



TB Modelling and Analysis Consortium

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the latest TB Modelling and Analysis Consortium ([TB MAC](#)) newsletter, with information for TB modellers, epidemiologists, and decision-makers. This newsletter contains information on an upcoming TB MAC seminar and papers from our community.

Join our next TB MAC seminar: Jay Achar and Finn McQuaid presenting on disaggregating the impact of COVID-19 on TB diagnoses [20th July 1400-1500 BST]

TB MAC would like to invite you to join us for a seminar on Disaggregating the impact of COVID-19 on TB diagnoses, given by members of the TB MAC community, Jay Achar and Finn McQuaid on the **20th July 1400-1500 BST**. See below for more details on the seminar, presenter and how to join and add this event to your calendar.

Seminar summary:

While the impact of COVID-19 on tuberculosis has been widely acknowledged, there is concern that the effects of this impact may have also worsened existing inequalities. Two separate studies attempted to evaluate this impact with different approaches, quantifying changes to TB notifications by age and sex. These studies fitted trends in country-specific notifications over time, one using time-series modelling and the other Poisson regression, to estimate missed or delayed diagnoses. Findings from both studies suggest that targeted interventions are required during catch-up campaigns to address context-specific inequalities which have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Presenter bios:

Jay Achar is a doctoral candidate at Karolinska Institutet in Sweden. Jay graduated as a medical doctor from University College London and completed his Infectious Diseases specialist training in Melbourne, Australia. He spent 7 years working for MSF as a TB/HIV/Hepatitis advisor with whom he gained clinical and programmatic experience from a wide range of countries including Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, the Russian Federation and Belarus as well as Sierra Leone, Liberia, DR Congo and South Sudan. His research interests include the diagnosis of TB in children and the use of newer drugs to shorten treatment regimens for drug-resistant TB. He is currently investigating the utility of aerosol sampling to stratify TB transmission risk as part of his PhD at Karolinska Institutet.

Finn McQuaid is an Assistant Professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the UK. Finn is a mathematical modeller, with experience in modelling infectious diseases in a range of settings. He is the TB MAC Secretariat Epidemiologist, involved in developing guidance and resources for country-level TB modelling to support decision-making, and facilitating coordination between international funders and stakeholders. He is also a member of the TB Modelling Group, researching drug-resistant

tuberculosis, treatment adherence and the impact of COVID-19 on TB. He is currently co-director of the LSHTM TB Centre.

Joining details:

The seminar will take place online on the **20th July 1400-1500 BST**, Dial-in

details: <https://lshtm.zoom.us/j/96706912996?pwd=bzNjNWIKejdqSkk0R1hSZkVBam1wQT09>

Meeting ID: 967 0691 2996

Password: 535842

Click below to add the event to your calendar and ensure you don't miss out!

[Apple](#) [Google](#) [Office 365](#) [Outlook](#) [Outlook.com](#) [Yahoo](#)

Papers:

[Martinez et al](#) estimate TB incidence and case detection among incarcerated individuals globally

[Budak et al](#) model optimizing treatment efficacy, comparing a standard regimen with Moxifloxacin-containing regimens

[Jing et al](#) estimate the disease burden of TB and post-TB in Inner Mongolia, China

[Kelly et al](#) model shifting from hospital-focused to ambulatory TB care in Belarus, the Republic of Moldova, and Romania

For more information on TB MAC, or to get involved, please contact any of the [TB MAC Committee](#), visit www.tb-mac.org or email us directly at tb-mac@lshtm.ac.uk.

Best wishes,

Richard, Finn, Christina and the TB MAC Committee

www.tb-mac.org

tb-mac@lshtm.ac.uk

GDPR compliance

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