

CTVD MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

For those of you who have been with us since the inception of CTVD, thank you for your continued involvement. For those of you who are new to CTVD, welcome!

5TH ANNUAL CTVD MEETING

The 5th Annual CTVD Meeting will be held at the Gates Foundation in Seattle, WA June 18-20, 2019. Research communities will convene on June 18 and the general meeting will be held June 19 and 20. To view the presentations from the 2018 annual meeting, as well as our junior investigator abstracts, please visit <https://portal.ctvd.co/ctvdmeetings/Pages/Seattle18.aspx>

CTVD PORTAL

Have you missed previously recorded CTVD webinars or meetings? Want to view documents from your Research Community? Access to the secure portal is available to CTVD members whose institution has signed the DMSA (data and materials sharing agreement). Visit the CTVD Portal, located in the upper right hand corner of the CTVD home page, <https://www.ctvd.co>, to access all this information and more. Forgot your logon? Contact Ksenia Koon (kkoon@ctvd.co), CTVD Manager, for help.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

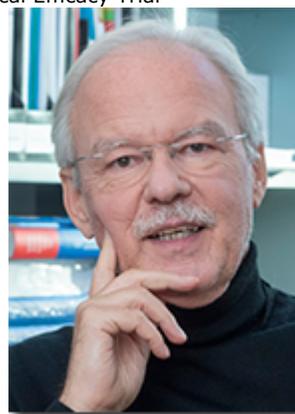
Standardized, barcoded Mtb Erdman strains are available in aliquots at BEI <https://www.beiresources.org/Catalog/BEILibraries/NR-50781.aspx> Published data of use in the macaque model can be found [here](#).

UPCOMING VIRTUAL FORUMS

The CTVD holds monthly webinars aimed at keeping our members informed of exciting advances in the field. If you have ideas for topics/speakers for upcoming virtual forums, please send them our way! Please also make more junior colleagues in your group aware of the webinars, if you think these would be useful.

The next CTVD webinar will be held May 16, 2019 at 8am pacific time with a presentation from Dr. Stefan Kaufmann. The title of Dr. Kaufmann's presentation is "The Recombinant BCG Vaccine, VPM1002: From Drawing Board to Clinical Efficacy Trial". The dial-in information is below:

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2019
Time: 8:00 am PDT / 11:00 am EDT / 15h00 UTC / 4:00 pm BST / 5:00 pm CEST / 5:00 SAST
Presenter: Dr. Stefan Kaufmann, Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, Berlin
Presentation Title: The Recombinant BCG Vaccine, VPM1002: From Drawing Board to Clinical Efficacy Trial
Abstract: BCG, the only licensed vaccine against tuberculosis (TB), protects against severe pulmonary forms of TB in infants, but is virtually ineffective against the most prevalent disease form, pulmonary TB in all age groups. We modified BCG by genetic replacement of the urease C-encoding gene with the listeriolysin (Hly)-encoding gene from *Listeria monocytogenes*. Urease C (Ure C) is involved in phagosome neutralization and Hly requires acidic pH. The depletion of Ure C allowed for rapid phagosome acidification thereby providing optimal conditions for Hly activity. As a result, BCG Δ ureC::Hly promotes inflammation, apoptosis and autophagy as well as release of mycobacterial antigens into the cytosol. As a consequence, the vaccine is far more efficacious and safer than BCG in preclinical studies. The vaccine has been licensed to Vakzine Projekt Management GmbH, Hannover, Germany, who named it VPM1002 and sub-licensed to Serum Institute of India Ltd. in Pune, India. VPM1002 has passed phase I/IIa clinical trials in Germany and South Africa demonstrating its safety and immunogenicity in adults as well as in infants. It has also accomplished a phase II study in HIV-exposed and unexposed newborns and unblinding of data is expected very soon. A phase III clinical trial has commenced in India early 2018 to determine efficacy against recurrence of TB. The Indian Council for Medical Research will start a phase IIb head-to-head testing in household contacts of TB patients comparing the VPM1002 with the *M. indicus pranii* (MIP) vaccines in 2019. Finally, VPM1002 will start a phase IIb trial in HIV-exposed and unexposed newborn in 2019. Thus, the recombinant BCG vaccine, VPM1002, has as target indications prevention of infection and prevention of disease in neonates and in adults as well as prevention of TB recurrence in TB patients in whom drug treatment failed.



To join this one hour online event on **May 16th**:

1. Go to: [WebEx Meeting](#)
2. Enter your first name, last name, and email address
3. Enter the event password: **CTVD123**

To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code.

Call-in toll-free number (US/Canada) 1-877-668-4493

Call-in toll number (US/Canada) 1-650-479-3208

[Show all global call-in numbers](#)

[Show toll-free dialing restrictions](#)

Access code: **404 469 583**

If you have any problems joining, please send an email to brian@regenworks.com

(Phone: 425.999.2420)

Additional Information

Presenter's Bio

Dr. Stefan H. E. Kaufmann, founding Director of the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology in Berlin, Germany, where he heads the Department of Immunology. Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Charité University Clinics Berlin, Germany. Faculty Fellow of the Hagler Institute for Advanced Study at Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas. Studied biology at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany, 1977 PhD (highest degree, summa cum laude). From 1987 to 1991 Professor for Medical Microbiology and Immunology, and from 1991 to 1998 full Professor for Immunology at the University of Ulm. Doctor Honoris Causa from the Aix- Marseille University. Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (FRCP Edin). Honorary Professor of the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru; Guest Professor at Tongji University, School of Medicine, Shanghai, China; Visiting Professor, Peking Union Medical College, Beijing, China. Scientific interests: immunity to bacterial pathogens with emphasis on tuberculosis and rational design of vaccines and biosignatures. Developer of a tuberculosis vaccine which has reached phase III clinical trial. Former President and honorary member of the German Society for Immunology. Former President of the European Federation of Immunological Societies and of the International Union of Immunological Societies. Member of the Executive Committee of the Robert Koch Foundation. Chair of the Board of the Schering Foundation. Member of the Scientific Advisory Board and member of the Board of Trustees of the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings. Board Member of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) from 2010 to 2013. From 2009 to 2014 member of the Scientific Board of the Global Alliance for TB Drug Development (TB Alliance). Member of the Strategic Advisory Committee of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) from 2014 to 2018. Initiator of the global Day of Immunology to raise public awareness in immunology. Scientific advisor on "Health" for the G7 summit in Elmau, Germany, in 2015 as well as for the G20 summit in Hamburg in 2017. Numerous prestigious scientific awards, most recently Gagna A. & Ch. Van Heck Prize. Coordinator of several international and interdisciplinary projects, e.g. Grand Challenge 6 of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation from 2005 to 2016. More than 900 publications mostly in high-ranking journals with more than 60,000 citations and an h-index of 130 according to Google Scholar; Thomson/ISI: 105. Editor or member of editorial boards of many international scientific journals and of numerous professional societies and academies including American Academy of Microbiology, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, World Innovation Foundation and European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO).

To view the most recent webinar, visit CTVD portal, located in the upper right hand corner of the CTVD home page, at

<https://www.ctvd.co>

RESEARCH COMMUNITY UPDATE

CTVD currently has seven research communities. The BMGF team elects two leaders to each community, and allow these leaders complete freedom to arrange their community's composition, meeting schedules and agendas, as long as they address the primary brief: What are the research priorities in your specific area that absolutely have to be addressed if we wish to arrive at a new, better TB vaccine. We, at the Gates Foundation, champion these research communities and aim to facilitate funding of priorities through discussions with other funders.

If you have questions about any of the research communities, please contact one of the co-chairs of the group:

Aerosol and Mucosal Vaccination: Helen McShane, Rajko Reljic

B-cells and Antibodies: Babak Javid, Simone Joosten

Conventional T cells: Delia Goletti, Jyothi Rengaragan

Donor-Unrestricted T Cells: Tom Ottenhoff, Chetan Seshadri

Innate Immunity: Mihai Netea, Shabaana Khader

Non-Human Primates: Tricia Darrah, Ann Rawkins

Whole Cell TB Vaccines: Roland Brosch, Eric Rubin

EARLY CAREER SCIENTIST AWARD

We believe acknowledgment of contributions of junior scientist is an important activity toward CTVD's overall aim, which is to foster collaboration and cooperation toward innovation for TB vaccine discovery and development. The CTVD Early Career Scientist Award recognizes the efforts of early career scientists who have made significant contributions in TB host-pathogen biology, immunology, and vaccinology. Multiple awards are given each year; we feature awardees' contributions on the websites and provide each with a grant to attend any TB-related conference: registration and travel (air flight, lodging, and meals) are covered.

Congratulations to our most recent early career scientist awardee, Dr. Elisa Nemes! For more information on Dr. Nemes' work, visit <https://www.ctvd.co/Pages/EarlyCareerScientistAward.aspx>

All nominations must be submitted electronically via the link below. Nominations will not be accepted by email or by post. Please submit your nominations today! <https://www.ctvd.co/Pages/EarlyCareerScientistAward.aspx>

VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM

The Visiting Scientist Program also addresses CTVD's overall aim, by enabling scientists from different CTVD member institutions to visit each other for exchange of information and techniques. Travel expenses (air flight, lodging, and meals) for up to three weeks is covered.



Congratulations to our most recent visiting scientist awardee, Dr. Musa Mhlanga. Dr. Mhlanga, from the University of Cape Town, will be visiting the laboratories of Dr. Mihai Netea at Radboud University in the Netherlands. The focus of this exchange between the labs of Mihai Netea and Musa Mhlanga is assessing the role of lncRNAs in the effects induced by BCG vaccination and TB infection.

Please visit <https://www.ctvd.co/Pages/VisitingScientistProgram.aspx> for more information and to apply!

CTVD ADVISORY COUNCIL

The CTVD Advisory Council is comprised of the co-chairs from each of the seven research communities, plus a representative from TBVI, Gates MRI and IAVI. The Advisory Council meets semi-annually and provides input into CTVD direction.

GH-VAP

The Global Health Vaccine Accelerator Platform (GH-VAP) program provides investigators with access to several specialized research platforms to accelerate vaccine discovery and translation across infectious disease areas. To learn more, visit GH-VAP at <https://www.ghvap.org>

GTBVP

In a project initiated by the Global TB Vaccine Partnership (GTBVP) and funded by the foundation, TBVI and Aeras have developed a fantastic, interactive web tool describing stages of development of new vaccine candidates. The web tool also suggests specific stage gate criteria appropriate for TB vaccines. The output is the result of wide stakeholder consultation. Please refer to the 'The TB Vaccine Development Pathway' at <https://www.tbvacpathway.org/>

WHO TB RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STRATEGY

The World Health Organization (WHO) has produced a draft Global Strategy for Tuberculosis (TB) Research and Innovation (Global Strategy) for consideration by the World Health Assembly (WHA) at its 73rd session. The draft Global Strategy is now [available online for comment](#).

https://www.who.int/tb/features_archive/Global-strategy-for-TB-research-innovation/en/

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

The Lancet Commission on Tuberculosis has recently released a critical reflection on progress to-date and a roadmap for countries and their development partners to achieve global commitments towards ending the tuberculosis epidemic.

<https://www.thelancet.com/commissions/tuberculosis-free-world>

Do you have an article that you think the CTVD community would enjoy reading? If so, please let us know. We welcome your contributions of publications of interest for upcoming newsletters and our website.

FEEDBACK

If you have questions or comments, please contact the CTVD program manager at kkoon@ctvd.co

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