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 month's newsletter contains information on how to join the TB MAC Slack channel, details on next week's TB MAC seminar, an exciting career opportunity and recent TB modelling publications.

Join our next TB MAC seminar: Rebecca Clark presenting on Health impacts of novel TB vaccines in low- and middle-income countries [18th May 1400-1500 BST]
TB MAC would like to invite you to join us for a seminar on health impacts of novel TB vaccines in low- and middle-income countries, given by a member of the TB MAC community, Rebecca Clark on the 18th May 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: Tuberculosis remains a serious global health issue, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. The introduction of novel vaccines is a key strategy to reach elimination goals. We developed and calibrated a tuberculosis infection transmission model to evaluate the impacts of novel vaccines. A novel adolescent/adult vaccine introduced between 2028-2047 could prevent around 5 million deaths before 2050, including 2.2 million in the WHO South-East Asian region. Accelerated introduction similar to the pace of COVID-19 vaccines could increase lives saved by around 60%. Continued investment is required to support vaccine development, manufacturing, prompt introduction and scale-up.

Presenter bio: Rebecca Clark is a doctoral student and research assistant in infectious disease epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where she is using mathematical modelling to evaluate the epidemiological impact of new tuberculosis vaccines. Her research interests include using models to determine the most appropriate vaccine implementation strategies worldwide, nationally, and subnationally to maximise health impact.

Joining details: The seminar will take place online on the 18th May 1400-1500 BST, Dial-in details: https://lshtm.zoom.us/j/92017530900?pwd=TVpRNWRySzh0c1ZwTTZLSHRxdGtZQT09

Meeting ID: 920 1753 0900
Password: 067805
Click below to add the event to your calendar and ensure you don't miss out!
Apple Google Office 365 Outlook Outlook.com Yahoo

Opening for Research Scientist, Institute for Disease Modeling
The Institute for Disease Modeling (IDM) at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) is seeking candidates for an 18-month limited-term Research Scientist position on the Epidemiology team. This position will seek to understand how social and structural factors (including social determinants of health) may result in inequalities in infectious disease burden and identify more effective and equitable interventions with an initial focus on TB and HIV. Qualified candidates may come from diverse research backgrounds including causal inference, geospatial analysis, and dynamical modeling. Other qualifications include PhD or doctoral-level experience in quantitative epidemiology, disease modeling, or related fields; proficiency in Python, R, or other data analysis or scripting languages; and familiarity with infectious disease epidemiology, disease pathogenesis, causal inference, spatial statistics, and cost-effectiveness analysis. For more information on the application process and to apply, please see this link.

Postdoctoral Fellow (Research Institute), Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre [start date: 1 July 2023]
This is a one-year, full-time position with the possibility for renewal pending available funds and agreement. The fellow will be part of a research team evaluating the economic burden of respiratory illnesses and conducting infectious disease modelling and economic evaluation related to tuberculosis. The fellow will have the opportunity to develop and lead research projects and will be supported in the preparation of grant and fellowship applications. The expected start date is flexible but is expected to be July 1, 2023. For more information and to apply, click here.

Want to connect with other modellers?
At TB MAC we want to build networks within the TB modelling community. Ever wanted to be able to quickly and easily ask an expert just how they produce those rifampicin-resistance estimates for WHO? Or what the latest natural history definitions mean for your assumptions? Perhaps you just can't get your model to calibrate, and are hoping someone can help you work out why? We would like to invite you to join us on Slack, to meet with other members of TB MAC in a friendly and welcoming environment. Slack is an instant messaging program to bring people together to discuss topics of interest. Once you've joined you should see channels on the left-hand side; click on these to post thoughts or questions to the TB MAC community, or to reply and interact with others. We suggest starting by posting who you are and what you do in the introductions channel, to meet new colleagues. You can also add your own channels (open or locked to specific individuals) if you want to kick off a longer discussion about something specific. To join, click the link and get started networking with fellow TB modellers.

Publications

Park et al compare the health impact and cost-effectiveness of active TB case finding strategies for immigrants in South Korea

Bhatia et al estimate the cost-effectiveness of currently available diagnostics for pediatric TB in India

Baggaley et al review health economic analyses of TB infection screening and preventive treatment among people living with HIV in lower TB incidence settings

Singh et al model COVID-19 and TB transmission dynamics

As always, please email us with relevant news for the community and let us know if you have any recently published TB modelling papers that you would like us to highlight in our future newsletters, email us with details.

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

In line with the new European data protection regulations (GDPR), we would like to make sure that you still want to hear from us and keep receiving the newsletter. Subscription to the newsletter means we have your name, email and organisation details stored in a private mailing list. If you no longer like us to keep this information or no longer wish to receive newsletters please click on unsubscribe below. Should you choose not to unsubscribe we will take this as your acceptance to continue receiving newsletters from us.