

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

**THE 46TH UNION
WORLD CONFERENCE
ON LUNG HEALTH**

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA
2-6 DECEMBER 2015

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 program managers, laboratory specialists, clinicians, policy-makers
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<p>15:30 - 15:40 1. Access to drug-resistance testing and linkage to MDR-TB treatment: a global perspective Charles L. Daley (USA)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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)</p> <p>16:15 - 16:25 Mutations missed by rapid molecular tools: which role for Xpert MTB/RIF in Swaziland? Welile Sikhondze (Swaziland)</p> <p>16:30 - 16:40 Improving access to DST and adherence to diagnostic algorithms: in-country experience from the EXPAND-TB Programme Daniel Orozco (Switzerland)</p> <p>16:45 - 17:00 Discussion</p>