



News Archives

Tuberculosis: April 2009

General News

Gates Foundation launches 3rd initiative in China

Seattle Times, April 1, 2009

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation launched its third major initiative in China, a \$33 million partnership with the Chinese government to fight tuberculosis and stem the spread of drug-resistant strains.

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008958309_webgateschina31m.html

Health Activist Warns that Women Caregivers at Increased Risk of Tuberculosis

Voice of America News, April 4, 2009

Women are at a higher risk than men of contracting and dying of tuberculosis, according to a new UN report. According to the International Union against TB and Lung disease, TB kills more women than all other causes of maternal mortality combined.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/Africa/2009-04-04-voa2.cfm>

NIH Grants Will Strengthen Fight Against HIV/AIDS-Tuberculosis

National Institutes of Health (press release), April 16, 2009

The Fogarty International Center at the NIH announced it will award \$11.75 million over five years in grants to institutions to strengthen the fight against HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in Haiti, Uganda, and China, as well as establish a new program in Tanzania.

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/apr2009/fic-16.htm>

Canada Reaffirms its Commitment to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Market Wire, April 23, 2009

The Honourable Beverley J. Oda, Minister of International Cooperation at the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), met with Michel Kazatchkine, Director of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and reiterated support for this fund.

<http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/Canadian-International-Development-Agency-Cida-978973.html>

Porous Border Nothing to Sneeze at

Augusta Chronicle, April 28, 2009

A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report on "Preventing and Controlling Tuberculosis Along the U.S.-Mexico Border" says TB rates are higher on both sides of the border than they

are in either country, as a whole, and that rates are highest in border counties than they are in their respective states.

http://chronicle.augusta.com/stories/2009/04/28/edi_521941.shtml

Drug-Resistant TB

Drug resistant tuberculosis is a "time bomb"-WHO

Reuters India, April 1, 2009

Health officials gathered in Beijing warned against deadly drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis, which is spreading fastest in developing countries that lack the infrastructure to tackle the disease.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idINPEK12070720090401>

Former Soviet countries face 'widespread epidemic' of drug-resistant TB

CBC News, April 16, 2009

People in China and former Soviet states are hit hard by potentially dangerous strains of tuberculosis, researchers said. In the medical journal, The Lancet, experts from the WHO said 19 percent of tuberculosis infections are multi-drug resistant (MDR-TB), and rates were particularly high in Azerbaijan, Moldova, Estonia and Latvia.

<http://www.cbc.ca/health/story/2009/04/16/tuberculosis-drug-resistant.html>

Drug Access | Shortage of HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria Drugs in Ugandan District Could Lead to Treatment Interruption, Drug Resistance

kaisernetwork.org, April 20, 2009

A shortage of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria medications in Uganda's northern Gulu district could cause patients to interrupt treatment and lead to drug resistance, Paul Onek, Gulu Director of Health Services, said recently.

http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=58094

TB Treatment

Japan Lab Strikes at Tuberculosis Scourge, May Beat J&J, Glaxo

Bloomberg, April 1 2009

Hiroshi Ishikawa, of Otsuka Pharmaceuticals, has spent half of his career searching for a tuberculosis cure. After a quarter century, he may have the drug industry's most effective weapon to fight resistant strains of the deadly lung disease.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601101&sid=aOXRG9Gca4xM&refer=japan>

Moxifloxacin Could Shorten Tuberculosis Treatment

DG News, April 6, 2009

Tuberculosis expert, Richard E. Chaisson, and colleagues assessed 170 tuberculosis-positive patients at 1 hospital in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

<http://www.docguide.com/news/content.nsf/news/852571020057CCF68525759000529E83>

New TB Vaccine Passes Safety Trial

Health Day, April 8, 2009

An experimental tuberculosis vaccine called MVA85A proved safe in a small phase I clinical trial. The study included 12 people with latent tuberculosis infection, which, when re-activated, can cause full-blown TB.

<http://www.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=625854>

Cepheid Launches TB Test under CE IVD Directive

GenomeWeb Daily News, April 27, 2009

Cepheid has launched its Xpert MTB/RIF test as a CE IVD Mark product under the European Directive on In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices. The test simultaneously identifies Mycobacterium tuberculosis and resistance to first-line drug therapy rifampicin.

<http://www.genomeweb.com/dxpgx/cepheid-launches-tb-test-under-ce-ivd-directive>

WHO To Avoid Tuberculosis Drugs Made By Wyeth in Pakistan

Wall Street Journal, April 28, 2009

The World Health Organization, saying it can't assure the quality of several tuberculosis products made at a Wyeth (WYE) plant in Pakistan, suspended recommending purchases of the drugs.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090428-716232.html>