Universität Zürich[UZH]

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INSELSPITAL UNIVERSITÄTSSPITAL BERN HÔPITAL UNIVERSITAIRE DE BERNE | PNEUMOLOGIE ALLERGOLOGIE & KLINISCHE IMMUNOLOGIE

Swiss Translational Mycobacteria Forum, December 14, 2026, 09:30 - 17:00

Location: sitem-insel AG, Raum Felix Frey Auditorium, Freiburgstrasse 3, 3010 Bern

Agenda

09:30 - 09:40	**Welcome**	**Jan Fehr, Gunar Günther Peter Keller, Michael Berney**
09:40 - 11:00	**Session 1: Clinic, Public & Global Health**	***Chair: Gunar Günther, Jan Fehr***
09:40 - 09:55	Implementation of TB Sequencing in Basel as a Routine Method	Peter Keller *University Hospital Basel*
09:55 - 10:15	Tuberculosis in Switzerland: From Screening to Genomic Surveillance – Are We Connecting the Dots?	Parham Sendi *Federal Office of Public Health*
10:15 - 10:25	Discussion on Genomic Surveillance	Parham Sendi, Peter Keller
10:25 - 10:40	Beyond Diagnostic Accuracy: Practical Challenges in the Development and Implementation of Novel TB Diagnostics	Tiana Schwab (remote) *Biomedical Research Institute, Stellenbosch University*
10:40 - 11:00	TBA (Topic: Medical Care / TB Care in the Context of the War in Ukraine)	Olha Konstantynovska *Department of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Immunology, Kharkiv National University*
11:00 - 11:15	***Break***	
11:15 - 12:40	**Session 2: Diagnostics**	***Chair: Michael Berney, Peter Keller***
11:15 - 11:35	Clinical Metagenomics for Mycobacteria	Salome Hosch *Department of Biomedicine, University of Basel*
11:35 - 11:55	AI-Assisted Microscopy in Routine Mycobacterial Diagnostics	Bettina Schulthess *Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zurich*
11:55 - 12:15	State of the Field: TB Vaccine Clinical Research	Friedrich Thienemann *Hirslanden Clinic, University of Cape Town*
12:15 - 12:35	tNGS Implementation in Routine Diagnostics in Kyrgyzstan	Harald Hoffmann *Institute of Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine, WHO-SRL Gauting*
12:35 - 13:30	***Lunch Break***	

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13:30 - 15:00	**Session 3: Basic Science**	***Chair: Michael Berney, Peter Keller***
13:30 - 13:50	QcrB, an Absurd Target for Tuberculosis?	Kevin Pethe *Ineos Oxford Institute for Antimicrobial Research, Oxford University*
13:50 - 14:10	A Shared Interbacterial Membrane Underlines Mycobacterial Cording	Gregor Weiss *Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zurich*
14:10 - 14:30	Metabolic Profiling: A Prediction Tool for Compound Mode of Action and Gene Function	Bei Shi Lee *Institute of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Prevention, University of Zurich*
14:30 - 14:50	Nutrient Import in Mycobacteria: Functional Characterization of a Mycobacterial Outer Membrane Protein	Martina Peter *Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zurich*
14:50 - 15:10	Non-Essential for Life, but Critical for Death: Rv2213-Mediated Prodrug Activation in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*	Rui Wang *Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zurich*
15:10 - 15:30	***Break***	
15:30 - 16:50	**Session 4: TB/NTM Therapy**	***Chair: Gunar Günther, Jan Fehr***
15:30 - 15:50	Buruli Ulcer in West Africa	David Leuenberger *Senior Physician in Infectious Disease and Infection Prevention, Canton Hospital Aarau*
15:50 - 16:10	Challenges of Bedaquiline Resistance Illustrated by a Clinical Case	Nasstasja Wassilew *University Clinic for Infectious Diseases, Inselspital Bern*
16:10 - 16:30	Targeting HIV's Evolutionary Blind Spot	Cédric Dolle *Department of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Hygiene, University Hospital Zurich*
16:30 - 16:50	What Mtb Genomes Can Teach Us About Transmission	Sébastien Gagneux *Swiss TPH*
16:50 – 17:00	**Closing**	