

## 21. Practical considerations for successful contact tracing and linkage to care in low- and middle-income countries

Friday, 31 October 2014, 08:00 - 10:00



**Type** Symposium

**Track** Tuberculosis

**Topic** TB in special populations and institutions

**Description** The WHO recently developed recommendations for investigating contacts of persons with infectious tuberculosis in low- and middle-income countries. The WHO TB REACH programme aims to achieve early and increased TB case detection using innovative approaches in populations that are poor and vulnerable and have limited access to care. This symposium provides new insight into projects targeting vulnerable populations to enhance case detection, linkage to care, and uptake of preventive treatment. Program outcomes including time to detection and linkage of contacts to IPT services will be discussed.

**Target audience** Epidemiologists, programme managers, clinicians and other health care workers, academia and researchers

**Objectives**

1. To describe the WHO Household Contact tracing guidelines and highlight strengths, and limitations
2. To highlight the WHO TB REACH initiative, programme priorities and outcomes
3. To present contact tracing strategies aimed at enhanced TB case detection in unique target populations
4. To discuss practical implementation challenges of HHC tracing and linkage to IPT services
5. To review effectiveness of varying IPT delivery strategies

**Keywords** TB; household contact; contact tracing; linkage to care; IPT; prevention; TB REACH; WHO; vulnerable populations

**Coordinator(s)** E Jane Carter (USA), Anna Mandalakas (USA)

**Chair(s)**

**Presentations**

08:00 - 08:15 An overview of the WHO Household contact tracing guidelines

08:15 - 08:30 The TB REACH Initiative: driving global case finding in vulnerable populations

08:30 - 08:45 TB REACH in Kenya: linking patients to care through nontraditional contact tracing

08:45 - 09:00 TB REACH finding TB cases in the aftermath of civil war in Sierra Leone

09:00 - 09:15 TB REACH enhanced case finding among miners returning to Lesotho

09:15 - 09:30 TB REACH optimising traditional and reverse contact tracing among children in Swaziland

09:30 - 09:45 TB CARE: a systematic overview of IPT delivery strategies comparing uptake, usage and completion

09:45 - 10:00 Discussion