



Newsletter

TB/COINFECTION STUDIES



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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Emory/Georgia TRAC's Clinical and Population Science (CPS) Core has collaborated with the Emory Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) on an exciting resource that includes research tools and documents from several TB studies in the recently launched **HIV Research Document Library (RDL)**. This is a free, publicly available repository and includes case report forms, codebooks, interview guides, consent/assent forms, extensive standard operating procedures and publications. Currently the RDL includes documents from four TB studies; 1) the **COHSONET study**- 'Community Transmission of Tuberculosis Urban Africa' (39 documents), 2) the **PITT Study**- 'Pulmonary impairment after tuberculosis in Georgia: Enhancing clinical research capacity to address the intersection of non-communicable diseases and tuberculosis' (10 documents), 3) the **PROBeX study** - Safety, pharmacokinetics, and resistance to bedaquiline in XDR TB and HIV (43 documents) and 4) the **TRAX study** - Transmission of HIV-Associated XDR TB in Rural South Africa (46 documents). **If you would like to contribute study materials to this valuable resource, please contact angie.campbell@emory.edu.**

UNION WORLD CONFERENCE ON LUNG HEALTH

The TRAC was well-represented again this year at the Union World Conference on Lung Health in Denmark, Copenhagen (November 18-21). **Twenty three TRAC members** presented on a wide range of topics, including pediatric TB, post-TB lung health, transmission science, nutrition, ethics, vaccines, diagnostics, case finding strategies, immunology, and statistical methods. We are excited that **Mariana Buziashvili, PhD**, (National Center for TB and Lung Disease) had the opportunity to present preliminary findings from her **TRAC pilot award** with a poster titled 'Pharmacokinetics of concomitant drug-resistant TB and hepatitis C treatment in Georgia: Preliminary results from the DARE TB/HCV study'. The dinner organized by TRAC Developmental Core leaders **Russell Kempker, MD, MSc** and **Henry Blumberg, MD**, was a great success (pictured below).



The Union



Publication Highlight



Sara Auld, MD, MSc, and a group of international collaborators recently published a case definition of Post-TB lung disease in *The Lancet Infectious Disease*. The case definition has three components; 1) that the individual had previous pulmonary or pleural tuberculosis disease and does not have tuberculosis disease at the time of evaluation, 2) that the individual has, at the time of assessment,

evidence of pulmonary disease with abnormalities in at least two of three clinical domains of lung function, respiratory symptoms, and chest imaging, and 3) that the pulmonary disease manifestations should be attributable at least in part to previous tuberculosis disease. The article '[Post-tuberculosis lung disease: a case definition for use in research studies](#)' is intended to lead to greater consistency and rigor across studies of post-tuberculosis lung disease with the goal of improving care and quality of life for millions of tuberculosis survivors worldwide.

Bulletin Board



University Research Committee

Emory's [University Research Council \(URC\)](#) recently announced their [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) for funding to be used during the 2026-2027 cycle. The RFP is released with support from the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research, and in collaboration with the Halle Institute for Global Research and Learning, and the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry. Regular, continuing full-time faculty of Emory University are eligible to apply. Award maximums are \$30,000 and most URC awards are single PI projects. Interdisciplinary proposals are an exception, with awards up to \$40,000. [Applications are being accepted through 11:59 p.m. Jan. 17, 2026.](#)

Open Rank Tenure-Track Faculty (Epidemiology)

The Department of Population Health Sciences in the School of Public Health at Georgia State University invites applications for a 9-month tenure-track faculty position at the Assistant or Associate Professor level in Epidemiology. See job posting [here](#).





TAG Job Posting | Communications Director

Treatment Action Group (TAG) is an independent, activist, and community-based research and policy think tank committed to racial, gender, and LGBTQ+ equity, social justice, and liberation. TAG is fighting to end HIV, TB, and hepatitis C virus. More info [here](#).

Post Doctoral Fellow Position.

Angela Bengston, PhD, Associate Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health, is seeking a post-doctoral fellow in **HIV, perinatal epidemiology, and comorbidities**.

Current collaborative studies focus on how HIV affects the development and progression of cardiometabolic comorbidities across the life course. Based on background, skills, and interests, the fellow would have the opportunity to work on a range of funded projects including relationships between in utero HIV exposure, early-life infection burden, metabolomic trajectories, and cardiometabolic health in a South African birth cohort; HIV infection and cardiovascular health in women; and incidence and drivers of disparities in cardiometabolic health in a cohort of women of reproductive age with and without HIV. See job posting [here](#).



KL2 CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR JUNIOR FACULTY



The goal of the Georgia Clinical & Translational Science Alliance (Georgia CTSA) KL2 Program is to enhance career development for junior faculty committed to a career in clinical and translational research. The KL2 program provides innovative personalized didactic and mentored research training. Junior faculty from a wide variety of disciplines at the Georgia CTSA partner institutions - **Emory University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Georgia Tech, and the University of Georgia** - are eligible to apply. More info [here](#) and full announcement [here](#).



NIH Notices and Updates



- [Updated NIH Policy on Foreign Subawards](#), NOT-OD-25-104, May 1, 2025
- [New Application Structure for NIH-Funded International Collaborations](#), NOT-OD-25-155, September 12, 2025
 - [FAQs for Foreign Subawards](#) (applications with foreign subawards will be withdrawn for due dates on or after September 25, 2025).
- [Updated NH Processes for No-Cost Extensions](#), NOT-OD-25-110, May 7, 2025
- [Update: No-Cost Extension Functionality in eRA](#), NOT-OD-25-142, August 7, 2025
- [Early Stage Investigator \(ESI\) Eligibility Extension and Reinstatement](#). NIH has granted automatic extension of ESI eligibility for those impacted by delays in grant application submissions, peer review, or award processing timelines between January 1 - May 1, 2025. See [FAQs](#)
- [Supporting Fairness and Originality in NIH Research Applications](#), NOT-OF-25-132, July 15, 2025
 - NIH will only accept six new, renewal or revision applications from a PD/PI for all council rounds in a calendar year. See updated [FAQs](#).
- [NIH Will Stop Posting Notices of Funding Opportunities in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts in FY2026](#), NOT-OD-25-143, August 14, 2025
- [NIH Director Statement: Advancing NIH's Mission Through a Unified Strategy - NIH Priorities](#), August 15, 2025

November Publications

Amour M, Joseph P, Ngowi J, Issa A, Moshiro C, Ruhago G, Munseri P, Balandya E, Fundikira L, Horsburgh CR, Jr., **Whalen CC**, Matee M, von Reyn CF. [*Detect early TB infection, evaluate contacts for TB \(DETEC-TB\) - a protocol for a prospective cohort study on active case finding for tuberculosis disease and tuberculosis infection source tracing*](#). BMC Infect Dis. 2025;25(1):1588. DOI: 10.1186/s12879-025-11797-3.

Bisson GP, Allwood B, Byrne A, Günther G, Khosa C, Navuluri N, Nightingale R, Schoeman I, van der Zalm MM, Meghji J, **Auld S**. [*Post-tuberculosis lung disease: a case definition for use in research studies*](#). Lancet Infect Dis. 2025. DOI: 10.1016/s1473-3099(25)00548-1.

Galiwango R, Quach T, **Zalwango S**, Kirimunda S, Kakaire R, **Sekandi JN**, Williams C, Xu J, **Quinn F**, Liu L, **Kiwanuka N**, **Whalen CC**. [*The Role of Community Networks in the Transmission and Persistence of M. tuberculosis in Urban Africa with Endemic Tuberculosis*](#). Open Forum Infect Dis. 2025;12(11):ofaf671. DOI: 10.1093/ofid/ofaf671.

Georgiou SB, **Tukvadze N**, Rodrigues C, Omar SV, Cabibbe AM, Seifert M, Uplekar S, Ismail N, Ruhwald M, Suresh A, Colman RE. Targeted next-generation sequencing for drug-resistant tuberculosis diagnosis: implementation considerations for bacterial load, regimen selection and diagnostic algorithm placement. BMJ Glob Health. 2025;10(11). DOI: 10.1136/bmjgh-2025-019135.

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Kendall MA, Hughes MD, Kim S, Aaron LA, Naini L, Suryavanshi N, **Shah NS**, Rouzier V, Hafkin J, Sise T, Beck J, Heckman BE, Haberer JE, Harrington M, Scarsi KK, Hesseling AC, Swindells S, Churchyard GJ, Gupta A. Protecting households on exposure to newly diagnosed index multidrug-resistant tuberculosis patients: Study protocol for the PHOENIX phase 3 clinical trial. Contemp Clin Trials. 2025;158:108084. DOI: 10.1016/j.cct.2025.108084.

Leddy O, Ogongo P, Huffaker J, Gan M, Milligan R, Mahmud S, Ni HM, Yuki Y, **Bobosha K, Wassie L**, Carrington M, Liu Q, Ernst JD, White FM, Bryson BD. Immunopeptidomics can inform the design of mRNA vaccines for the delivery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis MHC class II antigens. Sci Transl Med. 2025;17(823):eadw9184. DOI: 10.1126/scitranslmed.adw9184.

Liu Q, Wang W, **Nelson K**, Wang Z, Khan P, Li Z, Fox MP, Robert Horsburgh C, Brooks M, Zhu L, Wang J, Lu W, Martinez L. Mycobacterium tuberculosis transmission in China during the COVID-19 pandemic period (2020–2021) compared with the pre-pandemic period (2017–2019). Nat Commun. 2025;16(1):9807. DOI: 10.1038/s41467-025-64782-4.

Maglaperidze T, Zurashvili T, DeHovitz J, **Tukvadze N**, Djibuti M. Exploring factors associated with primary healthcare providers' attitudes towards HIV services provision in Georgia. BMC Health Serv Res. 2025;25(1):1465. DOI: 10.1186/s12913-025-13639-z.

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Tumuhumbise W, Kuteesa R, Nakkonde D, Buregyeya E, Zalwango S, Musiimenta A, **Sekandi JN**. A Cost Analysis of Implementing Asynchronous Video Directly Observed Therapy for Monitoring Treatment in Patients with Tuberculosis Disease in Uganda. Res Sq. 2025. DOI: 10.21203/rs.3.rs-7911005/v1.

