

RePORT International Newsletter

November 2025

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Did you know...

RePORT South Africa had its Annual Meeting on October 15-17 at the University of the Witwatersrand? The two-day meeting was packed with the latest science on the use of chest X-ray screenings in various contexts, the uptake of tongue swabs for screening in multiple at-risk groups, post-TB lung disease, asymptomatic TB, transcriptomics and proteomics for biomarkers related to immune responses and pathogenesis, and many other topics related to better medical management for persons with TB.

RePORT INTERNATIONAL: AT THE UNION WORLD CONFERENCE ON LUNG HEALTH



RePORT International Had a Prominent Presence at The Union World Conference on Lung Health in Copenhagen, November 18-21, 2025

Many investigators from RePORT network countries and the coordinating center shared the latest science at The Union World Conference on Lung Health in Copenhagen. Their roles encompassed all session formats, from speakers at postgraduate courses and symposia to oral abstract sessions and e-posters, as well as coordinators of TB Science and chairs of sessions. This included the consortium's first Satellite Symposium, which, despite its late hour, had a full audience.

Investigators presented on a variety of topics, including capacity building, subclinical TB biomarkers and screening, post-TB lung disease, TB and pregnancy, the impact of nutrition on TB, the role of socioeconomic factors in TB outcomes, pharmacokinetics, and factors contributing to poor TB outcomes.

Congratulations to our colleagues listed below for their contributions, as well as all of the people behind the scenes who made this research possible:



Marissa Alejandria
Beatriz Barreto-Duarte
Rajita Bhavaraju
Erlina Burhan
Bruno de Bezerril Andrade
Sanjay Gaikwad
Amita Gupta
Akshay Gupta
Evan Johnson
Vandana Kulkarni
John Carlo Malabad

Simon Mendelsohn
Jinsoo Min
Evans Muchiri
Sarah Nyangu
Haridas Prasad
Prakruti Rao
Felipe Ridolfi
Sonali Sarkar
Thomas Scriba
Pranay Sinha

Additionally, a number of RePORT International personnel reviewed abstracts, sessions, and were abstract mentors.

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WORLD AIDS DAY



Why it Matters to TB Investigators

Each year on December 1, we observe World AIDS Day. This year, the UNAIDS' theme is "Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response." With changes to funding structures this year, it is essential that all infectious disease communities unite in advocacy. In 2024, 12% of the world's TB deaths were among people with HIV (WHO, 2025).

Consortia like RePORT International play a crucial role in addressing the need for better diagnostics. However, these diagnostics must also be available and used when TB is being considered. RePORT studies have shown repeatedly that preventive therapy and treatment for close contacts of TB are crucial, especially for people living with HIV.

"Ending TB, the world's biggest infectious killer, would save millions of lives and help lift people out of poverty and disease. A third of all people living with HIV die of TB, so the impact on the AIDS response would be enormous. By working together, we can achieve a healthier future for all."

--Michel Sidibé, Former Executive Director of UNAIDS

JOHN GREEN: FROM FICTION TO FIGHTING TB



The Bestselling Author's Unexpected Mission

Author John Green was the Keynote Speaker at the World Conference on Lung Health in November 2025. You might know John Green as the acclaimed author behind *The Fault in Our Stars* and *Looking for Alaska*, but did you know he's become one of TB's most vocal advocates?

The Journey Begins

In 2019, Green visited Sierra Leone with Partners In Health (PIH), where he met Henry Reider, a young man being treated for tuberculosis at Lakka Government Hospital. This encounter transformed Green's life and career trajectory.

From Awareness to Action

Over the past five years, Green has:

- **Written a Book:** Published *Everything Is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection* in March 2025, which became a #1 New York Times bestseller
- **Pressured Corporations:** In 2023, after Green posted a scathing [YouTube video](#), Johnson & Johnson agreed not to enforce a secondary patent of its TB pill bedaquiline in 134 low- and middle-income countries, allowing for less-expensive generic versions
- **Created a Movement:** His online community, [Nerdfighteria](#), formed a grassroots network called [TBFighters](#), with over 100 members traveling to Washington, D.C. for TB Hill Day advocacy
- **Invested in Solutions:** Green and his family committed up to \$4 million toward a \$57 million public-private partnership with USAID and the Philippines to test and treat tuberculosis
- **Spoke at the UN:** Green addressed the United Nations High-Level Meeting on the Fight to End Tuberculosis in 2023

The Message

"There's no excuse for people dying of tuberculosis in 2025. We've known how to cure this disease since the 1950s, so why are over a million people dying of tuberculosis?"

Green's advocacy demonstrates that TB isn't just a medical challenge, it's a matter of global justice and human choice.

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