**RESIST-TB ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021**

RESIST-TB is an organization of concerned patients, physicians, research scientists and stakeholders. Its mission is to facilitate and promote clinical research to cure and prevent drug-resistant tuberculosis. RESIST-TB is committed to addressing the substantial existing gaps in knowledge and to helping provide access to effective curative and preventive treatment for drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB). Efforts in 2021 were supported by the Stop TB Partnership, the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Treatment Action Group, Partners In Health, the U. S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Vital Strategies and Médecins Sans Frontières.

Our 2021 activities centered on:

(1) DR-TB scientific advocacy through dissemination of information through our website, including promoting and arranging a series of webinars and an eNewsletter, publicizing weekly news articles, participating in the World Conference on Lung Health and publishing a series of articles on the state of the art in MDR-TB;

And

(2) Increasing public policy and awareness by gathering data on DR-TB treatments globally through the creation, deployment, and analysis of an online survey;

Details about these activities are provided below.

**SCIENTIFIC ADVOCACY**

RESIST-TB WEBSITE AND eNEWSLETTER

The RESIST-TB website (www.resisttb.org) remains active to share advances in DR-TB clinical trials and disseminate news, developments, and publications. Our website is updated weekly and our newsletter is distributed to 513 subscribers. In our monthly eNewsletter, we highlight information about new DR-TB related publications, news updates, and upcoming events. Topics covered in our news articles included DR-TB clinical trial status updates, developments in the use of drugs and susceptibility testing, publication announcements, symposia, and webinars of interest in addition to global headlines related to DR-TB.

ADVOCACY PUBLICATIONS

In 2021, RESIST-TB sponsored and co-authored a published article:

**Global availability of susceptibility testing for second-line antituberculosis agents.** Adam Lazarchik A, Nyaruhirira AU, Chiang C-Y, Wares F, Horsburgh CR. Int J Tuberc Lung Dis (in press)

In addition, RESIST\_TB is currently updating its 2016 Consensus Statment on the clinical implications of molecular susceptibility testing of *M. tuberculosis*

CLINICAL TRIALS PROGRESS REPORT

RESIST-TB continues to be a critical source for up-to-date information on clinical trials for

DR-TB. The Clinical Trials Progress Report gathers information on clinical trials that are underway and/or in development, including study names, description, status, study enrollment size, and links to more information. There are currently 31 clinical trials being regularly monitored on our website. Of the 31 trials included in the Clinical Trials Progress Report, 6% are Phase 1, 48% are Phase 2, 42% are Phase 3, and 6% are Phase 4; 6% are not yet recruiting, 45% are currently enrolling participants, and 48% have completed enrollment and follow up, or data analysis is ongoing. This resource is updated on a monthly basis with downloadable versions available in PDF format [here](https://www.resisttb.org/clinical-trials-progress-report).

WEBINAR SERIES

In 2015 RESIST-TB initiated a webinar series in collaboration with the CDC TBTC MDR/XDRTB Working Group. This webinar series serves as a forum for updates on pressing issues in the field of MDR-TB through presentations on recent publications. The webinar series also helps fill a critical and otherwise unmet gap in disseminating newly identified but unpublished advances in MDR-TB care and treatment. Webinars hosted as part of this series during 2021 are listed below:

* **Update on surveillance for resistance to the new and repurposed TB drugs,** moderated by Francesca Conradie with presentations by Farzana Ismail, Anna Dean, Christoph Lange, and Bouke de Jong on January 20th, 2021

*Description***:** RESIST-TB hosted this webinar to discuss updates on surveillance for resistance to new and repurposed drugs around the world.

* **NeXT Clinical Trial for MDR-TB An All Oral 6-month Regimen for MDR-TN,** presented by Dr. Keertan Dheda on September 23rd, 2021

*Description***:** this webinar webinar featured Dr. Keertan Dheda, who presented the results of the recently-completed NeXT clinical trial for MDR-TB. This study evaluated the impact of a new injection-free six-to-nine month treatment regimen of linezolid, bedaquiline, levofloxacin, pyrazinamide (PZA) and ethionamide/high dose isoniazid (INH) compared to the conventional empiric injection-based regimen.

A collection of previous webinars hosted and/or sponsored by RESIST-TB, including slides, can be found on our website [here](https://www.resisttb.org/webinar-series).

**LEADERSHIP**

In 2021, Cathy Hewison joined the steering committee, reaffirming MSF’s invaluable institutional contribution to RESIST-TB. We are delighted to have Dr. Hewison on the steering committee and look forward to her many contributions in the near future.

**RESIST-TB GOALS FOR 2022 - AND BEYOND**

RESIST-TB continues to advance our strategic plan, updated in 2017, focused on accelerating the identification and uptake of effective, scalable regimens for MDR-TB; advocating for clinical trials of preventive therapy for MDR-TB; and optimizing communication between stakeholders in the MDR-TB community.

In the coming year, RESIST-TB will continue to provide leadership in scientific advocacy,

MDR-TB clinical trials design and preparation, and public policy development. Activities planned for 2022 include:

* RESIST-TB will continue to host bi-monthly webinar series. The first 2022 webinar, “Pediatric PK for The New and Repurposed TB Drugs – Where Are We Now?,” has already been planned. Following this, the next webinar will focus on developments in pediatric DR-TB efforts.
* RESIST-TB will host a webinar in April of 2022 to discuss and and present an overview of the programs treating children and adolescents with MDR-TB regimens containing bedaquiline, delamanid or both.
* RESIST-TB is organizing a survey to make the cost of phase 3 pharmacutical trials for MDR TB more transparent. This will hopefully be posted sometime in 2022.
* RESIST-TB will continue to provide up-to-date information about MDR-TB clinical trials through the RESIST-TB eNewsletter and Clinical Trials Progress Report posted to our website.

RESIST-TB continues to fill an important unmet need for innovation, information dissemination and advocacy. By addressing research and implementation gaps in the treatment and prevention of MDR-TB, we draw attention to areas still in need of research. We also undertake important research projects that are not currently being addressed by the global TB community. Moreover, focusing on the development and demonstration of efficacy of scalable regimens will facilitate rapid translation of these advances into practice. The successful continuation of these activities is recognized as critical to continued improvement in treatment and prevention of MDR-TB and XDR-TB.