



RePORT International Newsletter

November 2023

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UPDATES FROM RePORT BRAZIL

October 31, 2023

Regional Prospective Observational Research in Tuberculosis - Brazil (RePORT-Brazil) was established in August 2013, with funding from the Departamento de Ciência e Tecnologia (DECIT) – Secretaria de Ciência e Tecnologia (SCTIE) of the Ministry of Health of Brazil, and the National Institutes of Health of the United States. During Phase 1, three sites in Rio de Janeiro, one in Manaus, and one in Salvador enrolled 1,188 persons with presumed pulmonary TB and 1,930 close contacts of those TB cases.

Phase 2 is ongoing (2023-2027), with the goal of enrolling 1,000 new TB cases and 2,000 close contacts, at two sites in Rio de Janeiro (Fundacao Oswaldo Cruz and Federal University of Rio de Janeiro – Duque de Caxias), one in Manaus (Fundacao de Medicina Tropical Doutor Heitor Vieira Dourado), and one in Salvador (Instituto Brasileiro de Investigacao da Tuberculose). The specimen biorepository is located at the Fundacao Jose Silveira in Salvador.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center is the U.S.-based academic partner working with RePORT-Brazil. The network is led by a scientific steering committee composed of site principal investigators plus members of NIH and Brazilian Ministry of Health, who provide leadership, governance, and guidance to the consortium.

The current principal and co-investigators of RePORT Brazil are:

- Timothy Sterling, MD, Nashville (RePORT PI)
- Bruno Andrade, MD PhD, Salvador (RePORT PI and Biorepository Director)
- Valeria Rolla, MD PhD, Rio de Janeiro (Co-Investigator)
- Afrânio Kritski, MD PhD, Rio de Janeiro (Co-Investigator)
- Marcelo Cordeiro Santos, MD PhD, Manaus (Co-Investigator)
- Cristina Lourenço, Pharm., Rio de Janeiro (Microbiology Lab Director)
- José Roberto Lapa e Silva, MD PhD, Rio de Janeiro (Consultant)
- Anete Trajman, MD PhD, Rio de Janeiro (Consultant)



Timothy Sterling



Bruno Andrade



Valeria Rolla



Afrânio Kritski



Marcelo Cordeiro Santos



Cristina Lourenço



José Roberto Lapa e Silva



Anete Trajman

ReACT Program

As outlined in Specific Aim 3 of the recently renewed RePORT-Brazil Phase 2 grant (NIH U01AI172064-01), we launched the RePORT-Brazil Advanced Career Training (ReACT) program, which is designed to support the career development of early-stage Brazilian investigators. Under the guidance of experienced RePORT-Brazil TB investigators, each fellow is provided with pilot funding, and RePORT-Brazil data and/or specimens to address the scientific questions in their proposal.

A mentorship committee is formed for each ReACT investigator; the committee addresses investigator career growth, but also provides guidance in scientific fundamentals such as project management, analysis, and scientific writing. The program will be conducted in each of the 5 years of RePORT-Brazil Phase 2, with up to 4 awardees per year. In year 1, there were two awardees: Drs. Isabella Brige and Rodrigo Menezes.

Dr. Isabella Brige is a physician-scientist and Ph.D. student at the Escola Bahiana de Medicina e Saúde Pública. She is



an active contributor to the Multinational Organization Network Sponsoring Translational and Epidemiological Research (MONSTER Initiative). Her research focuses on assessing the impact of non-adherence on tuberculosis treatment outcomes.

Rodrigo Menezes, M.D., Ph.D. performed his doctoral work in Human Pathology at the Federal University of Bahia/FIOCRUZ. He has also received training in clinical research through the Global Clinical Scholars Research Training program at Harvard Medical School. His project in RePORT-Brazil will evaluate the association between body mass index and M. tuberculosis infection risk among close TB contacts. He is also leading a line of research focused on critically ill patients at the Multinational Organization Network Sponsoring Translational and Epidemiological Research (MONSTER) in Salvador, Brazil.



The call for applications for Year 2 of the ReACT program is now open; applications are due November 15, 2023.

The next RePORT-International Conference will be held in Salvador, Brazil the week of August 19th, 2024. We look forward to seeing you there!

FEATURED ARTICLE

This Infectious Disease Expert Helped Build Uganda's Research Infrastructure

NIH Global Health Matters, Sep/Oct '23 Issue



“If you wait for everything to be in place before you start your research, you’ll run out of time. Sometimes you just have to say, ‘let’s go with what we have.’”

Dr. Jerold Ellner's decades-long career as an immunologist and HIV researcher taught him this valuable lesson. Today he shares this advice with the young global health and infectious disease researchers he trains as part of the Fogarty-funded Training of Ugandans

in Basic and Translational Research on TB and Emerging Infectious Diseases program.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Florence Sabin Professorship

Dr. Amita Gupta, Leadership Group, TB RiCC & RePORT



India US Chair, was recently installed as the inaugural recipient of the Dr. Florence Sabin Professorship in Infectious Diseases by Theodore L. DeWeese, Interim Dean of the Medical Faculty, CEO, Johns Hopkins Medicine, and Nadia Hansel, Interim Director; Department of Medicine Professor of Medicine, Interim Physician-in-Chief, The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

We encourage everyone to watch the messages some of Dr. Gupta's mentees provided for this momentous occasion.



Requests for Proposals

Regional Prospective Observational Research in Tuberculosis in the Republic of South Africa: RePORT South Africa Phase III

Submission deadline: Dec. 1, 2023

The U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) through the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC), invite researchers to submit full proposals for the Regional Prospective Observational Research in Tuberculosis in the Republic of South Africa: RePORT South Africa Phase III.

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Global Infectious Disease Research Administration Development Award for Low-and Middle-Income Country Institutions

The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is to invite applications from research institutions in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) to provide senior administrators from these institutions with advanced training in the management of NIH grants. The goal is to improve oversight of NIAID grant awards and compliance with NIH funding policies and Federal research funding requirements.

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Research Sites: Send specific needs to [TB RiCC](#). Please review your content on the RePORT International website. Send any changes in personnel, other changes in research activities or sites to replace current text.

Collaborators: Send publications and information to [Daphne Martin](#).

Copies of all prior newsletters are stored in the private portal of [reportinternational.org](#) website.

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