



RePORT International Newsletter

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Have something you want to share in the newsletter?

Let us know!

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2026 RePORT International Annual Meeting Takeaways



Learning, Networking, and Idea Gathering

The RePORT International community gathered in Mumbai, India September 29-October 1, 2026 for a data pre-meeting and two-day science forum under the apt theme, *Discovery to Impact: Celebrating*

Global Collaboration in TB Science. Led by meeting co-chairs Drs. Sonali Sarkar (JIPMER) and Bruno Andrade (Johns Hopkins University/FIOCRUZ), 107 in-person and 26 virtual participants from 13 countries to hear presentations on across nine themes.

Data Operations Meeting

During the Data Operations Meeting, data team members, leaders, and contributors from various countries assembled to discuss ongoing projects and set future goals. Led by Stephany Duda (Vanderbilt) and Alex Bens (Frontier Science), there was a review of past meeting goals achieved, including unified data mapping formats, quality control corrections, and dashboard implementation. Project updates included Cohort B and Cohort A Phase 2 data harmonization, [RADAR](#), the [Virtual Learning Room](#), and the SUBTLE, and Long-TB studies. These highlighted accomplishments but also lessons learned from these complex multi-country studies, including the importance of early data use agreement establishment, careful attention to data collection details, and the need for standardized procedures across different sites. There was also discussion on quality assurance of clinical and lab data as well as sharing of best practices, how to deal with and prioritize missing data, and an overview of RePORT's new concept review process. Participants indicated they will go back to their sites having learned from each other's roles and procedures, and desired to continue to interact. There was also a request for sustained engagement in innovation around data analysis and new research tools and methods.



Scientific Meeting

Drs. Sonali Sarkar and Jerry Ellner talked about the many innovations of the host country, India, and the consortium as a whole. Dr. Ellner reflected on the many RePORT accomplishments, included capacity building, consortium-wide protocols, and backbone staff who made the work of the network happen. But he also mentioned the challenges ahead in the field of TB science.

The session on implementation science recognized the need to take research from the bench to practical use and measuring its effects. It provided examples of tailored interventions across different geographic regions and high-risk populations including avoiding recurrence of TB and the worst possible manifestations of poor treatment outcomes and delays.

Presentations on diagnostics focused on what tools are in the pipeline as well as targeted profiles for early detection of *M. tuberculosis* both in sputum and non-sputum-based tests. Treatment

considerations followed with biomarker metabolomics associated with varying TB treatment outcomes, including the consortium-wide biomarker and TB/COVID-19 studies and markers predicting infection progression and asymptomatic TB. There was effusive discussion on transmission studies including on "resistors" as well as why we need to expand contact tracing outside of the household. And no TB meeting would be complete without touching upon the need for a better vaccine including a review of the large TB vaccine pipeline. Special considerations looking at host-directed therapies and how nutrition affects the course of disease rounded out medical and case management of persons living with TB.

The presentations highlighted ongoing research efforts to better understand host immune responses, diagnostic biomarkers, and factors influencing TB progression and treatment outcomes. However, the meeting was also a celebration of how far the RePORT International consortium has come, and how much more it has to offer to the field of TB elimination.

Special thanks to the following individuals for their work behind the scenes!



Scientific Planning Committee

- Alicia D. Wright, Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- Amita Gupta, Johns Hopkins University
- Bruno Andrade, Johns Hopkins University/FIOCRUZ
- Jerrold Ellner, Rutgers University
- Mark Hatherill, University of Cape Town
- Nicole Espy, National Institutes of Health
- Padmini Salgame, Rutgers University
- Sonali Sarkar, JIPMER

Meeting Organizing Team

- Audrey Mioli, Rutgers University
- Camilla Rodrigues, P.D. Hinduja Hospital
- Daphne Martin, Rutgers University
- Francesca Escalera, Rutgers University
- Joanna Radman, Rutgers University
- Kate Larkin, Rutgers University
- Lorraine Luciano-McKeon, Rutgers University
- Perna Arora, P.D. Hinduja Hospital
- Rajita Bhavaraju, Rutgers University

RePORT International Welcomes New Team Member!



Rutgers University's Data and Operations Management Center (DOMC) is excited to welcome **Valeria Tosti, MD, Clinical Research Associate**.

Valeria is a physician-scientist with a background spanning clinical training, academic research, and global diagnostic trial operations. Before joining Rutgers University, she worked at Washington University, where she supported mechanistic human studies and university-level regulatory operations. She later worked as a Global Clinical Trial Scientist in

Industry, contributing to sponsor-initiated diagnostic studies, including tuberculosis and hepatitis B assay development.

Valeria's experience bridges clinical operations, regulatory compliance, and medical writing, with a focus on infectious diseases and translational diagnostics. At the DOMC, Valeria will support the coordination and regulatory oversight of international TB research, contributing to harmonized data processes and collaborations aimed at advancing global TB science. She can be contacted at valeria.tosti@rutgers.edu. We are happy to have Valeria join the RePORT International family!

Beyond Cure: Understanding Post-TB Sequelae

The Journey of a Course and how YOU Can also Take Part!

TB treatment is only part of the story. For many TB survivors, health challenges continue long after microbiologic cure, making post-TB sequelae an increasingly important area for research and practice. To help address this critical gap, Course Directors Dr. Akshay Gupta (Boston University) and Dr. Erlina Burhan (Universitas Indonesia) put together a team of experts to explore topics such as clinical spectrum of post-TB lung disease (PTLD), its pathophysiology, infectious and non-infectious complications, psychosocial impacts, rehabilitation strategies, and emerging research priorities. This four-week course was designed for TB researchers, clinicians, public health professionals, and trainees working to better understand the long-term consequences of TB.

A course highlight was the *TB Survivor Panel*, which brought lived experience into the classroom and reinforced the importance of centering survivor perspectives in post-TB research and care. Dr. Jonathan Golub (Johns Hopkins) orchestrated the TB Survivor live session where the panelists shared their journeys from diagnosis to present challenges with learners chiming in with questions.

Fourteen learners from RePORT International sites are wrapping up the hybrid course next week. Reflecting on the course content, Dr. Dessa Jean Casalme (Philippines) said, "I have learned from this course that the focus should extend beyond adherence to TB treatment and treatment completion. Prior to treatment initiation, we should already be assessing each patient's risk for post-TB complications including post-TB lung disease and other co-infections. Identification of these risks would guide our evaluations and clinical management of our patients."

Because the course is now available in a self-paced format, participants can engage with the material on their own schedule, making it easier for colleagues around the world to participate across time zones and busy work commitments. The two live sessions were also recorded, allowing learners to benefit from expert discussion and Q&A at a time that works for them. **Beyond Cure:**

Understanding Post-TB Sequelae is now available **asynchronously and self-paced** through RePORT International. [Apply for enrollment.](#)

Dr. Fernando Almeida-Val, PhD (Brazil) reflected on the course overall: "One of the most important aspects of the course for me was the way it organized post-TB disease as a multidimensional problem. In research, it is relatively easy to focus on an isolated outcome, such as spirometry, imaging, exercise

capacity, or a cardiovascular marker. However, the course reinforced that these abnormalities are components of a much broader clinical picture.”

Contributed by Mary Talalay, Johns Hopkins University

Tuberculosis Self-Paced/Asynchronous Research Courses

Available Now!

Under the expert guidance of RICC’s Capacity Strengthening Working Group and Dr. Bob Bollinger and Ms. Mary Talalay of Johns Hopkins University, five of the very success hybrid courses are now available for anyone to participate in:

- Epidemiology for Tuberculosis
- Professional Development: Starting and Building Your Research Career
- Basic Concepts in Immunology: Learning and Applying to Understand Immunity to Tuberculosis
- Introduction to Data Visualization
- Beyond Cure – Understanding Post-TB Sequelae

These courses are self-paced and asynchronous, allowing learners from all backgrounds to participate at their convenience. Courses are open to anyone outside of RePORT, so please spread the word!

[VIEW CATALOG](#)

Please remember to follow and subscribe. Don't forget to invite others, both inside and outside of RePORT International to follow our updates!



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