

ADVANCE-TB

Final meeting

Networking, knowledge
exchange and future
perspectives in
tuberculosis

June 2nd & 3rd, 2026
Leiden, Netherlands

Fletcher Wellness-Hotel
Bargelaan 180, 2333 CW
Leiden, Netherlands
Local time: CET



 advance_tb@igtp.cat

 www.advancetb.eu

June 2nd, 2026

08:30h Registration

09.00h Opening

Alicia Lacoma (Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute, Badalona, Spain),
Tânia Silva (Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto,
Portugal), and Simone Joosten (Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden,
Netherlands)

**09.10h Keynote: Functional host responses to
Mycobacteria.**

Simone Joosten (Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, Netherlands)

09.40h Scientific session

Moderator: Sven Hoffner (Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden)

- **Genomic surveillance of MDR/RR tuberculosis in Argentina, 2023-2025.** Noemi Yokoboi, Administración Nacional de Laboratorios e Institutos de Salud "Dr. C. G. Malbrán", Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades, Argentina
- **Advancing interferon-gamma release assay diagnostics through phase-specific *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigens.** Mostafa Teymuri, Silesian University of Technology, Poland
- **Discovery of a Tetrazole-Thiourea derivative as a potential active agent against multidrug-resistant *S. aureus* and *M. tuberculosis*.** Daniel Szulczyk, Chair and Department of Biochemistry, Medical University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland
- **Morphological profiling as an evaluation tool of *M. abscessus* drug candidates.** Gabriel S. Oliveira, Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal
- **Development and pharmacological profiling of C215 derivatives targeting Mmpl3 for tuberculosis treatment.** Ondrej Kovar, Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Kralove, Charles University; Biomedical Research Center, University Hospital Hradec Kralove; Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic

10.30h Coffee break

11.00h Scientific session

Moderator: Jose Domínguez (Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute, Badalona, Spain)

- **Detection to neglect: gaps in care for non-TB lung conditions revealed by integrated chest X-ray screening in underserved communities in Nigeria.** James Ngbede Ekwu, Zankli Research Centre, Bingham University, Karu, Nigeria
- **Identifying *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* genetic determinants of disease severity.** Marco Silva, Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal
- **The role of macroautophagy in the regulation of intracellular mRNA delivery and lipid nanoparticle-induced inflammation.** Emina Milosevic, Institute of Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- **Co-encapsulation of natural compound and antimicrobial protein as a potential delivery system in the treatment of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.** Viktoria Milkova, Rostislaw Kaischew Institute of Physical Chemistry, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

11.40h COST Action ADVANCE-TB: Achievements and key metrics.

Alicia Lacoma (Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute, Badalona, Spain)

12.10h Working Group highlights and discussion

Each WG Leader will present objectives, main scientific results, key collaborations across countries, deliverables and remaining gaps

Zorica Nanovic (Institute for Lung Diseases and Tuberculosis, Skopje, Macedonia), Margarida Saraiva (Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal), Martina Hrast (Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia), Mateja Jankovic (University Hospital Center Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia), and Raquel Villar Hernández (GenID GmbH, Strassberg, Germany)

13.30h Lunch

Participants are kindly requested to cover the cost of their meals.

14.30h Round table on community engagement

The session will bring together community, civil society and advocacy perspectives on meaningful community engagement in the TB response. It will include four short presentations followed by a round table discussion linking advocacy around TB vaccines, community engagement in research, and the practical use of TB stigma eradication tools to inform policy and service delivery. Presenters will share examples from Moldova and global community-led initiatives, followed by an interactive discussion on how affected communities can meaningfully shape TB programmes, research priorities and accountability processes.

Cristina Celan (Center for Health Policies and Studies, Chisinau, Moldova), Oxana Rucsineanu (Moldova National Association of TB Patients "SMIT", Moldova), Paulina Siniatkina (TBpeople Global, Amsterdam, Netherlands), and Shaun Palmer (IAVI, Utrecht, Netherlands)

16.30h Visit to the laboratory facilities at Leiden University Medical Center.

19.00h Official dinner

At the Grand Cafe Pakhuis, Doelensteeg 8, Leiden

Participants are kindly requested to cover the cost of their meals.

See you tomorrow!

June 3rd, 2026

08:30h Registration

09.00h Session: Do phages have a role in TB therapy?

Moderator: Tania Silva (Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal)

- Bacteriophage research and phage therapy experience at the Eliava Institute. Natia Karumidze (Laboratory of General Microbiology, Eliava Institute; Department of Microbiology, European University, Tbilisi, Georgia)
- Revisiting tuberculosis therapy through mycobacteriophages. Daria Smalchuk, (Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute, Badalona, Spain)

09.30h Scientific session

Moderator: Sven Hoffner (Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden)

- From Collaboration to Research Development: STSM Experience at IGTP. Eka Kokhraidze, European University, National Center for Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Tbilisi, Georgia
- Immunoinformatics predictions on variable *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Lineage 6 T Cell epitopes and HLA interactions in West Africa. Marta L. Silva, Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal
- Mycobacterial infection drives iron redistribution: systemic and hepatic intercellular perspectives. Óscar Fonseca, Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal
- 2,6,9-Trisubstituted-purine derivatives as new promising antituberculosis agents. Marie Alice Carvalho, Centre of Chemistry of University of Minho, School of Science, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal

- Exploiting fatty acid stress to make Q203 bactericidal against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Rodrigo Monteiro, Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal
- OPTIM-TB - Optimizing multi-drug therapies for tuberculosis. Tânia Silva, Institute for Research and Innovation in Health, Porto, Portugal

10.30h Coffee break

11.00h Management Committee meeting

Alicia Lacoma (Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute, Badalona, Spain) and Marco Carulli (Science Officer at COST Administration) will participate in this MC meeting, which will be open to all members.

12.00h General Assembly: what comes after ADVANCE-TB?

Led by Alicia Lacoma (Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute, Badalona, Spain)

13.00h Closing remarks and acknowledgments

13.15h Lunch and departure

Participants are kindly requested to cover the cost of their meals.



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