New Diagnostics Working Group
2011 progress report

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Co-Chairs

Alessandra Varga
Secretariat

Overall goals:
• increase detection of active TB at point-of-care level
• diagnose latent TB infection and predict disease progression
• screen for MDR- and XDR-TB, HIV associated TB and paediatric TB

The NDWG is committed to ensuring that appropriate and affordable diagnosis is available at all levels of the health system.
Global achievements

Xpert MTB/RIF endorsement in December 2010

- Roadmap for rolling-out the Xpert MTB/RIF
- WHO Policy guidelines on Xpert MTB/RIF
- TREAT TB Xpert research mapping project
Global achievements

WHO policy guidelines and recommendations

- Automated Real-time Nucleic Acid Amplification Technology for Rapid and Simultaneous Detection of Tuberculosis and Rifampicin Resistance: Xpert MTB/RIF System
- Commercial serodiagnostic tests for diagnosis of tuberculosis (negative recommendation)
- Use of tuberculosis interferon-gamma release assays (IGRAs) in low- and middle-income countries
Progress against Global Plan goals
NDWG Structure

Co-Chairs

Core Group

Subgroups

Secretariat
New NDWG Subgroups Structure

Core Group

Subgroups

- Paediatric TB
- Community, Poverty & Advocacy
- Evidence synthesis
- Point Of Care Diagnostics
- Drug Susceptibility Testing
- Diagnostics for Latent TB Infection

Cross-cutting themes

Technical platforms
New NDWG Subgroups Structure

- Reduced number of Subgroups for increased efficiency and improved use of resources
- Matrix structure for higher interaction and coverage of issues
- Subgroup Coordinators represented in Core Group for improved communication
- Inclusion of Patients Community perspective to support development work
NDWG technical projects 2010-2011

Technical Platforms

- **Optimizing Smear Microscopy**
  Coordinators: Paul Klatser and Luis Cuevas
  - Online discussion forum and webportal with evidence on smear microscopy optimization [www.tbmicroscopy.org](http://www.tbmicroscopy.org)

- **Drug Susceptibility Testing**
  Coordinator: Nicolas Durier
  - Set-up of 2 pilot training centers for non-commercial methods in India (AIIMS) and Uganda (Makerere University)

- **Point-of-care Tests**
  Coordinators: Ruth McNerney and Catharina Boehme
  - Technical guidelines on collection, processing and storage of TB specimens
NDWG technical projects 2010-2011

Cross-cutting themes

- **Evidence Synthesis and Policy**
  Coordinator: Karen Steingart
  - Economic and epidemiological costs of TB serological testing in India: cost-effectiveness model
  - Evidence summaries for systematic reviews

- **Community, Poverty and Advocacy**
  Coordinator: Mayowa Joel
  - Analysis and recommendations on policies, tools and services for TB diagnostics in sub-saharan Africa

- **Childhood TB and diagnostics**
  Coordinator: Anneke Hesseling
  - Advocacy and knowledge exchange: meeting and technical guidance
New website of the NDWG

Welcome to the website of the New Diagnostics Working Group

The New Diagnostics Working Group is one of the seven Working Groups of the Stop TB Partnership. It aims at supporting the Partnership in its goal of elimination of TB, in particular by promoting the development and adoption of new diagnostic tools.

The New Diagnostics Working Group is a network of experts representing stakeholders from academia, government, industry, NGOs and the patient community.

Latest News

WHO warns against the use of inaccurate blood tests for active tuberculosis (TB)

26 July 2011 - WHO has called for countries to ban the use of serological (blood) tests to diagnose active TB disease in a policy issued today, which described the results from those blood tests as inaccurate and a major risk to the health of
Working Groups Review

• Decision by Coordinating Board to create a task force to review working groups
  – optimize the working groups’ structure
  – improve efficiency
  – ensure transparency, affordability and assessment of results

• Appointment of consultancy to carry out analysis and prepare recommendations with three proposals for new structure

• First submission at upcoming Coordinating Board meeting
Objectives 2012-2013

Focus of NDWG in 2012-2013
• detection of active TB at point-of-care level
• screening for multi-drug resistance
• paediatric TB
• community perspective

Approach
• focus on a limited number of projects
• interaction between Subgroups on major topics
  ➔ concentrate efforts and resources in order to maximize impact
  ➔ integrate different perspectives to cover Global Plan goals
Work Plan 2012-2013

Technical projects

❖ Point-of-care Tests, Evidence Synthesis and Childhood TB Subgroups
  ▸ Weighing the trade-offs for an imperfect point-of-care test for TB: cost-effectiveness analysis, epidemic-economic model, dissemination and plain language summaries

❖ Drug Susceptibility Testing Subgroup
  ▸ Methods for rapid detection of drug resistance today and in the future: guidelines for implementation and positioning in endemic countries

❖ Community, Poverty and Advocacy Subgroup
  ▸ Innovative and proactive ways of involving the community in the roll-out of new technologies: advocacy tool for community representatives and civil society
Thank you!

• NDWG Core Group members and Subgroup Coordinators
• Lucica Ditiu, Executive Secretary, Stop TB Partnership
• Stop TB Partnership Secretariat
• FIND
• TDR
• All Members of the NDWG