TB Alliance

At a Glance

- Status: Active Consortium
- Year Launched: 2000
- Initiating Organization: TB Alliance
- Initiator Type: Nonprofit foundation
- Rare disease
- Location: International

Abstract

The TB Alliance is a product development partnership (PDP), working to develop new, simpler, faster-acting tuberculosis (TB) drug regimens. The Alliance combines the research and development expertise of its staff with the skills and resources of partners to efficiently leverage the most promising science from around the world and accelerate TB drug development. As a virtual drug developer, TB Alliance manages a portfolio of candidate TB compounds, from both public- and private-sector sources, using a variety of licensing and partnership agreements. This model minimizes costs, including overhead and investments in infrastructure, while optimizing scientific capability to speed new TB drug development. The Alliance’s business model and diverse partnerships enable it to leverage additional partner services for every dollar invested in the Alliance.

Mission

The TB Alliance’s mission is to discover and develop better, faster-acting, and affordable drugs to fight tuberculosis. The Alliance is driven by the needs of TB patients around the world and is committed to ensuring that approved new regimens are affordable, adopted, and available to those who need them. To ensure that products reach the hands of those who need them most urgently, the TB Alliance and
its partners are working with global, regional, and national stakeholders to facilitate regulatory approval, adoption by TB programs, and widespread availability of new drug regimens.

Consortium History

The TB Alliance was conceived at a February 2000 meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, where 120 representatives from academia, industry, major agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and donors gathered to discuss the need for new TB treatments. At the time, there were no TB drugs in clinical development and, therefore, little hope for better cures. Participants stressed the need for new TB drugs, highlighted the unprecedented scientific opportunities, and underscored the lack of market incentive for pharmaceutical companies to develop new TB treatments. The resulting “Declaration of Cape Town” provided a road map for TB drug development, outlining the need for the creation of the TB Alliance. Cape Town signatory institutions formed the original Stakeholders Association for the nascent organization, which still exists today.

The TB Alliance was formally launched in October 2000 at the International Conference on Health Research for Development in Bangkok, Thailand. In her keynote address, Gro Harlem Brundtland, then director general of the World Health Organization, called the TB Alliance “a shining example of public and private sector partnerships to bridge the gap between market opportunities and people’s needs.”

Structure & Governance

The TB Alliance is a not-for-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors. The Board assumes fiduciary responsibility for the TB Alliance and guides its strategy, actions, and budget. An elected member of the Stakeholders Association serves as a member of the Board of Directors.

The Scientific Advisory Committee provides technical expertise on drug research, development, manufacturing, and distribution, as well as other medical and scientific issues. It consists of 14 scientific experts from a wide range of relevant disciplines, including the following:

Impact/Accomplishment
Since its inception in 2000, TB Alliance has catalyzed the field of TB drug development in many significant ways. The following are some of the Alliance’s most notable achievements:

Links/Social Media Feed

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