





TB SEQUEL

Co-morbidities, risk factors and long-term sequel defining the individual outcome and public health impact of TB disease

The African continent today is emblematic of TB as a global health emergency with little known about the long-term sequelae. The TB Sequel project aims to advance the understanding of the clinical, microbiologic and host immune factors affecting the long-term sequelae of pulmonary tuberculosis; to identify the most important factors that contribute to lung impairment; to determine the occurrence of reversible and irreversible costs and socioeconomic consequences for patients; and to facilitate novel interventions to restore and preserve overall health, well-being and financial protection in patients with TB.

TB SEQUEL - Project Partners Fajara, Gambia Medical Research Council, The Gambia Mbeya, Tanzania National Institute for Medical Research, Mbeya Medical Research Center Maputo, Mozambique Instituto Nacional de Saúde Borstel, Germany Johannesburg, **South Africa** Research Center Borstel/ • Aurum Institute D7IF • University of the Witwatersrand Munich, Germany Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität/DZIF

The TB Sequel Network has brought together a number of African partners from countries with a high prevalence of TB and from academic institutions with a track-record in TB research. Each network partner has both the foundation for clinical research as well as specific and complementary areas of expertise.

The project is divided into three work packages: Research, Capacity Development and Networking. The Research work package includes five Research Tasks: TB Cohort, Host-Immunology, Pathogen, Socio-Economic and Therapeutic Intervention. The core of the current project is a prospective cohort of up to 1600 patients across four countries (Mozambique, Tanzania, South Africa and The Gambia), enrolled at the time of TB diagnosis and followed up for at least 2 years. The overall goal of the cohort is to describe and analyse the basis of the long-term clinical consequences of pulmonary TB, with a particular focus on lung injury. There is accumulating evidence showing that comorbid conditions and other factors including environmental,

microbial, host factors and socio-economic determinants can profoundly influence the risk of developing TB as well as the likelihood of successful TB treatment. Nevertheless, there are limited studies demonstrating the influence of these factors on developing long-term pulmonary complications.

Capacity Development and Networking activities are strategically aligned to the TB Sequel Network aims, which are to generate global impact through improved TB care, create new and relevant research insights and contribute to the development of national and international TB policies and future research agendas.

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