Session N.00686

23. Moving towards universal access to drug susceptibility testing: progress and challenges

Friday, 04 December 2015, 15:30 - 17:00
Room MR 2.64-2.66

Type of session
Symposium

Track
TB diagnostics, including molecular methods

Track2 (optional)
Advancing the End TB strategy and other policy issues

Description
Ensuring adequate access to drug susceptibility testing (DST) is key to ensuring that patients are enrolled into most appropriate and effective treatment in a timely way. Despite recent progress made, global reports show that there are still considerable gaps, and DST coverage remains unsatisfactory in many settings. The session will discuss challenges faced by countries in ensuring adequate DST coverage and possible solutions that could be implemented to improve access to timely and accurate diagnosis of drug-resistant TB.

Target audience
1. National TB programm managers, laboratory specialists, clinicians, policy-makers

Objectives
1. Review current progress and gaps in DST coverage
2. Review current challenges faced by countries in ensuring adequate access to drug-resistance testing
3. Identify and discuss possible solutions and a roadmap towards universal access to DST

Keywords
TB diagnostics; drug susceptibility testing (DST); MDR-TB care

Coordinator(s)
Martina Casenghi (Switzerland), Jean-françois Lemaire (Switzerland)

Chair(s)
Harald Hoffmann (Germany), Kathleen England (Netherlands)

Presentations
15:30 - 15:40 1. Access to drug-resistance testing and linkage to MDR-TB treatment: a global perspective
Charles L. Daley (USA)

15:45 - 15:55 2. Poor access to follow-on DST for rifampicin-resistant (RR) TB cases: root-cause analysis done in MSF projects in African & Asian settings
Maryam Rumaney (South Africa)

16:00 - 16:10 3. Improving access to DST and adherence to diagnostic algorithms: lessons learnt in Nigeria through the Xpert MTB/RIF scale-up
Peter Nwadike (Nigeria)

16:15 - 16:25 Mutations missed by rapid molecular tools: which role for Xpert MTB/RIF in Swaziland?
Welile Sikhondze (Swaziland)

16:30 - 16:40 Improving access to DST and adherence to diagnostic algorithms: in-country experience from the EXPAND-TB Programme
Daniel Orozco (Switzerland)

16:45 - 17:00 Discussion