Dec 2019 Newsletter

TB Modelling and Analysis Consortium

Dear << Test First Name >>,

Welcome to the latest TB Modelling and Analysis Consortium (TB MAC) newsletter, with information for TB modellers, epidemiologists, and decision makers.

Two jobs in TB vaccine modelling [closes 5th Jan]
Two jobs are available in TB vaccine modelling at LSHTM - an Assistant Professor (3 years) and a Research Fellow (2 years) - see link for more details and to apply.

Three TB modelling MRC LID studentships PhD opportunities [EU/UK only, closes 1st Jan]

- *Modelling the impact of inter-community transmission on reductions in tuberculosis incidence achieved through case finding interventions.* Follow the link for full specifications.
- *Linking acute and chronic cough to undetected transmission of Mycobacterium tuberculosis – analysis of UK electronic health records and mathematical modelling.* Follow the link for full specifications.
- *Impact and cost-effectiveness of adherence technologies for drug-resistant tuberculosis treatment.* Follow the link for full specifications.

Unfortunately, these applications are only open to EU and UK citizens for more details see eligibility criteria.

TB MAC 'Universal Health Coverage' grant awards
The quality of applications for our RFA was exceptionally high this year. Each application was reviewed and graded by 3 reviewers, with the top two awarded funding:

- The Impact of Primary Health Care on Tuberculosis Incidence, Cure Rate and Mortality: an Integrated Retrospective and Forecasting Study Based on a Cohort of 100 Million Brazilians - Davide Rasella (Instituto de Saúde Coletiva, Federal University of Bahia, Brazil)

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- Increasing access to a TB diagnosis in children: modelling the impact of bringing diagnostics to the primary health care level - Edine Tiemersma (KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation, The Netherlands)

Each will be awarded up to ~US$50,000 (subject to contract) to begin a 12 month period of work. Congratulations to both the applicants on the quality of your applications! We look forward to seeing the results of your work over the next 12 months. Thank you to all applicants for applying.

TB MAC/WHO Country Level Modelling and UHC Meeting Report

Our meeting held in Istanbul earlier this year was split into four parts: country-level modelling benchmarks, reporting, review and data gaps, the economics of TB, the Global Fund key performance indicators and WHO subnational TB estimates and, modelling the interplay between 'Universal Health Coverage' and TB. Presentations from the meeting can be found on our website. For details on the sessions and outcomes from the discussions, please have a look at the Meeting report.

Recent publications from our community

Tovar et al describe the limitation of mechanistic interpretations of epidemiological risk and its effect on model-based evaluations of vaccine impact.
Crawford et al estimate household and exogenous forces of infection in Lima, Peru
Doan et al model different intervention scenarios for TB control in Bulgaria
Ragonnet et al model age-specific social contacts between individuals to estimate burden in 5 high TB burden countries
Nematollahi et al use a nonlinear adaptive control modelling method to consider control of TB
Loureiro et al calculate the cost-effectiveness of different approaches to diagnosis of latent TB infection in primary health care workers in Brazil
Stout et al model different approaches for enrollment in a trial for latent TB treatment
Melsew et al review different approaches to considering heterogeneity in infectiousness in models and compare these to the epidemiological evidence
Reddy et al analyse the cost-effectiveness of shortened treatment for people living with HIV in South Africa
Treibert et al model vaccine effectiveness and non-specific effects
Roy et al model the effect of age of BCG vaccination on paediatric TB mortality
Awad et al model the impact of diabetes mellitus on TB incidence and mortality in India
Xu et al model age-dependent latency and infection
Menzies et al compare results for three different models used to assess the effects of the same interventions in California, USA
Hussain et al model the cost-effectiveness of active case finding in the private sector in Karachi, Pakistan

If you have any recently published TB modelling papers that you would like us to highlight in our future newsletters, email us with details

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As the year draws to a close, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for being a part of this community and contributing to the development of the evolving, growing and exciting field of TB modelling and analysis. On behalf of the TB MAC committee, we wish you all a happy festive season.

Best wishes,
Madeleine, Richard, Finn and the TB MAC Committee
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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.

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.



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