collaborates with state and national TB coalitions, working at the intersection of public health departments, FQHCs, and community-based organizations. In addition, she manages AAPCHO's cooperative agreement with the CDC's Division of Tuberculosis Elimination within the National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and Tuberculosis Prevention.



Tina Shah, PharmD



Tina Shah PharmD is a Research Pharmacist and MDR-TB survivor from Virginia. Tina is a strong survivor advocate for tuberculosis patient advocacy groups and networks for better research, diagnostics, patient care, and the ultimate eradication of TB. Tina is a part of the TB Trials Consortium Community Research Advisors Group.

Sue Coates



Sue Coates is a latent TB survivor and advocate with We Are TB representing New Mexico at Hill Day. She was diagnosed in 2018 and endured 12 weeks of treatment. Susan has spoken at a World TB Day press conference sponsored by University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center and the New Mexico State Department of Health. She also attended the 2018 TB Survivor Workshop in Palm Spring and has attended advocacy events with Congress as part of We Are TB.

Suraj Madoori



Suraj Madoori is the Director: Policy Advocacy at the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition (AVAC) where he oversees and collaborates with AVAC's Policy Advocacy team and partners on policy goals aimed at expanding access to HIV prevention, supporting R&D and programs, and advancing global health equity. Prior to joining AVAC, Suraj was the US and Global Health Policy Director for Treatment Action Group (TAG) where he built the policy footprint of the organization and directed advocacy efforts across HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB), hepatitis C (HCV), and other allied health and human rights issues. Suraj's tenure at TAG led to a series of critical policy wins, of which include significant funding increases to the US global TB efforts at USAID, restoration of cuts to the domestic TB prevention program at CDC, and collaborating with Congress on the introduction of key legislation supporting domestic and global TB programs.



Shaka Brown



Shaka Brown is a TB survivor who was diagnosed with extra-pulmonary TB in 2023. He spent 4 months recuperating in the Respiratory Care Unit, learning directly the effects of TB on the body, the mind, and the spirit. He uses this experience to raise awareness of the world's most prevalent disease. He will be attending Texas and Tennessee-based Hill Day meetings.

Tiffany Salinas



Tiffany Salinas is a TB survivor and advocate with We Are TB representing Texas at Hill Day. She has presented her experience at conferences and education events such as Breathe Pennsylvania's annual Tuberculosis Educational Conference.

Tenzin Kunor, MScPH



Tenzin Kunor, MScPH is a Tibetan American Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) survivor and the Senior Associate for Global Policy at RESULTS and the RESULTS Education Fund. He was born in a Tibetan resettlement camp in southern India and lived for many years in Madison, Wisconsin and now calls Maryland home. Tenzin has a passion for social justice, access and equity in health and higher education, and mental health and wellness. He was diagnosed with MDR-TB in the spring of 2013 and endured a lengthy and rigorous 28 months of treatment. Tenzin is now one of the leaders for We Are TB and was identified as a 2021 TB Elimination Champion by CDC, in part for his visionary role in the creation of the We Are TB Support Space.



Jacke Cuen



Jacke Cuen is a TB survivor and advocate with We Are TB representing California for Hill Day. Jackie experienced 9 months of treatment—including 3 weeks in the hospital and two months of isolation—for an active TB infection after several misdiagnoses.

Karen Reyna



Karen Reyna is a TB survivor and advocate with We Are TB representing Georgia for Hill Day. She developed active TB after giving birth to her son, who also developed TB, but she was initially misdiagnosed with pneumonia. After both of them completed treatment, she worked with her local health department monitoring TB treatment for other patients.

Kate O'Brien



Kate O'Brien is a TB survivor who lives in NJ. In 2015, Kate was living in Brooklyn, NY and excitedly expecting her second pregnancy. This pregnancy wasn't like her first, however. Kate was waking up at night with sweats, had no desire to eat, and was coughing up blood. It took months of confusion, pain, multiple doctors and tests before Kate wound up finally being diagnosed for active pulmonary TB in a hospital ICU. The pregnancy affected Kate's ability to take the usual medications we use to treat tuberculosis, and she had to be isolated away from her child for 75 days, with no clear answer on what would happen to her baby. Kate finished treatment in 2016 and is an active member of We Are TB.



Dr. Kelly Holland



Dr. Kelly Holland is a family physician who practices at Lynn Community Health Center in Eastern Massachusetts. He attended medical school at the University of Massachusetts and completed training at Swedish Cherry Hill Family Medicine Residency in 2011. His clinical interests include infectious disease, global health care delivery, addiction and social determinants of health. In 2014 he developed active pulmonary tuberculosis and a profound new perspective on an illness he had been treating for years. Dr. Holland seeks to be an advocate not only for improved treatment of tuberculosis but for the elimination of institutional pathologies that perpetuate its spread. When not seeing patients he enjoys playing with his two sons.

Additional TB Survivors in attendance:

- Diane Doult
- Greg Quinones
- Hesborn Birisi, PhD
- Maddy Ngo
- Meredith Mason
- Monique Meshe
- Zahra Syed
- Nicole Skaggs

