



February 2008 Newsletter

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TB & HIV

FIND TB

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PREVENT TB



Quick Link to the

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Former President and UN Special Envoy Visits Rio

To raise TB awareness

Dr. Jorge Sampaio, former president of Portugal and the current Special Envoy to Stop TB as part of the United Nations, visited Rio de Janeiro on a world tour to raise TB awareness. Dr. Sampaio spoke with city health department officials, including members of the THRio team, and visited the Rocinha favela to engage with community health workers working with TB patients.



IPT Consensus Statement from the WHO

IPT for people living with HIV

A clear and definitive statement on Isoniazid Preventive Therapy (IPT) for people living with HIV (PLHIV) was issued at the Cape Town World Lung Health conference in November of 2007 by the World Health Organization. Based upon the evidence that *IPT is Works, IPT is Safe, IPT Works with ART or by itself*, the statement supports screening out active tuberculosis and prescribing IPT for all PLHIV in countries where TB is common. The statement underscores the safety of IPT. Click [here](#) to read more.

Highlighting Annie Barker

Annie Barker



Annie Barker, ZAMSTAR Coordinator

As a ZAMSTAR coordinator, I like to be hands-on and practice the skills for which I was trained. I have gained so much experience throughout the time I have worked in the communities. This is also my way of having insight into the lives of others less fortunate than me although there is very little I can do to change their plight.

As team leader of the Secondary Outcome Cohorts (SOCS) I coordinate and manage the rest of the team which consists of 16 fieldworkers and 4 trained nurses. The fieldworkers live in the 8 communities where we recruit clients for the study. They speak the language of their community which is a tremendous help for effective communication.

One of the greatest challenges in my job is encouraging participants to go to the VCT centers to get their HIV status. I also strive for awareness among parents to have their young children treated with prophylaxis to prevent childhood TB.

World TB Day 2008

I am stopping TB ...

...is more than a slogan. It is the start of a two-year campaign that belongs to people everywhere who are doing their part to Stop TB. This year's World TB Day is about celebrating the lives and stories of people affected by TB: women, men and children who have taken TB treatment; nurses; doctors; researchers; community workers--anyone who has contributed towards the global fight against TB.

On the World TB Day web site you can download materials that will help you make your own World TB materials like posters, web postings and video; and plan World TB Day activities.

[World TB Day 2008](#)

Johns Hopkins Offers Summer Course

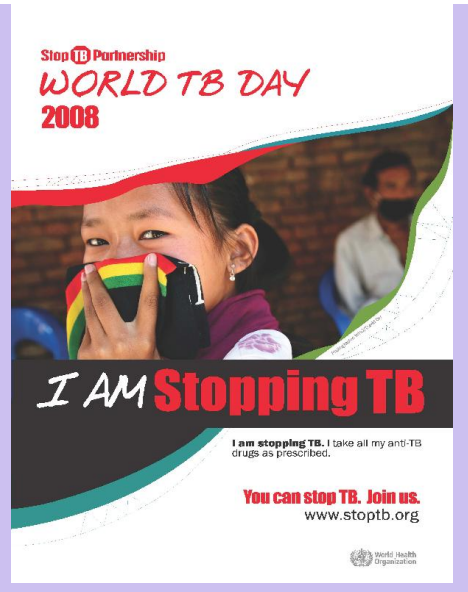
Course Faculty: Jaap Broekmans, MD, MPH, Jonathan Golub, PhD, Jacques Grosset, MD, Richard Chaisson, MD

Public Health Dimensions of Global Tuberculosis Control
Dates: June 23-27, 2008
Location: Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, USA

Johns Hopkins is offering a new course to provide public health practitioners, disease program managers and researchers with the knowledge base to make strategic and operational decisions in developing and implementing tuberculosis programs. This course examines the global TB disease burden and its economic impact, focusing on high-burden countries. It describes current status of the global response, including a critical examination of the DOTS Strategy, the new Stop TB Strategy and the role of global institutions in the fight against TB. It will examine the challenges of TB-HIV, MDR- and XDR-TB, and Public Private Mix - DOTS. Research into new tools and interventions will be highlighted. The public health dimensions of national program implementation will be illustrated using concrete examples from the experience in high-burden countries.

For more information, please contact Jonathan Golub at jgolub@jhmi.edu.

Newly Published Articles on TB



[Y.Hanifa, K. Mngadi, A.D.Grant](#)

Dr. Yasmeen Hanifa and others from the Thibela TB team have published "evaluation of the Arkansas method of urine testing for isoniazid in South Africa" in the *International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*. The group found this urine testing method to be highly specific and sensitive for INH metabolites up to 12 hours after the dose among this group of South African gold mine employees, and therefore a useful method for assessing adherence. The test was less able to detect urine metabolites at 24 hours post-dose. Urine testing is an important tool for assessing adherence in the Thibela trial, and in other studies of INH preventative therapy. [Int J Tuberc Lung Dis.](#) 2007 Nov; 11(11):1232-6. PMID: 17958987 [PubMed - in process]

[Rosenthal IM, Zhang M, Nuermberger EL.](#)

Daily dosing of rifapentine cures tuberculosis in three months or less in the murine model. [PLoS Med.](#) 2007 Dec; 4(12):e344. PMID: 18092886 [PubMed - in process]

[Hoffmann CJ, Fielding KL, Grant AD.](#)

Antiretroviral therapy using zidovudine, lamivudine, and efavirenz in South Africa: tolerability and clinical events. [AIDS.](#) 2008 Jan 2; 22(1):67-74. PMID: 18090393 [PubMed - in process]

[Mello FC, Arias MS, Dorman SE.](#)

Clinical evaluation of the microscopic observation drug susceptibility assay for detection of Mycobacterium tuberculosis resistance to isoniazid or rifampin. [J Clin Microbiol.](#) 2007 Oct; 45(10):3387-9. Epub 2007 Aug 15. PMID: 17699652 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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