Advancing the Future of Tuberculosis (TB) Treatment:
Innovating to develop the next generation of tools for the fight against TB

THE CHALLENGE
TB is one of the world’s deadliest infectious diseases, killing more people each year than malaria and HIV combined. The challenge is compounded by TB’s growing resistance to the most commonly used medicines. In fact, drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) is responsible for one-third of all antimicrobial resistance (AMR)-related deaths and is the world’s only airborne drug-resistant infection.

OUR RESPONSE
New tools are urgently needed to outsmart and stop DR-TB — and Johnson & Johnson is tackling this issue head-on. In 2012, our multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) treatment became the first targeted TB medicine with a novel mechanism of action to be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in nearly half a century and our pediatric formulation of the medicine was later introduced in 2020. Today it is recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a core component of all-oral treatment regimens for nearly all DR-TB patients, in addition to being included on the WHO’s Essential Medicines List.

OUR 10-YEAR INITIATIVE
In September 2018, Johnson & Johnson announced a comprehensive 10-year commitment to help achieve a world without TB by:

Treatment Access
Collaborating to facilitate access to our MDR-TB medicine, while safeguarding its long-term effectiveness.

Patient Finding
Collaborating to identify, diagnose and bring the “missing millions” of people with undiagnosed TB into treatment.

Discovery & Development
Investing significantly in the development of new TB drugs and regimens, from early discovery to late-stage clinical trials.

Our MDR-TB Medicine
The first targeted TB drug with a novel mechanism of action approved in nearly half a century.

Our Goal
As part of our Health for Humanity 2025 goals, we are committed to developing at least one new TB drug or regimen by 2030.
R&D IS ESSENTIAL TO TRANSFORM THE FIGHT AGAINST TB

We are continuing to advance research and development (R&D) against TB, discovering and developing new drugs for the next generation of TB regimens. Johnson & Johnson is driving progress on trials for our MDR-TB medicine to expand its use for more patients, including children, and to monitor its safety and effectiveness and for the emergence of resistance.

It is essential to modernize TB treatment options and, even with recent progress, we must strive for shorter, safer and simpler treatment regimens for patients with all forms of TB. As a pharmaceutical leader in the space, Johnson & Johnson advances TB R&D by convening prominent partners and contributing critical resources to research collaborations at every stage of clinical research.

Innovative Health Initiative

In a series of collaborations with the EU’s Innovative Health Initiative (IHI), we both lead and support various consortia on the development of novel compounds to treat TB. Together, we partner to unlock innovation from early discovery to late-stage clinical trials with academic institutions, non-profits, public research organizations and other pharmaceutical companies.

Project to Accelerate New Treatments for TB (PAN-TB)

As a founding member of a consortium of non-profit, philanthropic and private sector organizations, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, we are accelerating the research and development of novel, universal, short-duration TB drug regimens by progressing two investigational TB combination treatment regimens into Phase 2 clinical development.

AMR Action Fund

We have invested $100 million to help create the $1 billion AMR Action Fund alongside more than 20 of our peers. This groundbreaking industry initiative, which made its first investments in 2022, will accelerate innovative antibiotic candidates with the aim of bringing 2 to 4 new antibiotics to patients by the end of the decade.

OVERVIEW OF ONGOING RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discovery Stage</th>
<th>Early Stage</th>
<th>Late Stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Clinical</td>
<td>Phase I/IIa</td>
<td>Phase Iib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase III</td>
<td></td>
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- Innovative Health Initiative
- EU-PEARL
- UNITE4TB
- ERA4TB
- RESPIRI-NTM & RESPIRI-TB
- PAN-TB
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Accelerating TB Innovation:
J&J Centers for Global Health Discovery

Johnson & Johnson is committed to addressing the dual gap in innovation and health equity through the establishment of the J&J Centers for Global Health Discovery (Centers). This global network of research partnerships brings together our talent and expertise with that of leading academic institutions to stimulate and speed up the early-stage research and development needed to address entrenched and emerging pandemic threats.

HOW IT WORKS

The Centers are the foundation of a larger, decentralized scientific network that will grow and stimulate local innovation and help drive discovery R&D aimed at addressing critical issues in global health. By partnering with renowned institutions around the world, the Centers unite expertise across the scientific community to where the research is most needed, and the challenges are most acute. We aligned our research agenda to address emerging and entrenched pandemic threats, including TB and AMR.

The Centers are powered by an initial five-year commitment in partnership with a local institution to leverage established infrastructure, like lab space, and recruit local scientific and technical staff. The partnership will provide long-term professional opportunities while advancing the R&D necessary to meet the needs of the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people.

SATELLITE CENTER AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE

The J&J Satellite Center for Global Health Discovery (Satellite Center) at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), launched in July 2021, combines the unique breadth, depth and experience of both institutions to accelerate discovery research. The Satellite Center at the LSHTM is specifically focused on advancing the development of next-generation drug regimens capable of treating all forms of TB and needed to counter the rising threat of antimicrobial resistance.

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