

Modern TB Diagnostic Services: Optimizing the Old with the New

6th Global Laboratory Initiative (GLI) Partners Meeting

Organized by the World Health Organization Global TB Programme



World Health Organization, Geneva
Executive Board Room, 30 April - 2 May 2014



The Global Laboratory Initiative (GLI) is a network of international partners dedicated to accelerating and expanding access to quality assured laboratory services in response to the diagnostic challenges of tuberculosis (TB), notably HIV-associated and drug-resistant TB. The GLI provides a focus for TB within the framework of a multi-faceted yet integrated approach to laboratory capacity strengthening. Scaling up laboratory services to meet the diagnostic challenges of drug-resistant and HIV-associated TB require a paradigm shift in laboratory policy development, setting laboratory norms and standards, guiding and coordinating technical assistance, and accelerating knowledge transfer.

In recognition of the critical constraints of TB diagnostics and laboratory services, unprecedented efforts in improving and expanding TB laboratory capacity are currently under-way, spearheaded by the WHO, GLI and a network of international partners. At the same time, the TB diagnostics pipeline is growing, new technologies are regularly assessed by WHO leading to rapid policy development and deployment, and innovative partnerships are being formed, mobilizing and optimizing resources while ensuring that laboratory quality standards, appropriate infrastructure, and adequate technical capacity are put in place.

Membership of the GLI has continued to grow and more than 100 international partners have joined forces to accelerate and expand access to quality assured TB diagnostic services within integrated laboratory systems. The GLI works closely with National TB Programmes, nongovernmental organizations, technical and financial agencies, scientific and academic institutions, and WHO offices at country and regional levels in strengthening TB laboratory services.

Consultation of the Supranational Reference Laboratory Network

The Supranational TB Reference Laboratory Network (SRLN) is a key technical resource of GLI, providing support to countries. The on-going scale up of laboratory services and the increased number of diagnostic options available present an urgent need for an expanded focus of SRLN activities. Addressing the issue of sustained and expanded technical support from SRLs to countries, rolling out of new TB diagnostics and satisfying the widening need of laboratory strengthening services required are therefore critical to ensure efficient translation of new policies into actions at country level.

Global Forum of Xpert MTB/RIF Implementers

Since WHO recommendation of the Xpert MTB/RIF assay in December 2010, 104 countries have adopted the technology. Over 2,000 GeneXpert instruments have been deployed globally and about 1 million Xpert MTB/RIF cartridges are procured each quarter. The annual Global Forum of Xpert MTB/RIF implementers gives the opportunity for countries and their technical partners and donors to come together to share lessons learned and challenges for scale-up, with a focus on evidence of impact and linking scaled-up diagnosis with scaled-up access to treatment.

Goal

The overall goal of the Partners meeting this year is to bring together leading global agencies, international technical and funding partners, representatives from research organizations, non-governmental agencies, country TB control programmes, patient communities and other key stakeholders working in partnership. The meeting will highlight achievements and experiences of GLI partners and countries integrating new TB diagnostics to complement existing tools in the creation of more effective networks providing optimal patient services.

Participants

The meeting will include representatives from international institutions and initiatives, academic institutions and associations, high-burden TB country health programmes, non-governmental organizations, research institutes from developed and developing countries, industry representatives and funding agencies.

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Wednesday, 30 April 2014		
8:30	Registration	
9:00	Welcome and opening	Mario Raviglione, WHO Global TB Programme Lucica Ditiu, Stop TB Partnership
SESSION 1: ADVANCEMENTS IN TB DIAGNOSTICS		
		Chair: Tom Shinnick
9:25	Achievements of the GLI	Tom Shinnick
10:00	Advancements in TB diagnostics <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Update on WHO TB diagnostics policies❖ New diagnostics pipeline	Chris Gilpin David Dolinger
10:30	< Break >	
11:00	Outcomes of the surveillance project on resistance to pyrazinamide and fluoroquinolones	Matteo Zignol
11:20	Outcomes of the Target Product Profile meeting, 28-29 April	Catharina Boehme Claudia Denking
11:40	Molecular DST – New approaches	David Alland
12:00	Discussion	
12:30	< Lunch >	
SESSION 2: LABORATORY STRENGTHENING INITIATIVES		
		Chair: Rumina Hasan
14:00	Global Laboratory Initiative-Africa region	Tsehaynesh Messele
14:15	EXPAND-TB Project <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Achievements of EXPAND-TB❖ Sustaining the achievements: strategy for a smooth transition out❖ Country experience from Myanmar❖ Country experience from Moldova	Daniel Orozco Fuad Mirzayev Si Thu Aung Elena Romancenco
15:25	Discussion	
15:50	< Break >	
16:10	GLI Laboratory strategic planning handbook	Jerod Scholten
16:30	Global Fund: New Funding Model – TB Portfolio	Mohammed Yassin
16:50	National Strategic Plan (NSP) development: role of GLI partners and SRLs	Chris Gilpin
17:15	Discussion	
17:45	End of Day 1	
18:00-20:00	GLI Core Group meeting (closed)	

Thursday, 1 May 2014		
SESSION 3: THE SUPRANATIONAL REFERENCE LABORATORY NETWORK		Chair: Chris Gilpin
9:00	DST proficiency testing of SRLs and NRLs	Armand van Deun
9:30	Challenges in establishing a gold standard for detection of rifampicin resistance	Daniela Cirillo
10:00	Discussion	
10:15	SRLN Restructuring the Network ❖ New laboratories in the Network ❖ New SRL Centers of Excellence	Chris Gilpin
10:30	< Break >	
11:00	SRLN – challenges and achievements: ❖ SRL Gauting ❖ SRL Uganda ❖ SRL Adelaide	Harald Hoffman Moses Joloba Richard Lumb
11:45	Discussion	
12:00	< Lunch >	
Global Forum of Xpert MTB/RIF Implementers		
SESSION 4: ADVANCEMENTS IN THE USE OF XPERT MTB/RIF		Chair: Karin Weyer
13:15	Forum objectives and the status of the global roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF: latest progress and tools	Wayne van Gemert
13:30	WHO Xpert MTB/RIF Implementation manual: selection of patients to test and interpretation of results	Fuad Mirzayev
13:50	Use of Xpert MTB/RIF for diagnosing extrapulmonary TB	Stephen Lawn
14:10	Outcomes and follow-up of the GDF GeneXpert procurement stakeholders meeting, Paris, October 2013	Thomas Verges
14:30	Discussion	
14:45	Cepheid module failure investigation	Martin Colla
15:00	Discussion	
15:30	< Break >	
SESSION 5: XPERT MTB/RIF FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV (PLHIV)		Chairs: Haileyesus Getahun, Heather Alexander
15:45	Part I: Making Xpert MTB/RIF change the game for PLHIV ❖ Xpert for PLHIV: scaling-up through a joint TB and HIV services platform ❖ Commentary: Global Fund single concept note- opportunities of joint programming ❖ The perspective of the HIV Programme Manager ❖ The perspective of the TB Programme Manager	Nathan Ford Annette Reinisch Tekalign Megos Frank Mugabe
16:35	Discussion	
17:00	Part II: Xpert MTB/RIF impact data- Evidence from XTEND and TB-NEAT studies ❖ Findings and implications from the XTEND study ❖ Findings and implications from the TB-NEAT study ❖ WHO commentary on the studies	Gavin Churchyard Grant Theron Wayne van Gemert
17:40	Discussion	
18:00	End of Day 2	

Friday, 2 May 2014

SESSION 6: EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS LEARNED IN THE ROLL-OUT OF XPERT MTB/RIF

Chair: Amy Piatek

9:00	Country achievements and lessons learned	
	❖ TB & HIV programme coordinated roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF in Nigeria	<i>Mustapha Gidado / Joshua Obasanya</i>
	❖ Integrating Xpert MTB/RIF into PMDT and PPM activities in India	<i>R.S. Gupta</i>
	❖ Nationwide roll-out of Xpert MTB/RIF as an initial diagnostic test: South Africa NHLS	<i>Wendy Stevens</i>
	❖ Clinical utility of Xpert MTB/RIF in guiding TB and MDR-TB treatment: experience in Belarus	<i>Alena Skrahina</i>

10:20 Discussion

10:40 < Break >

11:00 [Epicentre's feasibility study on Xpert MTB/RIF introduction in MSF projects](#) *Anne-Laure Page*

11:20 [Optimal use of Xpert MTB/RIF to increase TB case detection: findings of TB REACH](#) *Jacob Creswell*

11:40 [Xpert MTB/RIF roll-out - TB CARE I achievements & lessons learned](#) *Kathleen England*

12:00 Discussion

12:30 < Lunch >

SESSION 7: BEST PRACTICES IN MONITORING & EVALUATION

Chair: Dennis Falzon

14:00 [Using M&E to guide Xpert MTB/RIF scale-up in Tanzania](#) *Heidi Albert*

14:20 **Panel: Advancements in electronic recording and reporting systems for Xpert MTB/RIF**

❖ Cepheid - remote monitoring system	<i>Martin Colla</i>
❖ Abt Associates- GxAlert	<i>Jeff Takle</i>
❖ Interactive Health Solutions- XpertSMS	<i>Aamir Khan</i>
❖ GenXchange in the Democratic Republic of Congo	<i>Emmanuel Andre</i>
❖ Linking laboratory information systems for diagnostics	<i>Eduardo Jezierski / Tobias Broger</i>

15:20 < Break >

SESSION 8: EXPANDING ACCESS

Chair: Fuad Mirzayev

15:40 [The critical role of technical assistance in expanding access to Xpert MTB/RIF: MSH's experience in 5 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa](#) *Alaine Nyaruhirira*

16:00 [Solutions to overcome market shortcomings in the private sector](#) *Harkesh Dabas*

16:20 [Establishment of social business models using Xpert MTB/RIF in three Asian megacities](#) *Aamir Khan*

16:40 [Getting to Zero TB deaths: a patient centered approach to diagnosis](#) *Colleen Daniels*

17:00 Xpert MTB/RIF: a patient cost perspective *Bertie Squire*

17:20 Discussion

17:45 Closing of Meeting