14. Spelunking for treasure: searching for candidate biomarkers as prognostic indicators for treatment outcome

Friday, 04 December 2015, 13:30 - 15:00
Ballroom West- Westin

Type of session Symposium
Track TB diagnostics, including molecular methods
Track2 (optional) TB other

Description
The discovery of biomarkers is an important goal in current TB research because the availability of such markers would have a significant impact on TB prevention and treatment. Many Mycobacterium tuberculosis and human biomarkers have been studied over the past decade, and yet we are still searching for the most highly predictive marker for treatment success. Identifying robust biomarkers will improve clinical management and assist in assessing new anti-TB agents under clinical trials. In this session, we explore the current research and developments leading to promising options.

Target audience
1. Clinicians, clinical trial implementers, diagnostic product developers
2. TB researchers, diagnostic specialists

Objectives
1. To provide an update on biomarker developments focused on treatment outcome
2. To showcase relevant and important breakthroughs in biomarker research
3. To promote diagnostic development and demonstration research for biomarkers

Keywords
Biomarker; molecular; Xpert MTB/RIF; T-cell; activation; treatment; monitoring; cure; suPAR

Coordinator(s)
Kathleen England (Netherlands)

Chair(s)
Frank Cobelens (Netherlands), Daniela Cirillo (Italy)

Presentations
13:30 - 13:40 Potential and limitations of current candidate host biomarkers for treatment response
Gerhard Walzl (South Africa)

13:45 - 13:55 Static and dynamic measures of bacterial load using Xpert MTB/RIF as a prognostic marker of culture conversion and cure in pulmonary TB patients
David Alland (USA)

14:00 - 14:10 Molecular analysis of Mycobacterium tuberculosis (and host) in sputa
Gary Schoolnik (USA)

14:15 - 14:25 Prospective T-cell activation markers for monitoring treatment and predicting cure
Christof Geldmacher (Germany)

14:30 - 14:40 Use of the simple biomarker suPAR to assess severity of TB disease and to monitor treatment
Christian Wejse (Denmark)

14:45 - 15:00 Discussion