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Internationale Nachrichten**1. Largest ever roll-out of GeneXpert® rapid TB test machines**

Largest ever roll-out of GeneXpert® rapid TB test machines in 21 countries will help halt spread of drug-resistant TB and save 62,000 lives.

UNITAID and the World Health Organization (WHO) have started the largest roll-out of GeneXpert®, state-of-the-art test machines for tuberculosis (TB) that shorten the time to diagnose drug-resistant strains of TB from weeks to only a few hours. By allowing health workers to quickly diagnose drug resistant TB and put patients immediately on treatment, GeneXpert® devices can help halt the spread of this deadly form of the airborne disease.

Source: UNITAID, <http://www.unitaid.eu/en/resources/press-centre/releases/1266-largest-ever-roll-out-of-genexpert-rapid-tb-test-machines> (September 10, 2013)

2. MDR-TB casts a shadow over Russia

Tuberculosis and in particular drug-resistant forms of the disease have long been a burden on many countries in Eastern Europe and the Russian Federation is no exception. A video recently produced by Channel 4 News in the UK highlights the growing problem that the country has with multidrug-resistant TB in the general population, but also in children and prisons.

The report also raises the worrying question of what will happen to rates of MDR-TB in the country given that many international donors have now left, largely as a result of political reasons as opposed to the fact that the country has either the capacity or more specifically the political will to finance TB care and control itself. You can watch the video report, [The Rising Spectre of TB across Russia](#).

Source: TB Europe Coalition, <http://www.tbcoalition.eu/2013/09/09/mdr-tb-casts-a-shadow-over-russia/> (September 9, 2013)

3. UK will contribute \$1.5 million if the Fund raises its full \$15 billion target

UK may displace France as second-largest donor.

The Global Fund's efforts to raise money for its Fourth Replenishment (2014–2016) received a major boost on 23 September with a pledge of up to £1 billion (\$1.5 billion) from the United Kingdom.

The announcement, made in New York by UK Secretary of State for International Development Justine Greening, came at the start of the United Nations General Assembly.

Source: aidspan, http://www.aidspan.org/gfo_article/uk-announces-major-increase-its-pledge-global-fund (September 24, 2013)

4. First-Ever Targeted Roadmap Outlines Steps to End Childhood TB Deaths

The deaths of more than 74 000 children from tuberculosis (TB) could be prevented each year through measures outlined in the first ever action plan developed specifically on TB and children.



“The Roadmap for Childhood TB: Toward Zero Deaths”, launched on October 1st in Washington D.C. by global TB leaders, including the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union), Stop TB Partnership, UNICEF, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Treatment Action Group (TAG), estimates that US\$120 million per year could have a major impact on saving tens of thousands of children’s lives from TB, including among children infected with both TB and HIV.

Source: WHO <http://www.who.int/tb/challenges/children/en/> (Oktober 1, 2013)

TB in Deutschland

1. Zahl der Erkrankten steigt - Das Berliner Tuberkulose-Zentrum ist überlastet

Jahrzehntlang war die Tuberkulose beinahe von der Bildfläche verschwunden - jetzt steigt die Zahl der Erkrankten in Berlin wieder. Das Tuberkulose-Zentrum in Lichtenberg ist überlastet und fordert vom Senat mehr Personal. Gesundheitssenator Mario Czaja (CDU) wies im rbb darauf hin, dass das Zentrum dieses Jahr bereits eine zusätzliche Stelle bekommen habe.

Source: RBB, <http://www.rbb-online.de/politik/beitrag/2013/09/berliner-tuberkulose-zentrum-ueberlastet0.html> (September 09, 2013)

Forschung & Entwicklung

1. Decoding Drug-Resistant TB

Researchers characterize drug-resistant tuberculosis by analyzing the genomes of more than 500 *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* isolates from around the world.

A slew of papers appeared online in *Nature Genetics* (September 1) aims to enhance scientists’ understanding of drug-resistant tuberculosis (TB), using whole-genome sequencing to analyze more than 500 *M. tuberculosis* isolates representing genetically diverse strains from around the world. Two separate groups from Boston and Beijing sequenced hundreds of tuberculosis genomes to identify resistance-associated mutations. Meantime, investigators elsewhere in the U.S. used genetic and biochemical manipulations to deconstruct the emergence of resistance to one particular drug and researchers in Spain worked to reconstruct the evolutionary history of TB. Overall, the studies present evidence to suggest that drug resistance is in part caused by several mutations working in concert.

Source: The Scientist, <http://www.the-scientist.com/?articles.view/articleNo/37324/title/Decoding-Drug-Resistant-TB/> (September 1, 2013)

2. Imaxio announces the first human clinical trial using its pro-immunogenic technology IMX313 in tuberculosis

Imaxio, a biopharmaceutical company specializing in vaccines and genomics, announces that its IMX313 “has been administered for the first time to humans in a TB vaccine phase I clinical study. The trial is being conducted by the Jenner Institute of Oxford University, This phase I trial is a dose escalation study that aims to assess the safety and immunogenicity of the TB vaccine candidate MVA85A - IMX313, a viral vector vaccine encoding the well-known TB antigen 85A which is fused to Imaxio’s IMX313.

Source: Imaxio,

<http://www.imaxio.com/upload/editorHTML/130828%20IMX313%20first%20in%20human%20EN.pdf> (September 3, 2013)



3. Rapid diagnostic tests decrease waiting time for drug-resistant TB patients

Results of a new study suggest that three new diagnostic tests could each be used to successfully diagnose drug resistance in tuberculosis (TB) patients in a quarter of the time taken by the current method. The research, presented at the European Respiratory Society's Annual Congress in Barcelona (8 September 2013), has provided evidence that each test could be used as an effective alternative to standard testing, increasing the possibilities open to clinicians.

Source: EurekAlert!, http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2013-09/elf-rdt090513.php
(September 8, 2013)

4. Researchers Demonstrate a New Strategy to Stop the TB Bacterium

To stay ahead in the race against drug-resistant infections, scientists constantly search for and exploit vulnerabilities in deadly bacteria. Now, researchers from Brown and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have used a novel compound to exploit an Achilles' heel in the bacterium that causes tuberculosis.

In a series of laboratory experiments, the researchers have shown that it is possible to kill *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* by inhibiting ClpP, a cellular enzyme that is not targeted by any antibacterial drug on the market. The work is preliminary, but the researchers are hopeful it could point the way to new drugs to treat tuberculosis and other infections that are becoming resistant to traditional antibiotics.

Source: Science Daily, <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/09/130918181100.htm?utm>
(September 18, 2013)

5. Ein Kaugummi gegen TB

Mitarbeiter des Forschungszentrums Borstel (FZB), Leibniz-Zentrum für Medizin- und Biowissenschaften, entwickeln eine neue Methode zur einfacheren und effizienteren Diagnose TB-erkrankter Patienten. Ein Kaugummi, das den Erreger der Lungentuberkulose binden kann, soll entwickelt werden, um in Zukunft die Diagnose der Krankheit einfacher und effizienter zu machen.

Dr. med. Christian Herzmann hat für die erfolgreiche Durchführung des Projekts die finanzielle Unterstützung der Volkswagen Stiftung gewinnen können.

Siehe: FZ Borstel, [http://www.fz-borstel.de/cms/science/media/press-releases-overview/press-release.html?tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=569&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=20&cHash=2daf784a06a9535c4c27d9438d73aff8](http://www.fz-borstel.de/cms/science/media/press-releases-overview/press-release.html?tx_ttnews[tt_news]=569&tx_ttnews[backPid]=20&cHash=2daf784a06a9535c4c27d9438d73aff8) (September, 2013)

Publikationen

1. Costs of tuberculosis disease in the EU – a systematic analysis and cost calculation

Auf insgesamt 5,9 Milliarden Euro (exakt 5.898.298.315 Euro) im Jahr belaufen sich die wirtschaftlichen Unkosten von Tuberkulose für die Europäische Union (EU). Zu diesem Ergebnis kommt eine neue Studie, die unter Führung der Universität Kiel erstellt wurde. Mit dieser Summe liegen die Unkosten von Tuberkulose (TB) für die EU deutlich über den Kosten zur Entwicklung eines neuen TB-Impfstoffes, die auf 560 Mio. Euro geschätzt werden.

Siehe: European Respiratory Society,
<http://erj.ersjournals.com/content/early/2013/08/15/09031936.00079413.abstract> (August 15, 2013)



2. Best practices in der Prävention, Kontrolle und Behandlung resistenter TB

Die WHO hat kürzlich ein neues Handbuch veröffentlicht 'Best practices in prevention, control and care for drug-resistant tuberculosis: A resource for the continued implementation of the Consolidated Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Multidrug- and Extensively Drug-Resistant TB in the WHO European Region'.

Siehe: WHO Europe, <http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-publish/abstracts/best-practices-in-prevention-control-and-care-for-drug-resistant-tuberculosis> (September 2013)

3. WHO Europe: New publication: Management of tuberculosis and HIV coinfection

The publication is intended for all health care workers involved in preventing, diagnosing, treating and caring for people living with TB and HIV in the specific settings of the WHO European Region: The 2013 revision of the clinical protocol 4. "Management of tuberculosis and HIV coinfection" for the WHO European Region has been released in collaboration between the Tuberculosis and M/XDR-TB Programme and the HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infections and Viral Hepatitis Programme. The document is available in both English and Russian.

Source: WHO Europe, <http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/communicable-diseases/tuberculosis/news/news/2013/09/new-publication-management-of-tuberculosis-and-hiv-coinfection> (September 2013)

4. UNITAID: 2013 Tuberculosis Medicines Technology and Market Landscape

A review of medicines to treat TB, including both existing products and emerging technologies with the potential to improve treatment:

UNITAID has published its 2013 Tuberculosis Medicines Technology and Market Landscape, a review of medicines to treat TB, including both existing products and emerging technologies with the potential to improve treatment.

Source: UNITAID, <http://www.unitaid.eu/en/resources/press-centre/news/1273-2013-tuberculosis-medicines-technology-and-market-landscape> (September 17, 2013).

Kommende Veranstaltungen

1. TB Symposium on the occasion of the 5th World Health Summit in Berlin, October 20 to 23, 2013:

"Tuberculosis out of control – strategies to fight multidrug resistant tuberculosis"

Chair: Timo Ulrichs, KMF, Berlin

Zeit: October 21, 2013, 17.00h to 20.00h

Ort: Wird noch bekannt gegeben

2. XV. Humanitärer Kongress: Oktober 25-27, 2013

Panel: **Multi Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB)**

Ernesto Jaramillo, WHO

Jennifer Cohn, MSF

August Stich, DAHW

Chair: Maja Volland, Stop-TB Forum

Zeit: Oktober 26, 15-16:30Uhr

Ort: Virchow-Klinikum (Augustenburger Platz 1, 13353 Berlin)

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