



# An Evolving Pulmonary Diseases Troika

1. THE **TB, NON-TB MYCOBACTERIAL PULMONARY DISEASE & BRONCHIECTASIS**  
CROSSROADS
2. FROM CLINICAL CARE TO PROGRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH  
COLLABORATION

*OUR\* JOURNEY THROUGH THE YEARS*

**\*Patient, Clinician/Physician /HCP, Scientist, Researcher, Industry, HealthCare systems**

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Department of Medicine  
Section of Pulmonary/Critical Care & Allergy/Immunology

# Objectives Part 1



- At the end of this presentation , the participants will be able to
  1. *Recap the history of **NTM-Pulm disease** as clinicians observed it over the years through the prism of **TB/Mycobacterial Disease/Bronchiectasis pathophysiology***
  2. *Understand the present knowledge base on management of **NTM –Pulm disease** as per clinical guidelines and expert opinions*
  3. *Be aware of the new therapeutic options coming down the pike*
  4. *Appreciate the multi-disciplinary and multifaceted approaches /challenges/opportunities in its management*

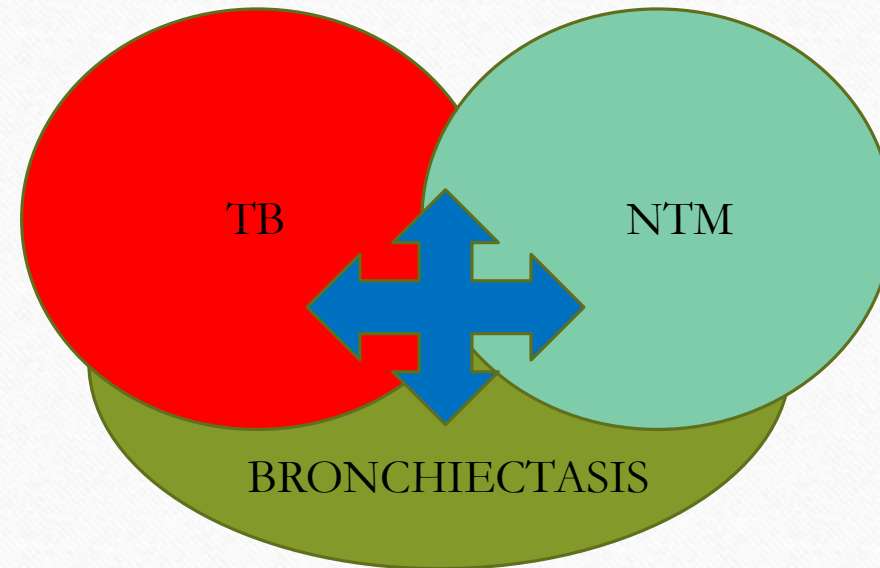
# Objectives Part 2



- At the end of the presentation , the participants will
- Know about the journey of this Troika of Diseases ( TB /NTM-Bronchiectasis) from Awareness and Recognition to Disease Management
- Understand this evolution from **Clinical Care to Programmatic Development**
- Appreciate the journey moving forward escalating to **Research and Multi-system Care Coordination and Collaboration**

# TRIOKA OF DISEASE PROCESSES :

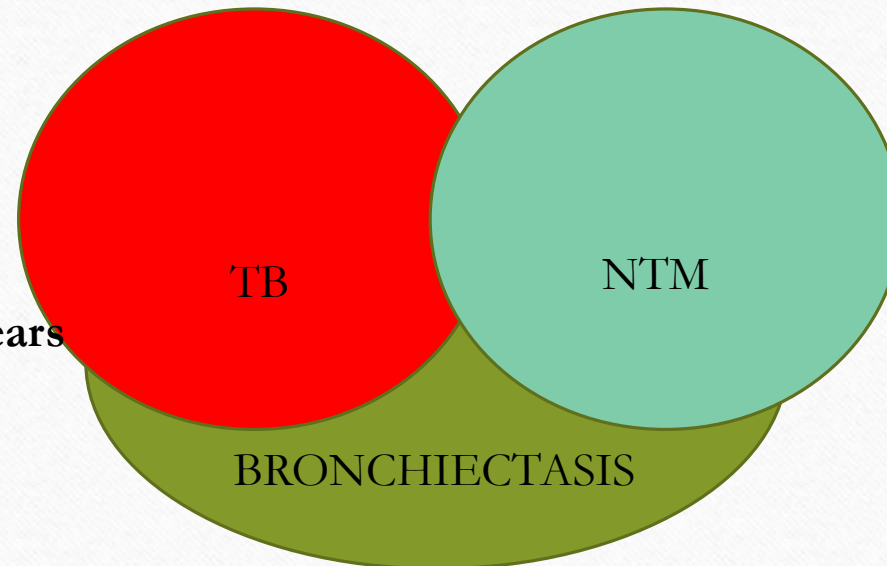
“THE OTHER TB & THE OTHER COPD”



TROIKA : THE COMMONALITY IN CLINICAL IDENTITY & MGM



**Chronic Cough**  
**Chronic Resp Symptoms**  
**Prolonged Debility**  
**Enhanced Frailty**  
**Increased Disability adj life years**  
**Radiographic Similarity**  
**Management & Rx Overlap**



“To Be or Not To Be” and it is not Hamlet

Risk, Signs, Symptoms, IGRA/TST?\*

Micro (Smear, **NAAT**, Culture, Probe, Final Culture)  
Images Tissue Dx

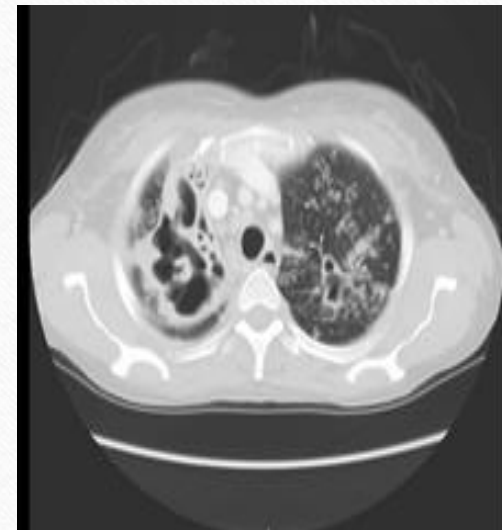
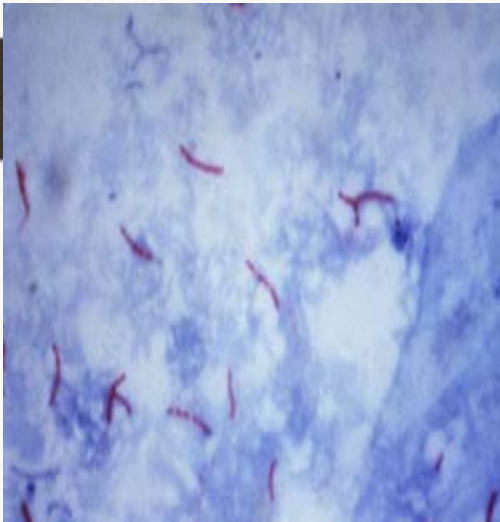


*Looks like a duck, walks like a duck, must be...*



**...But is it?**

**“The TB Wanabees”  
Post TB Lung disease**



\*Note Variable Performance in LTBI, Active TB, NTM

## For TB

General “Standard”: No follow up after culture conversion and completion of anti-TB Rx

Advances in microbiological treatment notwithstanding beyond RIPE

YET

“For many persons with tuberculosis, a microbiological cure is the beginning, not the end of their illness.”

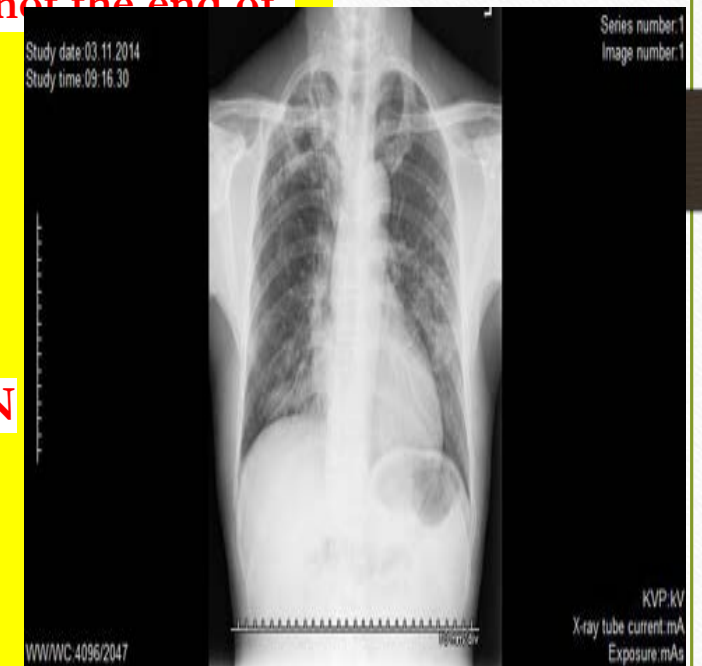
PLUS

TB Care cannot be given in isolation

THUS

NEED FOR PRIMARY /SPECIALTY CARE COORDINATION  
POST TB TX COMPLETION

The increasing awareness of Post-TB Lung Disease ( PTLD)

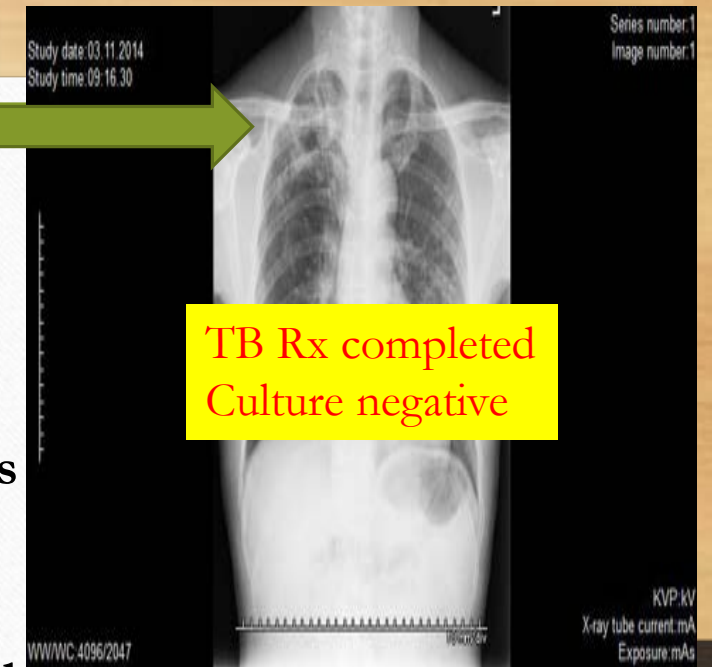


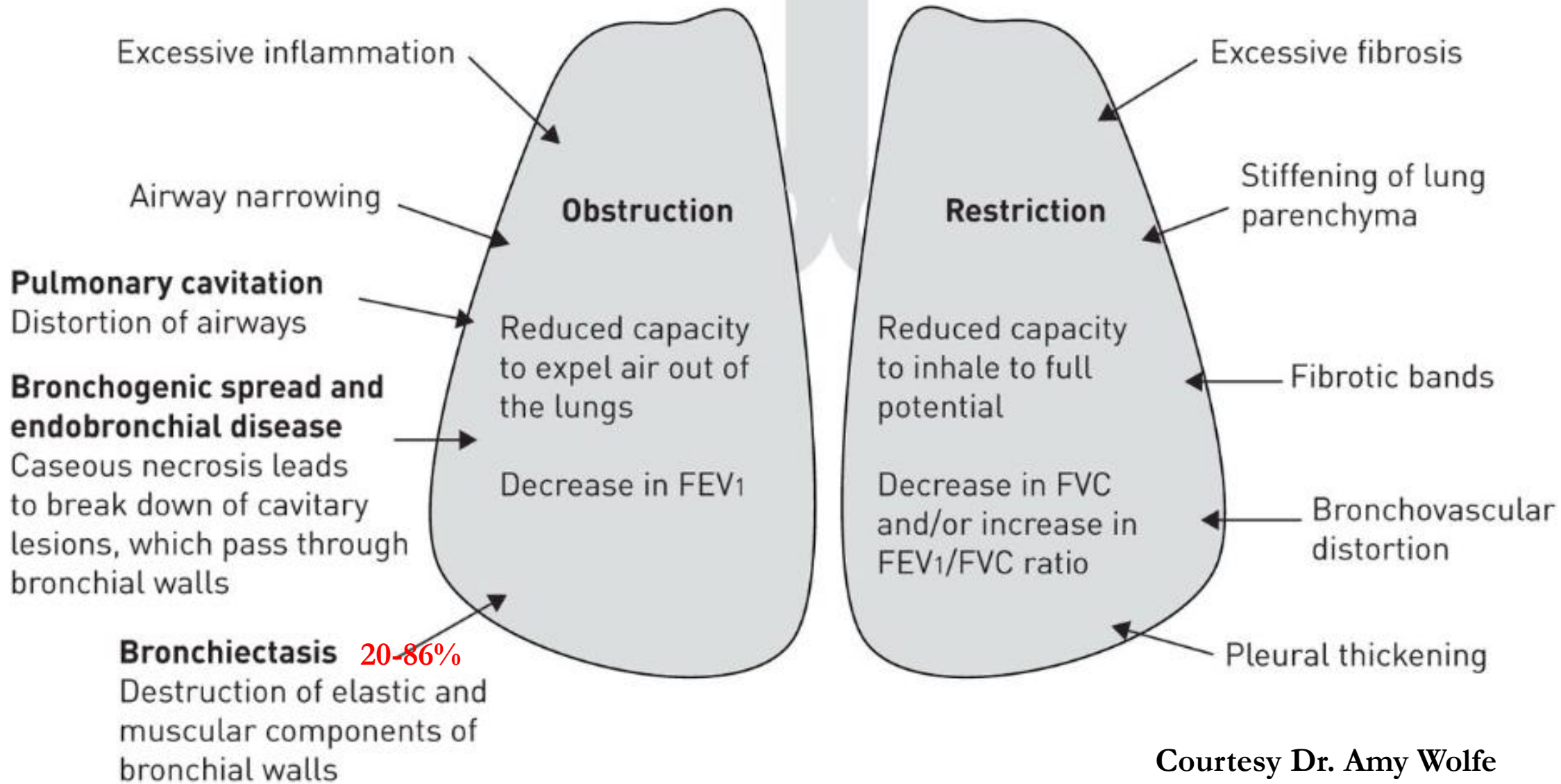


# What is PTLD?

- a heterogeneous lung disease including **BRONCHIECTASIS & BRONCHIECTASIS SICCA**
- airway, parenchymal, pleural, and pulmonary vascular complications
- variable symptoms
- frequently complicated by multiple other respiratory exposures (such as smoking, pollution/biomass, occupational or drug exposures)
- can increase risk for secondary infections (**NTM, fungal, pseudomonas, etc**)
- shortened life expectancy and increased disability
- increased risk of recurrent **TB / TB NTM Co infection and its co-morbidities**

This lead to start of the **ELD –NTM –BE Clinic 2010 at ILH and 2017 at UMC**





Courtesy Dr. Amy Wolfe

# OPH Region 1 /NOLA Wetmore TB Center

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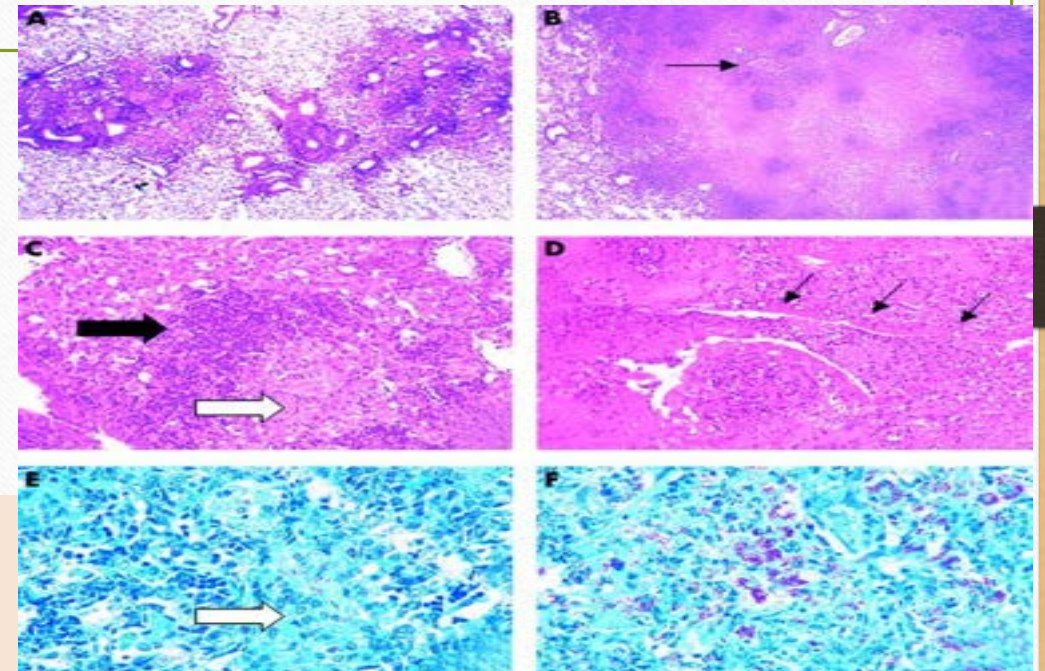
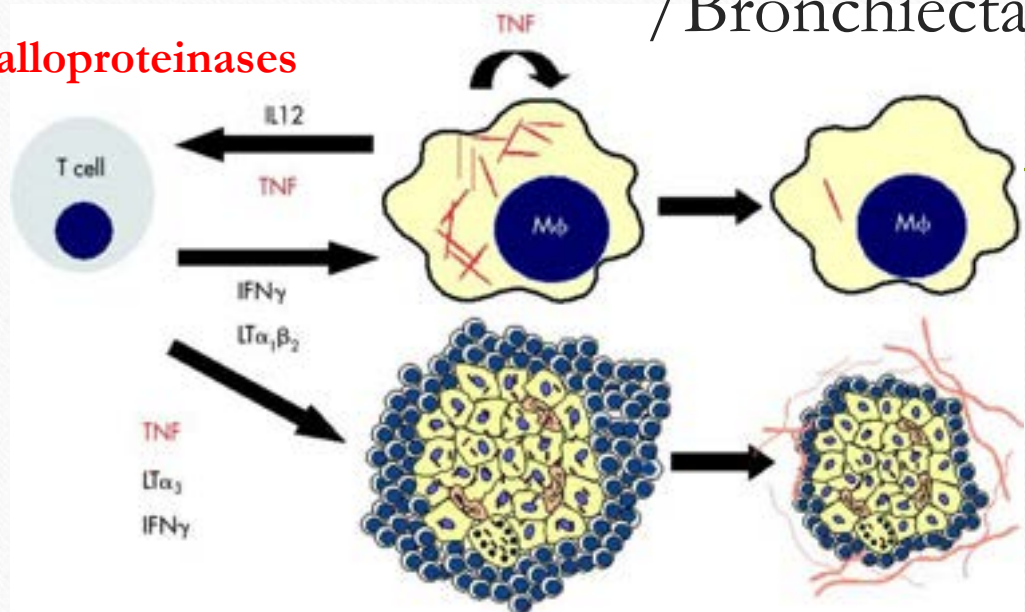
- TB Management with standard of Care pathways
- Public Health Coordination
- Establish on Site Focused Primary Care Venue with specific Goals and pathways for referrals and follow up during TB mgm and post TB management ( Immediate Bridge Care/Education/Referrals /Follow up/Other Navigational and Access to Care Help /Medication and DME Assistance
- Establish and develop a Research Consortium for Clinical and other studies and substrate or publications

# The Cytokine soup

Th 1 cascade  
Th17  
IL-12  
Matrix Metalloproteinases

## The Pathologic Vortex of the Troika

Macrophage to Inflammation to Granuloma\* to Necrosis  
/Bronchiectasis to Fibrosis



“TNF is involved at multiple steps in antibacterial and inflammatory responses to *M tuberculosis* infection. It is a macrophage activating cytokine and is necessary for the sustained recruitment of inflammatory cells into granulomatous lesions. It is produced by macrophages and T cells, and it strongly synergises with interferon-γ in containing mycobacterial infection by inducing bacterial killing and granuloma development.”

Adapted from : hlers S. Role of tumor necrosis factor (TNF) in host defense against tuberculosis: implications for immunotherapies targeting TNF. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 2003;62(Suppl 2):ii37-ii42.

**The Radiologic Vortex of the Troika**  
**The many faces of TB/NTM-LD & Bronchiectasis**



# NTM\* Pulmonary Disease in non-HIV :

## Past ,Present & Future Insights

\*

Anonymous  
Atypical  
Unclassified  
Unknown  
Tuberculoid  
Environmental  
Opportunistic  
MOTT



# Classification of mycobacterial species commonly causing human disease

## **M. tuberculosis complex**

M. tuberculosis  
M. bovis  
M. africanum  
M. microti

## **M. leprae**

## **Slowly growing mycobacteria**

### **Photochromogens, Runyon\* group I**

**M. kansasii**  
M. marinum

### **Scotochromogens, Runyon group II**

M. goodii  
M. scrofulaceum

### **Nonchromogens, Runyon group III**

#### **M. avium complex**

**M. avium**

**M. intracellulare**

M. scrofulaceum  
M. terrae complex  
M. ulcerans  
M. xenopi  
M. simiae  
M. malmoense  
M. szulgai  
M. asiaticum

## **Rapidly growing mycobacteria**

### **Runyon group IV**

**M. fortuitum**  
**M. chelonae**  
**M. abscessus**

The "Staph"  
of mycobacteria



# Some basic differences

TB

NTM

- 
- Exposure
  - Human to human transmission
  - LTBI
  - Latent disease
  - Paucibacillary?
  - Reactivation
  - Incidence /Prevalence
  - Relapse
  - Cure rates 95% plus

- Environmental
- Ingestion
- No H-H transmission\*
- IGRA/TST variability
- Could be Paucibacillary
- Mixed infection
- Indolent / “colonization “
- New Infection
- Cure rate ?



# Pulmonary Disease Risk Factors

NTM Risk Factor
Pulmonary conditions
Cystic Fibrosis
COPD / Pulm Fibrosis
Prior TB
Bronchiectasis Primary /Secondary
Silicosis/Fibrosis
Asthma
Lung cancer
GERD
Persons living with HIV/AIDS
Soil exposure
Alcohol abuse
Smoking
Low body weight
Steroid use/Immune deficiency / suppression/ Endogenous and Exogenous

TB Risk Factor	Relative Risk
Persons living with HIV/AIDS	50–170 <sup>1</sup>
Transplant recipients	20–74 <sup>1</sup>
Silicosis	30 <sup>1</sup>
Chronic renal failure/hemodialysis	10–25.3 <sup>1</sup>
Recent TB infection (within prior 2 years)	15 <sup>2</sup>
Carcinoma of the head and neck	16 <sup>2</sup>
Radiographic evidence of prior healed TB	6–19 <sup>2</sup>
TNF-alpha blockers	1.7–9.0 <sup>2</sup>
Glucocorticoid treatment	4.9 <sup>2</sup>
Infants and children < 5 years of age	2.2–5 <sup>2</sup>
Diabetes mellitus	2–3.6 <sup>2</sup>
Low body weight	2–3 <sup>2</sup>
Cigarette smoker (1 pack/day)	2–3 <sup>2</sup>
Gastrectomy	2–5 <sup>1</sup>
Jejunioileal bypass	27–63 <sup>1</sup>
Alcohol abuse	2.0–5.9 <sup>3</sup>

# US Immunocompromised Population<sup>1</sup>

Condition	Estimated # of US Persons
HIV infection	1.2 million
Rheumatoid arthritis	1.5 million
Inflammatory bowel disease	1.1 million
Systemic lupus erythematosus	320,000
Systemic sclerosis	49,000
Spondyloarthropathies	2.4 million
Vasculitis	1.0 million
End-stage renal disease	0.87 million
Hematologic malignancies	1.0 million
Solid organ transplant candidates	120,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 million</b>

**What is missing ? Diabetes, Exogenous Immunosuppression**

**PAST OF  
NTM/MAC  
Infection**

**1980's The  
AIDS era**

**1. Disseminated MAC in HIV**

*Mycobacterium avium* Complex Infection in the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

.C. Robert Horsburgh, Jr., M.D.

ORGANISMS of the *Mycobacterium avium* complex have long been recognized as **an uncommon cause of pneumonia** in persons with chronic lung disease.<sup>1 2 3 4</sup> Organisms of this complex, which comprises two closely related species, *M. avium* and *M. intracellulare*, appear to have little virulence in the normal host. Before the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) epidemic, disseminated infection with *M. avium* complex was extremely rare; by **1980, only 24 cases had been reported in the medical literature.**<sup>5</sup> Beginning in **1982, however, when the infection was recognized in patients with AIDS, the number of cases increased dramatically**

## Clinical Investigations

**Mycobacterium avium Complex Pulmonary Disease Presenting as an Isolated Lingular or Middle Lobe Pattern:**

**The Lady Windermere Syndrome\*** ( Courtesy : Oscar Wilde )

Jerome M.ReichM.D.<sup>a</sup>Richard E.JohnsonPh.D.<sup>at</sup>

a

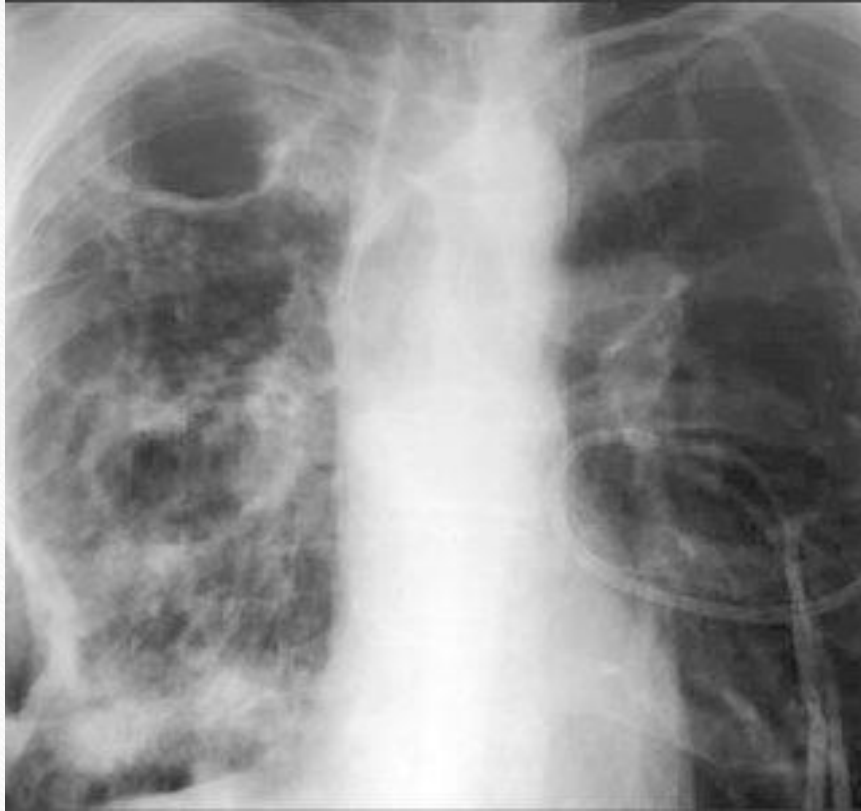
Division of Pulmonary Medicine, Bess Kaiser Medical Center, and the Center for Health Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northwest Region, Portland, Oregon



- \* Typical Phenotype
- \* Mild to moderate Nodular Bronchiectasis
- \*MAC in sputum



**Chest 101 (6) 1992**



LSU Network clinics experience late 1990's onwards

\*\* Chitty S, Ali J. Mycobacterium Avium Complex Pulmonary Disease in immune competent patients. Southern Medical Journal **June 2005**, 98 (6) pp 646-652

**Limited Awareness /Limited Rx options**



## **Awareness of prevalence of NTM in Cystic Fibrosis**

### **NTM: Multicenter Prevalence Study in Cystic Fibrosis**

Kenneth N. Olivier , David J. Weber , Richard J. Wallace Jr. , Ali R. Faiz , Ji-Hyun Lee , Yansheng Zhang , Barbara A. Brown-Elliot , Allison Handler , Rebecca W. Wilson , Michael S. Schechter , Lloyd J. Edwards ,

# Current:

## How big a problem is this?

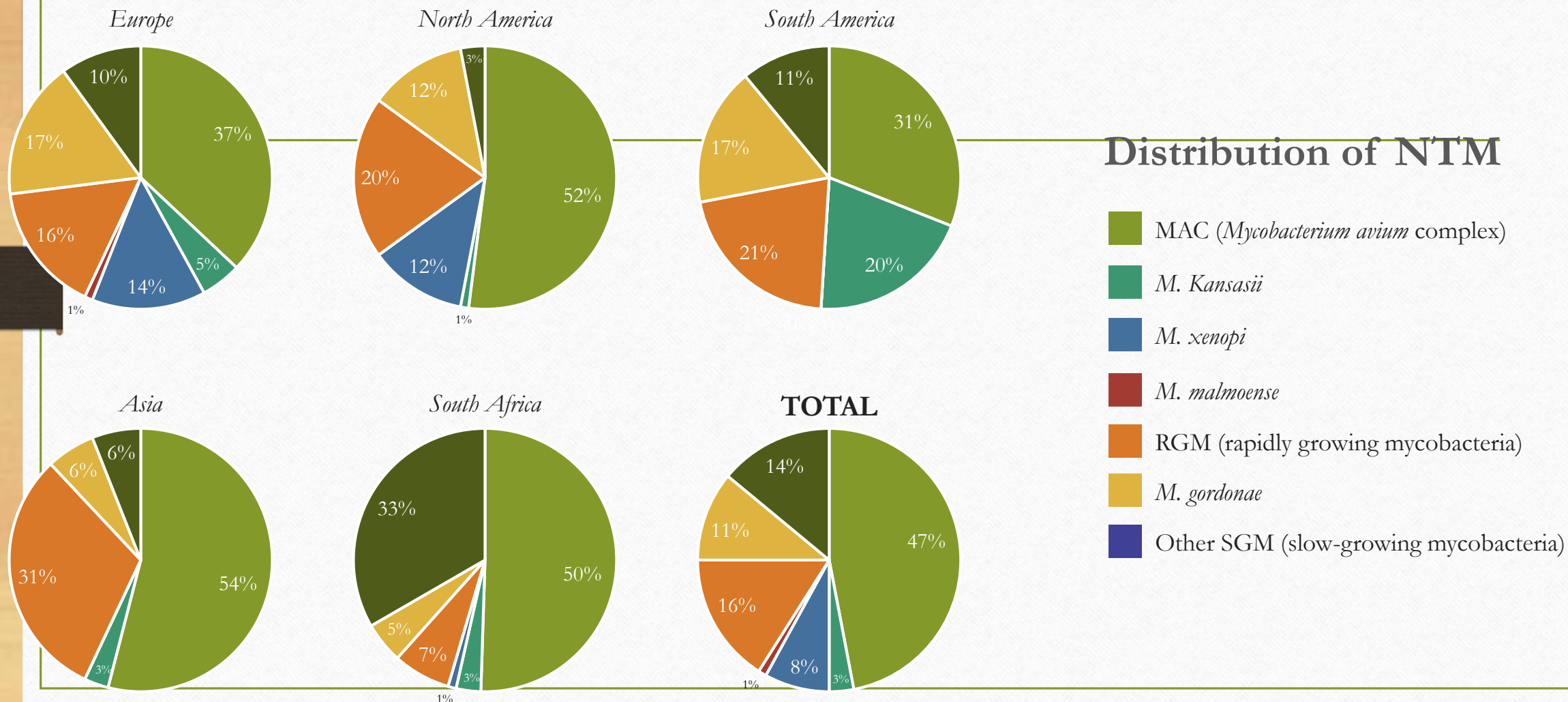
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- Based on high prevalence of PPD reactivity to MAC : High
- Based on culture ID in lab specimens : High\* increased prevalence from 20 to 47/100K in a 10 year period ending 2007; Increased in the western and SE states ; more in Asian Pacific Islanders Still rising
- 40 % more likely to die if associated with co-morbid conditions\*\* *That is the key*
- Based on reportability : Unknown

*From: “Most will die with it” To “..... 40% may die from it”*

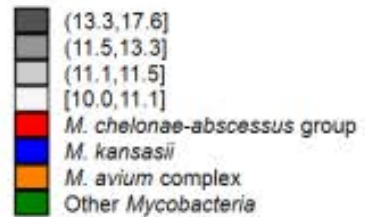
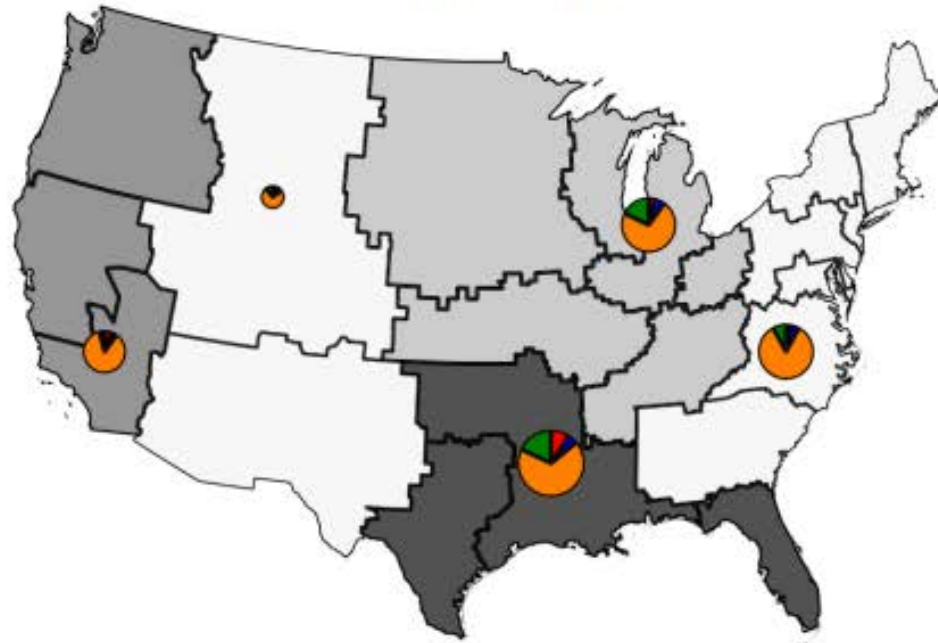


# Worldwide NTM Distribution (Respiratory)

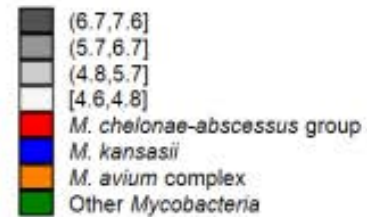
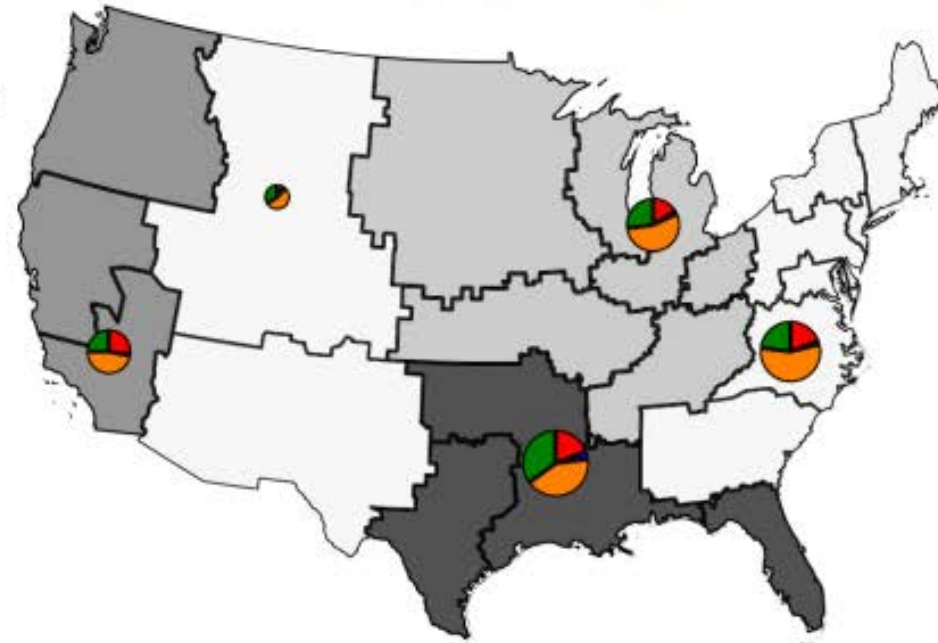


# Cases per 100k patient-years

## Pulmonary

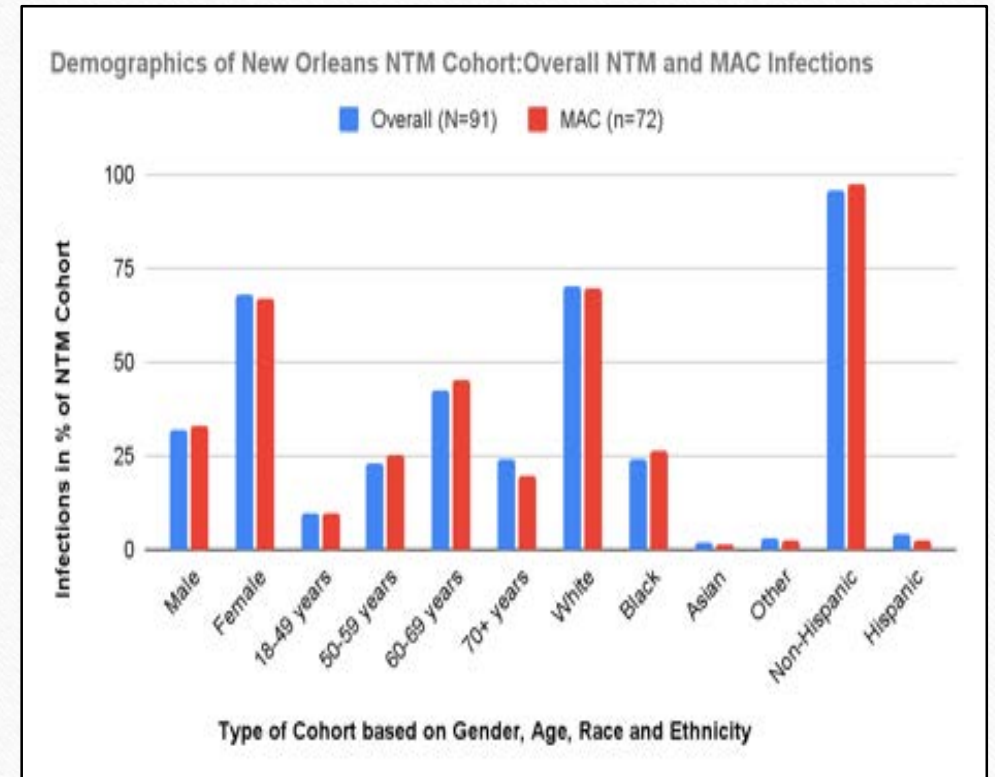
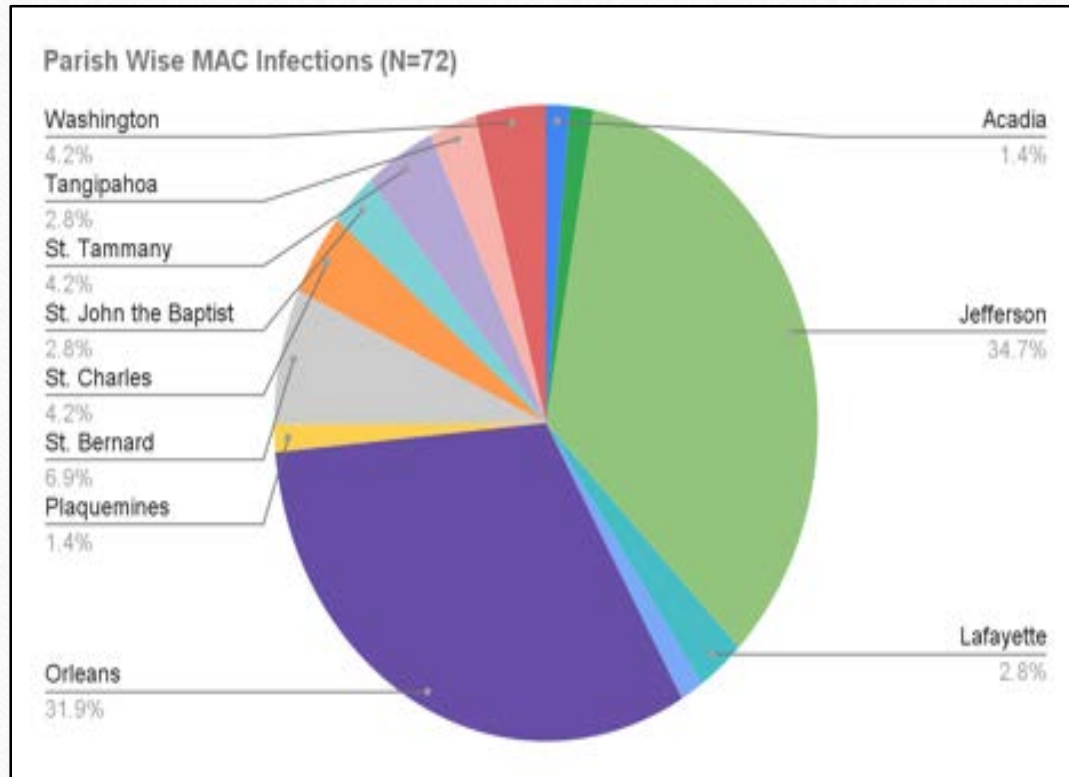


## Extra-pulmonary





## Geographical Distribution And Clinical Characteristics Of Non-tuberculous Mycobacteria Pulmonary Disease In New Orleans



**NTM –BE Team at LSUHSC : Acknowledgement to Dr Nicole Lapinel for her tenure 2017-2021**

# Suggested Management Paradigm

## A to I

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- **A: Awareness\*\*** , recognition , high index of suspicion

**\*\* The transition from concept of 1. colonization to 2. infection to 3. disease to 4. morbidity /co-morbidities to 5. mortality**

- Recurrent Bronchitis /Hx of repeated “pneumonia” Repeated need of Antibiotics /Chronic cough ( let the normal CXR deceive us )
- Underlying Bronchiectasis( primary, secondary, idiopathic)
- Associated with Pulmonary and Non-Pulm co-morbidities
- CF-HIV ( not withstanding )
- Exogenous and Endogenous Immune Deficiency syndromes
- **\*\* or lack thereof:** *Ask the medical students/residents rotating through the clinic*

# B: Bronchiectasis

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Primary or Secondary: “The chicken or the Egg dilemma”

Underlying Pathology



## TROIKA : THE COMMONALITY IN CLINICAL IDENTITY & MGM

### Chronic Cough

Chronic Resp Symptoms

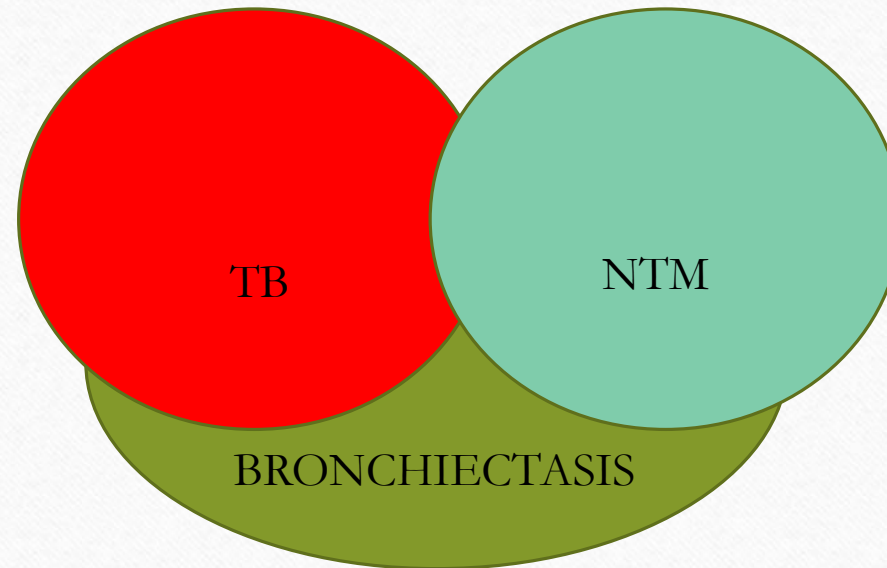
Prolonged Debility

Enhanced Frailty

Increased Disability adj life years

Radiographic Similarity

Management & Rx Overlap



# Q 1: The Clinical Vortex: Chronic Cough with a normal CXR in a non-smoker

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- UACS /RhinoSinus/ Allergic & Non Allergic Rhinitis
- Asthma
- Non-Asthma Eosinophilic Bronchitis ( NAEB\_)
- GERD/LPR/Acid and Non-Acid
- Drugs
- \*\* Early IPF/CHF/ Sjogren Syndrome or .....\*

Fill in the blank ; See next slide for options

**Ref: Irwin et al Chest 2018 (153) 1 196-209 )**



# Question 1

## Answer choices

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- A. TB
- B. Acute Bronchitis
- C. Chronic Bronchitis
- D. Bronchiectasis

# Epidemiology - USA



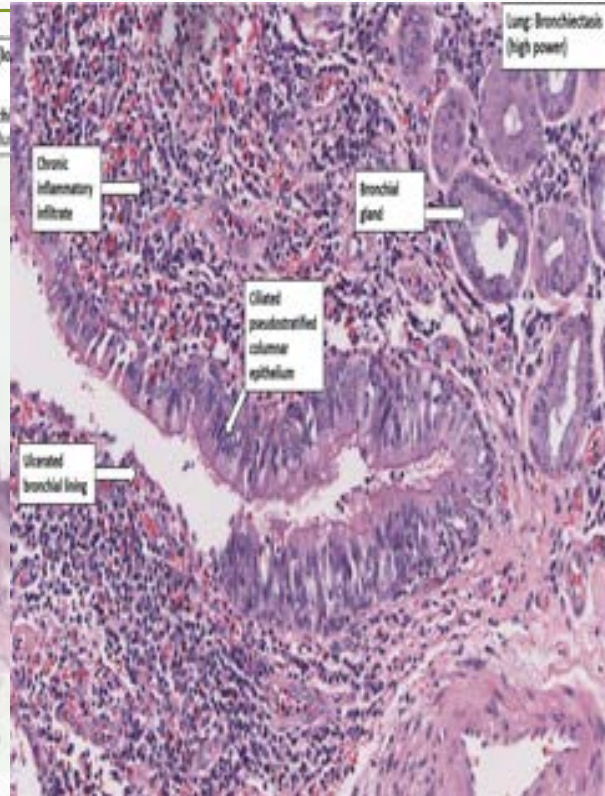
## Prevalence of Non-CF BE

- Estimated 350,000-500,000 adults in the US with bronchiectasis
  - Prevalence increases with age
    - 300-500/100,000 age >40 versus 40-50/100,000 age <40
    - In adults > 65 may be as high as 700/100,000

## US Bronchiectasis and NTM Research Registry (BRR)

- 2017 data 63% of patients with non-CF BE had NTM
- 2023 data (not yet published) 58.8% of 2,634 patients with NTM at baseline
  - Probability of acquiring NTM was approximately 4%/year

# Bronchiectasis: Histology to Radiology



Reference and Acknowledgement

## INFECTION, INSULT PLUS IMPAIRED HOST\*



### Host response

1. **Unopposed** Neutrophilic elastase and Neutrophilic serine proteinases activity\*
2. Oxygen intermediates
3. Inflammatory cytokines

Blocked by A1AT

Could be blocked by inhibitor agents

### At an anatomic level

inflammation /edema/ulceration/neovascularization  
Irreversible bronchiolar dilatation and tissue destruction

### At the cytokine level

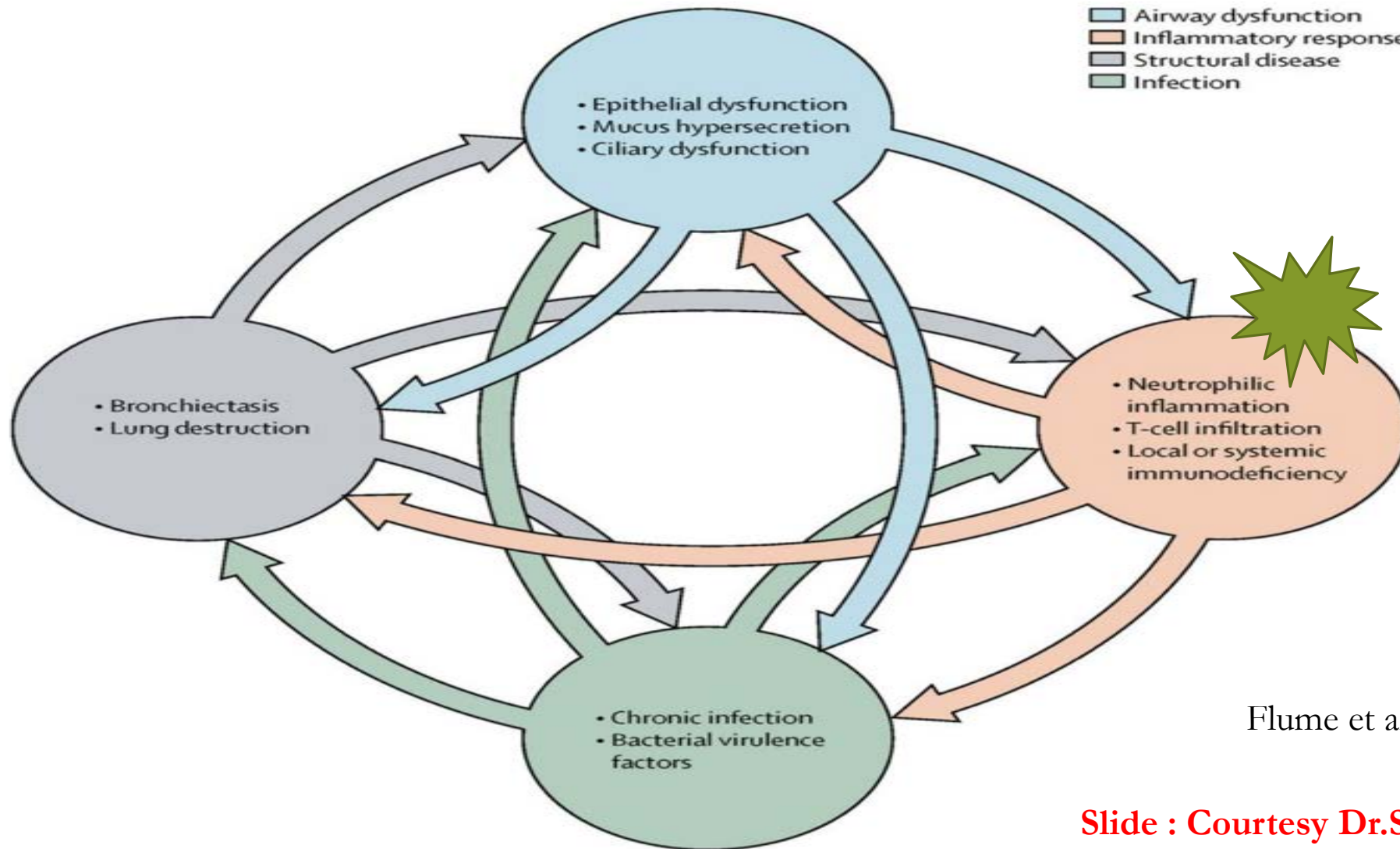
Increased mucus secretions  
Inhibition of mucociliary clearance

### Impaired host

1. Defect in host defense\*\*
2. Defect in clearance
3. Defect in airflow ( OAD)

In Non CF :

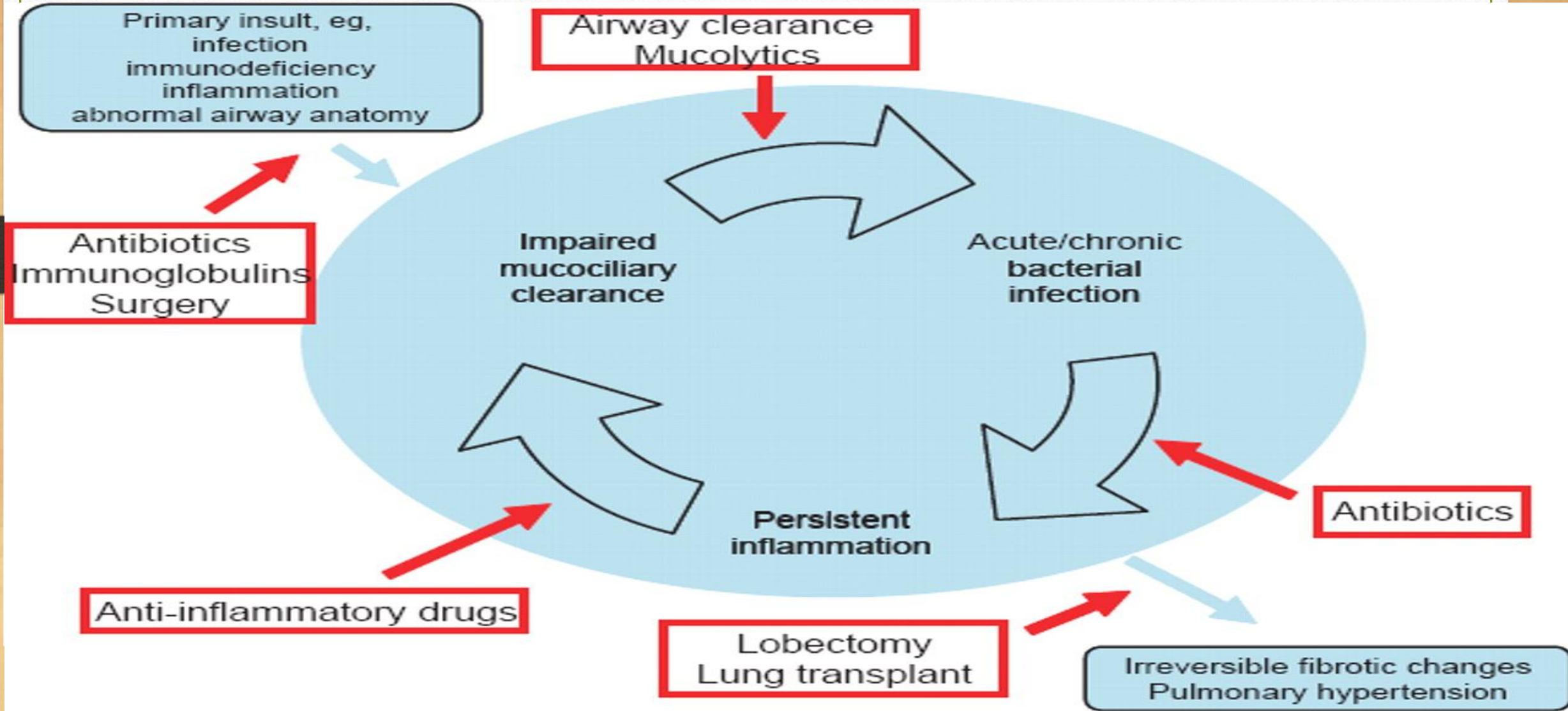
CFTR variants with single mutations  
Association with Vit D deficiency



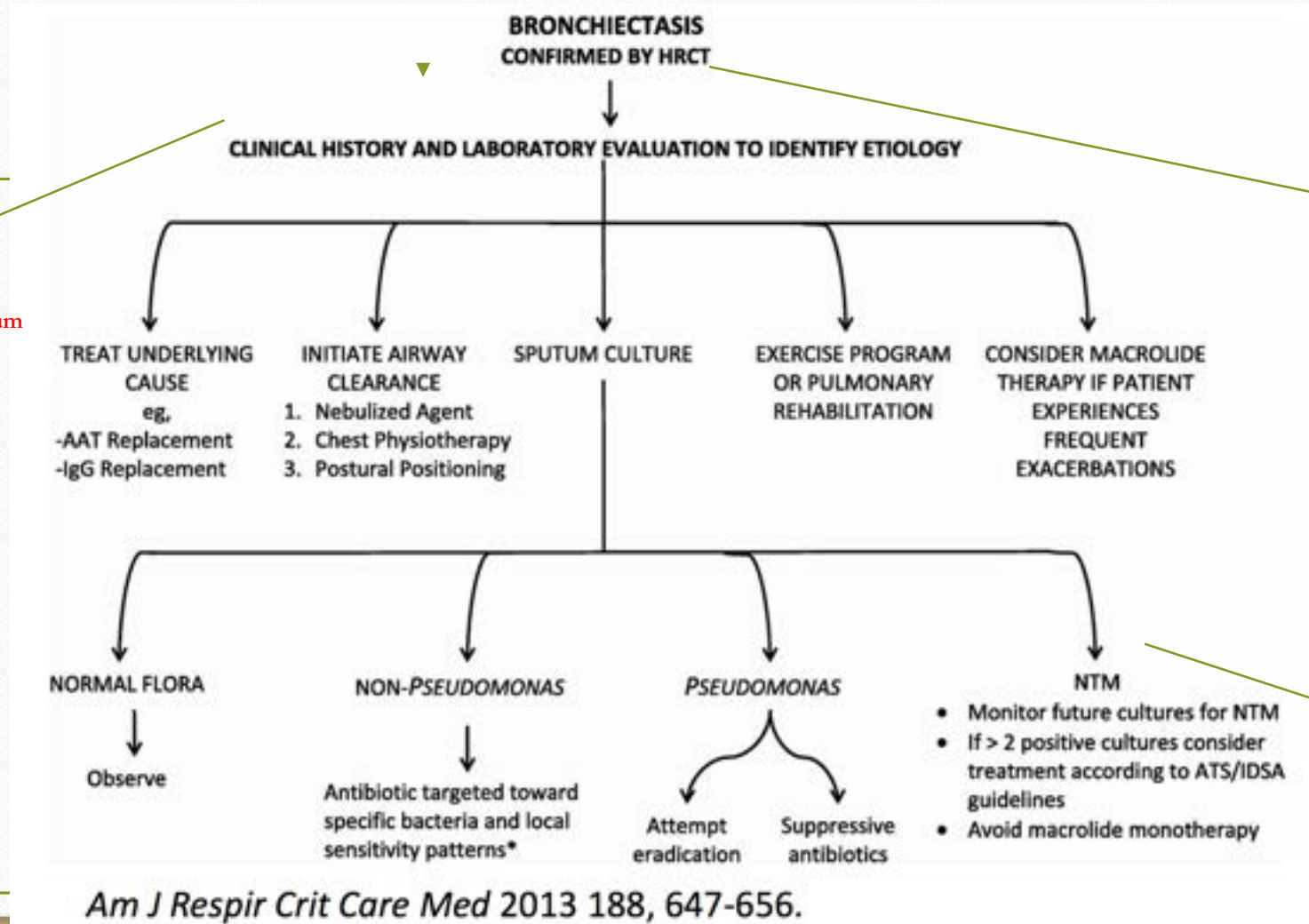
Flume et al *Lancet* 2018

Slide : Courtesy Dr.Shelby MacRae

# Targets of Therapy



# Management of non-CF Bronchiectasis with its complexities

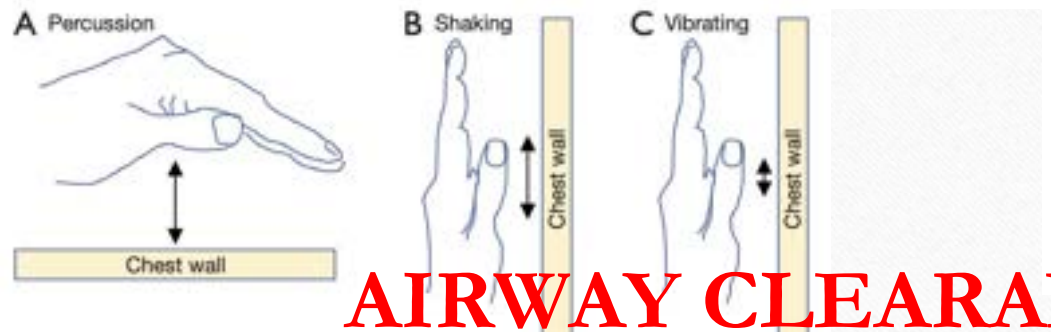
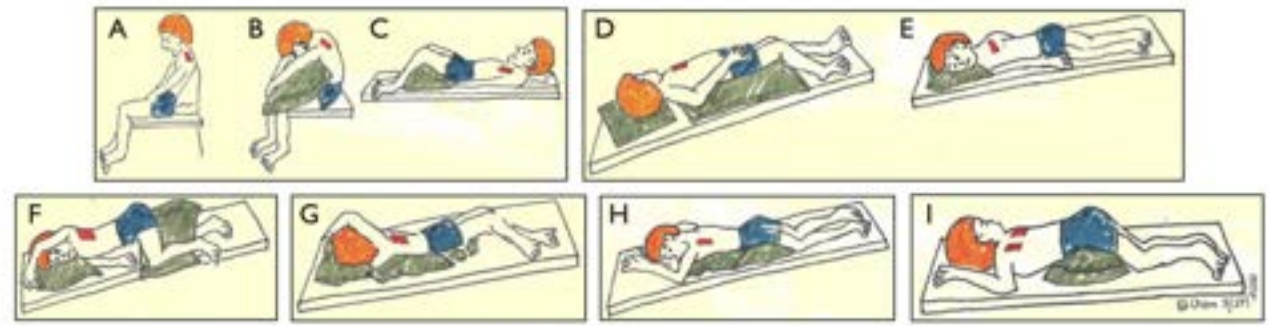
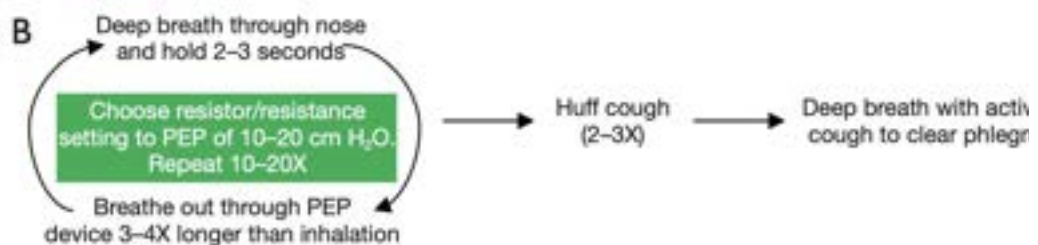


THE CONTROL OF COUGH DILEMMA

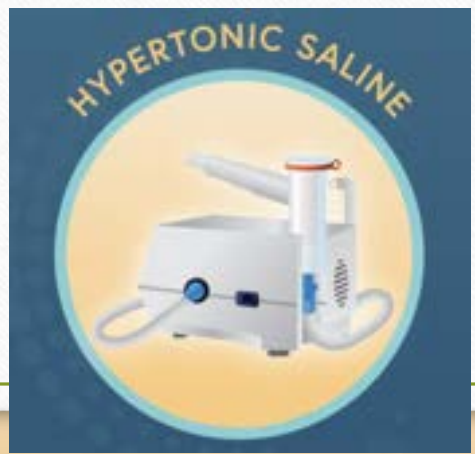
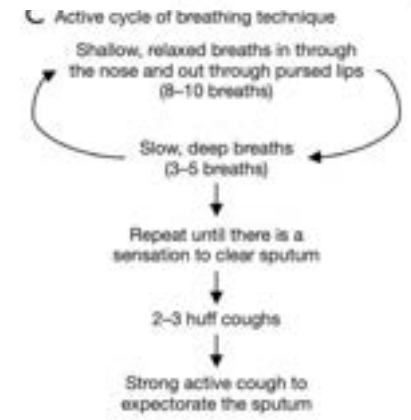
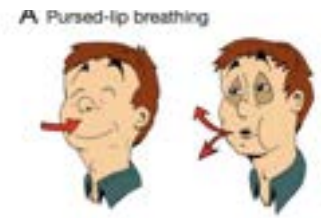
\* Dry cough  
\* Wet with Copious sputum

Multi faceted  
Nodular, TIB, Tubular  
Cystic, Cavitory

See 2020 Guidelines For Antimicrobial Therapy  
REA with or without AG



# AIRWAY CLEARANCE METHODS & DEVICES





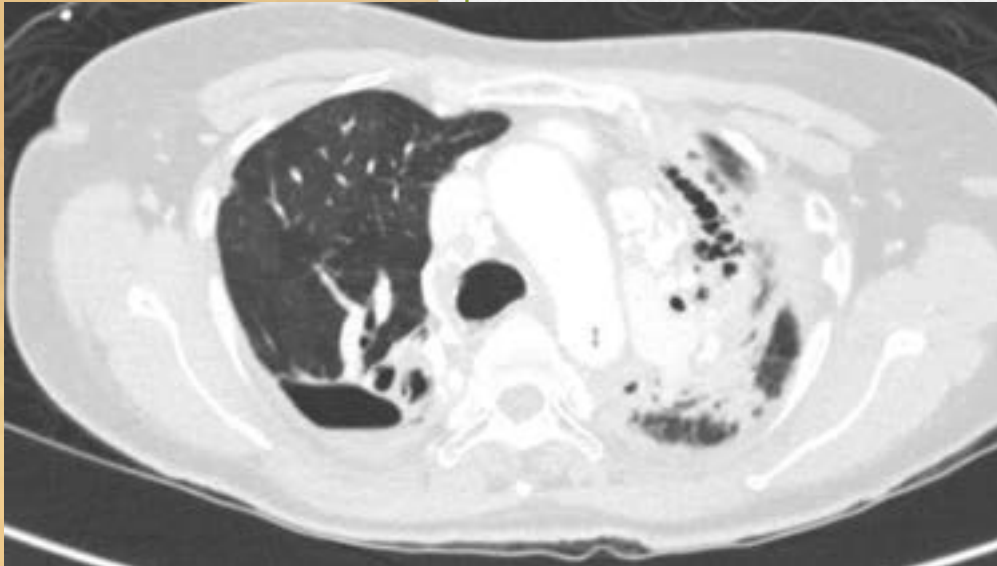
## Q 2: Regarding Non-CF Bronchiectasis (NCFBE) which of the following is incorrect

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- A. Most diagnosed cases are post-infectious or idiopathic
  - B: Affected individuals account for disproportionate healthcare costs
  - C: Cases with non –CF BE have a higher mortality
  - D: NCFBE exacerbations are caused by a vicious vortex of eosinophilic inflammation
- 
- Ref: Plume et al Lancet 2018

# C: Co-morbid Pulmonary diseases

OLD TB / COPD / SARCOID / IPF / CTD-ILD / ICS  
/ STEROID USE



# D: The Disease /NTM itself

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More about the Mycobacteria with its heterogeneity and complexities in diagnosis and management

# The SMART Microbe

## 1. Why survival and immune evasion?\*

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- Biofilm formation, Cell wall characteristics blocking vacuolar acidification
- Inhibition of phagosome-lysosome fusion
- Anaerobic intracellular environment
- Induction of NTM related genes that enhance replication
- Inhibition of the host macrophage function and lymphocyte proliferation

## 2. Why survival and immune evasion?\*

### Some of the HOST FACTORS

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- Induction of macrophage apoptosis by down regulation of Bcl-2 gene
- Absence of or sluggishness of the T helper lymphocyte or NK innate immunity
- Defective clearance

# NTM/MOTT WHO DAT MAC:

## The Mycobacterial Avium Complex: Not a single entity

- Conventional Criteria
- Serotypes
- Multi-locus Enzyme Electrophoresis types
- Phage types
- Large RFLP types with different colony morphology (smooth rough opaque etc)
- Colony variant Types
  
- & ....then differences in cell wall/envelopes/microbial genetics of mycobacteria and antibiotics

Ref Inferlied et al Clin Micro Review July 1993

# MAC: Not necessarily a single presentation

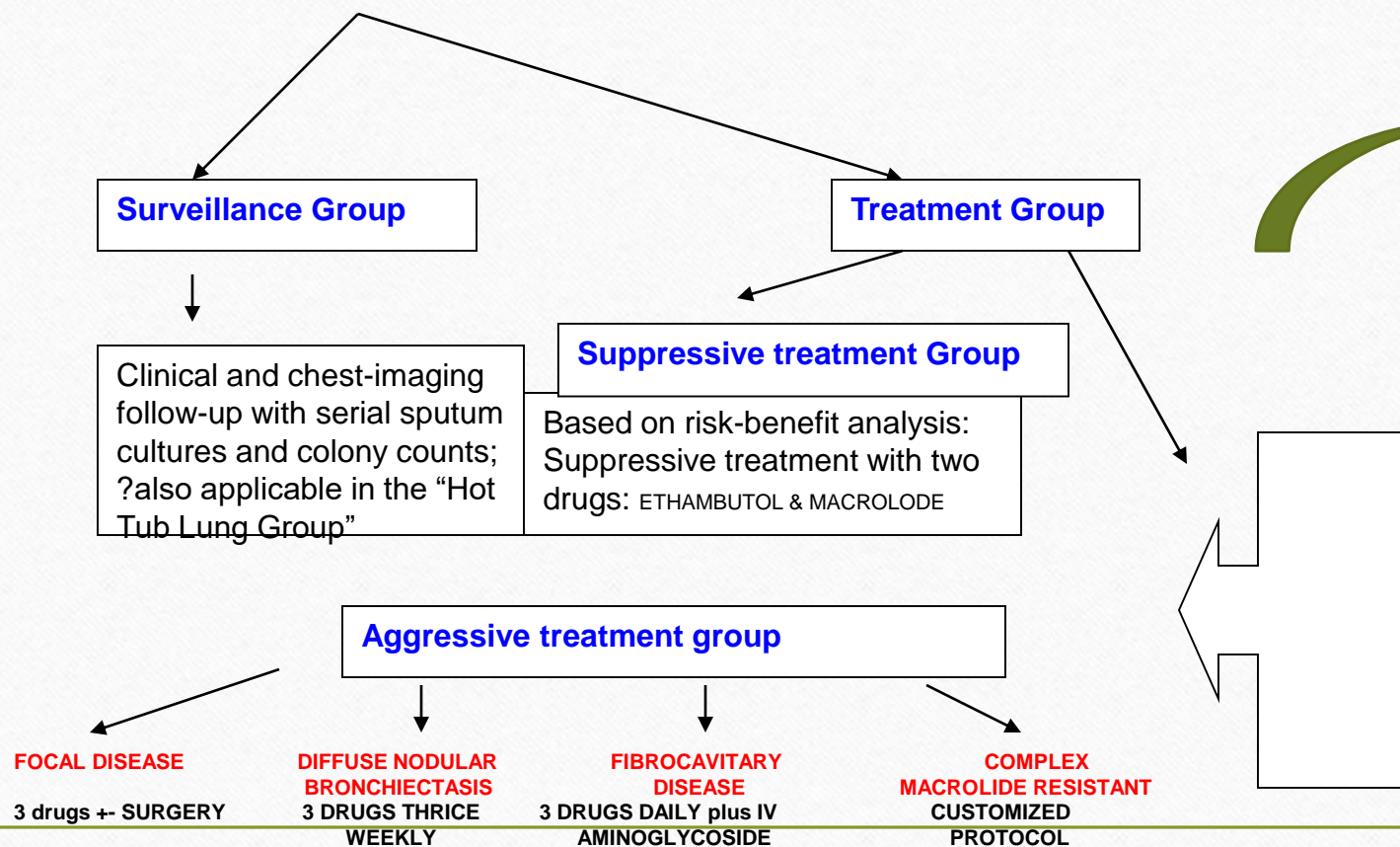
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- Pulmonary/ LWS/TIB/BE/HP/Associated Infection
- Lymphadenitis
- Disseminated
- Skin & Soft tissue
- Occupational
- Device related

Step 1: Diagnosis & Clinical Classification\*\*

\*\* Ref 9 Chitty S, Ali J. Mycobacterium Avium Complex Pulmonary Disease in immune competent patients. Southern Medical Journal June 2005, 98 (6) pp 646-652

Step 2: CATEGORIZE GROUP



New Addition Of ALIS 2018



# NTM treatment and its specific challenges

Methods of identification (accuracy, timeliness, availability)

- Not a reportable disease and if so not followed by Public Health
- Mycobacterial evasion / inefficient treatment options:
  - **Intrinsic resistance**
    - Macrophage barrier (intracellular) to Rx
    - Hydrophobicity of NTM with drugs being hydrophilic in nature( e.g. more hydrophobic drugs - rifabutin as opposed to rifampin)
    - Cell wall associated permeability barrier (e.g. *M. Chelonae* ; hence ethambutol in combination a better choice)
    - Caseum growth & nonreplicating state of persistence ( The granuloma debate )
    - Mucus growth (e.g. *M. abscessus* undergo phenotypic switch in mucus niche) /difficult Rx options
    - Biofilm growth (NTM in biofilms are ten times less susceptible)
  - **Poor correlation between in vitro and therapeutic efficacy**
  - **Multi strain sero-variance (e.g. AIDS patients; subjects with nodular/bronchiectatic disease pattern AND NTM migration)**
  - **Adaptive resistance due to continual exposure**

# Environmental Considerations

## Transmission

- **Environment = major source of human NTM infections**
- **Routes of exposure:**
  - 1) Aerosolization and inhalation
  - 2) Swallowing and aspiration
  - 3) Introduction into wounds (injury/surgical)
  - 4) Zoonotic (pigs, birds, cattle)
- Rarely transmitted from patient to patient\*\*\*

### Environmental Sources of NTM

Soils, acidic pine forest or coastal swamp soils

Dusts from agriculture, garden & potting soils

Drainage waters from acidic pine forests or coastal swamps

Natural waters

Drinking water

Water / ice from refrigerators

Water from granular activated charcoal filters

Aerosols from natural & drinking waters

Aerosols from indoor humidifiers

Mist from indoor swimming pools



# Proven Routes of NTM Infection



- 1) Matching **pulsed field gel electrophoresis patterns** of *M. avium* isolates from AIDS patients, Charles River **water & drinking water** in Boston
- 2) Matching **rep-PCR patterns** of *M. avium* isolates **showerhead**
- 3) *M. avium* infected patients & isolates from their **household plumbing**
- 4) Identical **16S rRNA sequences** of NTM isolates from patients & their **potting soils**
- 5) Similarity of **RFLP patterns** among human & porcine isolates indicates close genetic relatedness, suggesting that *M. avium* is transmitted **between pigs and humans**

# Watch Out for “F” Follow up challenges

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positive cultures with underlying /occult malignancy

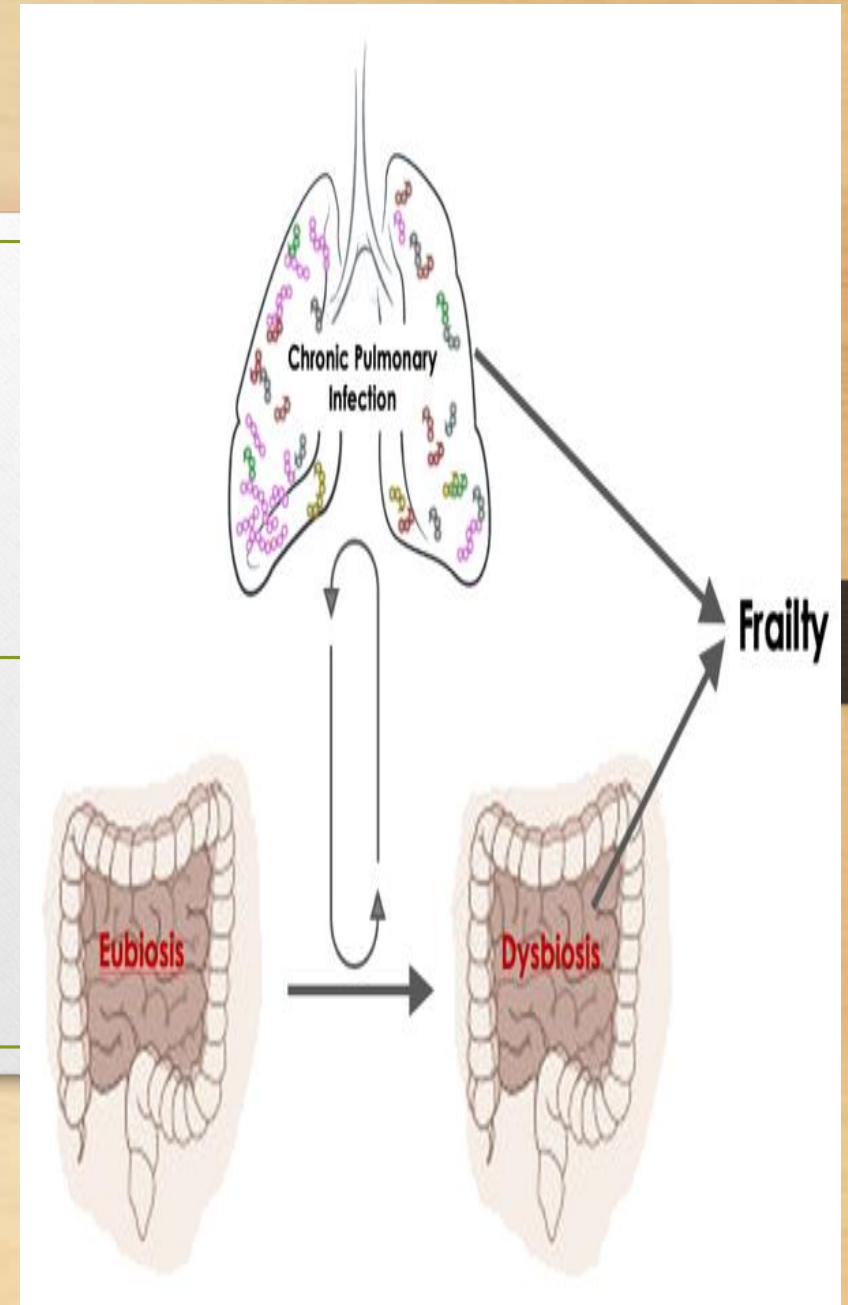
Criteria of response ; Adherence to therapy/Poor Rx  
tolerance

**HIGH DROP OUT RATES**

G: Gastric/Reflux /NTM  
Aspiration/Increase in Cough

Micro Aspiration /Swallowing defects  
Specially with RGM

**The challenges of long  
term antibiotics Rx and  
impact on Gut microbiome**



Chronic disease, outcomes are variable

Disease fatigue

Treatment fatigue

Healthcare provider fatigue

# H: Holistic Approach

Focus on **Psycho-social** issues and **General Wellbeing** in this chronic condition where cough, weight loss, and fatigue are the most debilitating complaints

**ASSESSING FRAILITY \* ( Wetmore study )**

Importance of **Exercise Programs**

# I: The Immune Domains

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Exogenous immune deficiencies/ Chronic systemic and inhaled Steroid use/ CFTR traits/ Alpha One Anti-trypsin Def / Primary Ciliary Dysfunction disorders/ Immunoglobulin Deficiencies /Connective Tissue Disorders

Interferon Gamma Deficiencies; Signal Transducer and activator of transcription (STAT1 ) deficiency; Autoantibody to Interferon Gamma; HIV and Non HIV related CD4 lymphopenia;Risk of use of TNF-alpha inhibitors and Janis Kinase (JAK ) inhibitors

# Summary : Multidisciplinary management approach

## An Oncology Paradigm

- **Antimicrobial therapy**

- Surveillance only with ACT
- Suppressive treatment
- Active treatment /GBT REA with or without AG

- **Underlying non-pulmonary/pulmonary disease**

- Autoimmune: Co-mgmt with Rheumatology specialist
- Chronic rhinitis / sinusitis: Referral to ENT
- GERD/Esophageal motility d/o: Referral to GI
- Bronchiectasis/ IPF/COPD/Sarcoidosis/TB

- **Laboratory**

- Speciation / colony count /Susceptibility testing

- **Nutritional support Watch weight loss**

- **Respiratory therapy**

- Education/Goals/Expectation/Practical implementation
- Airway clearance techniques (Nebulizer / PEP devices / Percussive vests / Postural drainage)

- **Psychological support**

- Patient outreach /Caregiver support
- Support groups

### The Multidisciplinary Team





## THE ALPHABET A to I MULTI DISCIPLINARY MULTI-SPECIALTY PARADIGM

← Multispecialty interaction and coordination of care →

	A Awareness and early recognition	B Bronchiectasis and underlying pathology	C Comorbidities	D Disease assessment and treatment	E Environmental surveillance	F Follow-up measures	G Gastro-esophageal reflux precautions	H Holistic approach	I Immune and genetic testing
THE TEAM	Primary care physician with or without other specialists	Pulmonary and respiratory therapists/ radiologist/CT surgeon/ENT	Pulmonologists and other specialists	Infectious disease specialist/microbiologist/ radiologist	Infectious disease specialist/ specialized laboratory technicians	Multidisciplinary team	Gastro-enterologist	Nurse/ nutritionist/ OT/psychologist/PT/SW	Rheumatologist/ immunologist
THE APPROACH	Consideration of NTM-LD in patients with other pulmonary conditions	Monitor Bronchiectasis Severity Index scores regularly to prevent irreversible loss of lung function	Screening for NTM prior to initiating therapy for lung diseases and distinguishing underlying cause of radiographic pulmonary mass or nodule	Regular multidisciplinary follow-up and use of antibiotic initiation checklist	Discuss methods to reduce risk of reinfection with patient/caregiver	Individualized monitoring plan that continues after culture conversion	Monitoring for and management of GERD to reduce mycobacterial burden	Create a customized and comprehensive plan to increase successful management of NTM-LD	Periodic review with this team may help identify any contributing factors that impede improvement

## Q 3

Which of the following is the most important in the management of Non CF BE with or without NTM/TB

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- A: Multi-specialty collaboration
- B: Patient/Caregiver engagement in managing Acute Exacerbation and chronic care management
- C: Prompt initiation of Bronchodilator therapy
- D: Nutritional /PT support
- E. All of the above
- F. A B & D

Ref: 1. New developments in bronchiectasis

- [The Lancet Respiratory Medicine](#) Published: August 14, 2023
- 2. Daley et al **An Official ATS/ERS/ESCMID/IDSA Clinical Practice Guideline**

..And now to the **Future**

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# Common CLINICAL challenges RELATED TO BACKGROUND GUIDELINE BASED ANTIMYCOBACTERIAL THERAPY

---

Who to treat? How long to treat?

- How to convey the goals and seek patient partnership and engagement
- Establish outcome parameters
- Distinguish symptoms and radiology of NTM and underlying diseases and problems
- Cough/Fatigue and how to handle that
- Which regimen is ideal?
  - Drug intolerance
  - Drug side effects
  - Drug-drug interactions
- How do patients afford their lengthy/complicated medication regimen?
- Are susceptibility data reliable? / Need for broader susceptibility data and beyond MIC

# Following the CF Trail

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Use of CF transmembrane conductance (CFTR) regulators



Improvement in lung function  
Reduction of symptoms  
Decreased exacerbations

National Experts: Rx CF trait positive pts ( Delta F 508 cohort **with** [Trikafta \(Lexacaftor, Tezacaftor and Ivacaftor Tablets\)](#))

**Targeted Phase: Validation of NTM MAC and MABC Proteomic Profiles Against Mixed In Vitro Samples**

Sample	Concentration (mg/ml)	ul for 25ug	Detected Strain(s)	Predominant Strain	Actual Strain(s)
1	0.391	64	M. abscessus, M. boletti, M. chimaera, M. intracellulare, M. massiliense	M. abscessus	M. avium + M. intracellulare + M. chimaera + M. abscessus + M. boletti + M. massiliense
2	0.465	54	M. abscessus, M. avium, M. boletti, M. massiliense	M. massiliense	M. abscessus + M. boletti + M. massiliense
3	0.163	153	Not Determined	Not Determined	M.avium + M.intracellulare + M chimaera
4	0.262	95	M. avium	M. avium	M.avium + M. abscessus
5	0.292	86	M. abscessus, M. avium, M. chimaera	All	M.intracellulare + M. abscessus
6	0.388	64	M. abscessus, M. avium, M. boletti, M. chimaera	M. chimaera	M. massiliense + M. abscessus
7	0.259	97	M. abscessus	M. abscessus	M.avium + M.boletti
8	0.295	85	M. avium, M. abscessus, M. massiliense	All	M.abscessus + M.chimaera
9	0.147	170	M. chimaera	M. chimaera	M.avium + M.chimaera
10	0.440	57	M. abscessus, M. avium, M. boletti, M. chimaera, M. massiliense	M. abscessus, M. chimaera	M. avium + M. abscessus + M. massiliense + M. bolletti
11	0.494	51	M. avium, M. massiliense, M. boletti, M. chimaera, M. intracellulare	M. avium	M. intracellulare + M. abscessus + M. massiliense + M. boletti
12	0.428	58	M. abscessus, M. avium, M. chimaera	M. abscessus	M. chimaera + M. abscessus + M. massiliense + M.boletti
13	0.147	170	Not Determined	Not Determined	M. massiliense + M. avium
14	0.150	167	M. chimaera	M. chimaera	M. intracellulare + M. massiliense
15	0.255	98	M. abscessus, M. avium, M. chimaera	M. chimaera	M. chimaera + M. boletti

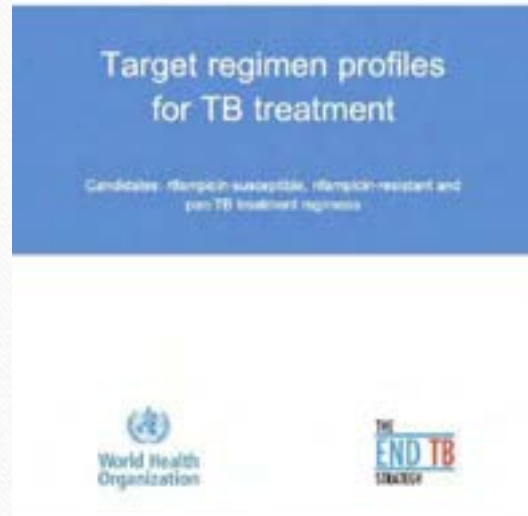
*Diagnostics : Matching strains :Culture/Genetics/ Proteomics track*

**LSUHSC NTM-BE PROGRAM TEAM  
BIO SPECIMEN REDCap REGISTRY  
PLATFORM**

# Target regimen profiles for treatment of tuberculosis: a WHO document

Christian Lienhardt<sup>1</sup>, Payam Nahid<sup>2</sup>, Michael L. Rich<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Cathy Bansbach<sup>6</sup>, Emily A. Kendall<sup>7</sup>, Gavin Churchyard<sup>8,9</sup>, Lice González-Angulo<sup>1</sup>, Lia D'Ambrosio<sup>10</sup>, Giovanni Battista Migliori<sup>10</sup> and Mario Raviglione<sup>1</sup>

**Affiliations:** <sup>1</sup>Global TB Programme (GTB), World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. <sup>2</sup>Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco General Hospital, San Francisco, CA, USA. <sup>3</sup>Division of Global Health Equity, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston,



**ATTRIBUTE**

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENT**

**OPTIMUM GOALS**

TABLE 1 Characteristics of the target regimen profile for rifampicin-susceptible (RS) tuberculosis (TB)

Attribute	Minimum*	Optimum*
1 Indication	Active against RS <i>M. tuberculosis</i> strains	Active against RS <i>M. tuberculosis</i> strains including mono-resistance to any drug except rifampicin
2 Efficacy and duration of treatment	A regimen of 4 months or less with efficacy not inferior* to the current standard of care 6-month regimen for DS-TB	A regimen of 2 months or less with efficacy not inferior to the current standard of care 6-month regimen for drug-susceptible TB
3 Target population	All age groups, irrespective of HIV status	All age groups, irrespective of HIV status
4 Safety and tolerability	Incidence and severity of adverse events no worse than for standard of care No more than monthly clinical monitoring and no laboratory monitoring for drug toxicity needed except in special populations (pre-existing liver disease, diabetes, etc.)	Incidence and severity of adverse events better than for standard of care No active clinical monitoring and no laboratory monitoring for drug toxicity needed except in special populations (pre-existing liver disease, diabetes, etc.)
5 DDI and metabolism	Ability to use safely without active laboratory testing or monitoring with: First-line ART regimen(s) First-line TB regimens (rifampicin is included in the regimen) Drugs that induce or inhibit P450 liver enzymes Proarrhythmic drugs that prolong QT/QTc interval	No dose adjustment with other medications and ability to use safely without active laboratory testing or monitoring with: First-line TB regimens (rifampicin and co-trimoxazole are included in the regimen) Drugs that induce or inhibit P450 liver enzymes Proarrhythmic drugs that prolong QT/QTc interval
6 Formulation dosage and route of administration	Formulation to be used for all drugs in regimen, including paediatrics Well tolerated and simple to administer to enhance adherence	Exclusively oral delivery (preferably once daily); ideally without the need for weight band adjustments, and suitable for fixed dose combination formulations Parenteral formulations would allow to treat severe cases 3 or fewer pills per day
7 Stability/shelf life	Without cold storage requirements, with shelf lives of at least 3 years for all the drugs comprising the regimen	Without cold storage requirements, with shelf lives of at least 5 years for all the drugs comprising the regimen
8 Special populations	Safe on a wide range of patients (children, pregnant women and patients with comorbidities (HIV, viral hepatitis, diabetes, etc.) and low to no drug-drug interactions	For women of child bearing potential and pregnant women, available human data that do not indicate that the component drugs increase the overall risk of structural abnormalities and the drugs are safe with breastfeeding
9 Barrier to emergence of drug resistance (propensity to develop resistance, generation of cross-resistance)	Each component of the regimen should have no greater mutation rate (in unselected bacterial population) than 1 in 10 <sup>7</sup> mutations per bacterium per generation New resistance to one or more drugs in the regimen emerges in <1% of treatment courses when taken as prescribed and when no	Each component of the regimen should have no greater mutation rate (in unselected bacterial population) than 1 in 10 <sup>8</sup> mutations per bacterium per generation Essentially no acquired resistance (<0.01%) when regimen is taken as prescribed and no pre-existing resistance to the drugs in the

**Lesson : Develop a TRP for NTM to guide development decisions.**

# Future treatment options and pathways

- *Advent of increased use of ALIS ( Amikacin Liposomal Inhaled Solution ) Convert trials)*
- *More on inhaled antibiotics*
- *Focus on Cavitory MAC ??*
- *Clofazimine back in the limelight ( Herman et al Science Direct Oct 2021 )*
- *Bedaquiline in MDR NTM ? ( Cholo et al Journal of Antimicrobial Chemo Feb 2017*
- *Omadacycline ( Rizzo et al BMC Nov 22 )*
- *Combination drugs / Combination packaging*
- *Rx of underlying Bronchiectasis ( Brensocatib)*
- *Understanding Airway clearance options and rationale thereof/Use of Glutathione*
- *Reduce Biofilm formation ...Oils !!!*
- *Phage therapy / CF trials*



# On going Clinical Trials

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- 1. Bronchiectasis : Aspen trial Brensocatib
- 2. Arise and Encore Trials : ALIS plus ... QOL
- 3. RedHill Multidrug FD combination trial
- 4. BE Research Registry
- 5. Resurrection of Clofazimine beyond Single pt IND and now mono Rx
- 6. PICORI Pragmatic 2 x 3
- 7. Establish sustaining compliance with ALIS ( Amikacin Liposomal Inhaled Convert trials data)
- 8. Omadacyclin
- 9. Glutathione
- 10. Epetraborole



## Part 2

# Towards Program Development and Collaboration

# THE COLLABORATIVE NETWORK & PARTNERSHIP

Wetmore

Compassionate  
Access /Referral  
Eligible (CARE)  
program

Clinical  
Navigation &  
Assistance  
Program

OPH  
Region 1  
Clinic

OPH & CDC  
leadership

Tulane Student Homeless shelter TB programs  
& Grants

**Wetmore Center  
TB/ PRIMARY  
CARE  
& RESEARCH  
CENTER**

SOC/TAHA  
Programs

**Wetmore TB CLINIC**

**Wetmore Foundation**

**Sun Truist Bank Group & BOARD**

**Charles & Elizabeth Wetmore Fund**

**SOC /TAHA Fund**

Tulane MPH –Practicum  
Program

International and National  
Observership and Shadowing program

**PULM NTM  
Bronchiectasis  
\Program  
Registry &  
Biospecimen  
Bank**

Public Health

Patient  
services

Medical  
Research

**1. Zea  
TB  
Grant**

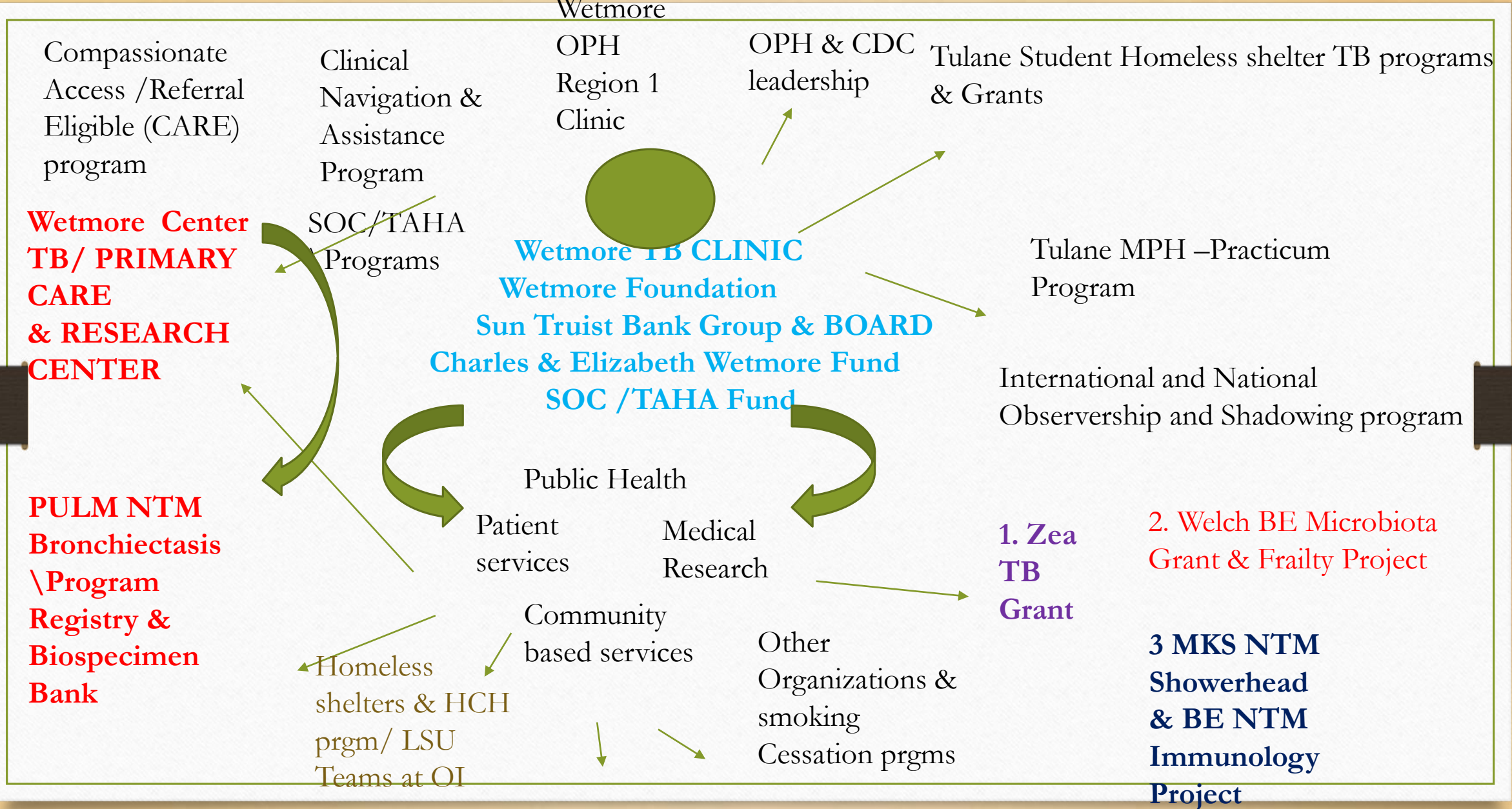
**2. Welch BE Microbiota  
Grant & Frailty Project**

Community  
based services

Homeless  
shelters & HCH  
prgm/ LSU  
Teams at OI

Other  
Organizations &  
smoking  
Cessation prgms

**3 MKS NTM  
Showerhead  
& BE NTM  
Immunology  
Project**



# LSUHSC Non-TB Mycobacterial (NTM) - Bronchiectasis (BE) Center

*A 7- star Comprehensive Multi-disciplinary Patient Care, Education and Clinical Research Program*

2024 Leads

Dr. Shellito

Dr. MacRae

Dr. Wolfe

Michelle Koroh Sedgwick MD

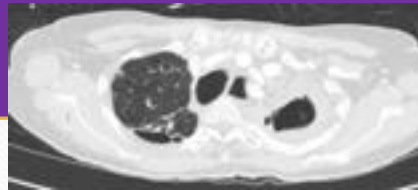
Arnold Zea PhD

7. Coordination of care with multiple specialties/REGISTRIES  
BIOSPECIMEN BANKS /LSUHSC- SOPH/ NIAID and other National  
Centers Of Excellence and National Societies/ Super Mentors. Dr DW & JS

1. Chronic Care  
Concierge Patient  
Centered Comprehensive  
Programmatic Clinic  
Through LSU Health

6. Participation in  
NTM-BE  
Research  
Foundation /Bio-  
specimen  
Registries

*Addressing the need to  
provide care for the "other  
COPD and the other TB"  
patients*



2. Easy Access and Availability  
through Program Hotline with  
Telehealth Clinics

5. Eligibility in on going clinical trials  
and Environmental Studies IRB protocols

3. Patient Assistance & Compassionate Care  
Programs for eligible patients through IRB/IN  
Pathways

## OTHER TEAM MEMBERS

1. Marie Sandi NP
2. P. Lauto
3. P Jadhav PhD
4. Anjel Guitroz
5. Shandrika Seymour



4. Support of Clinical Research and Navigation Team members  
under the Directorship of Dr. Juzar Ali & NTM-BE team in the  
section of Pulmonary /Critical Care/Allergy & Immunology.

**LSU Health**  
NEW ORLEANS

School of Medicine  
Department of Medicine  
Section of Pulmonary/Critical Care & Allergy/Immunology



# The Troika: Clinical & Program

## TAKE HOME POINTS

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- For the Primary Care Colleagues : **Awareness & Recognition**
- For Specialists dealing with Immune Compromised states: **Close Networking and Liaison**
- For Pulmonologists & ID teams : **Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Programmatic Care**
- For HealthCare System: **NEED TO SUPPORT THIS CONCEPT**
- For Academic Institutions : **Opportunity for Career and Growth & Importance of Front end Investment by Leadership to take Clinical care to Programmatic Development & Research**
- For Industry: **R&D/Education programs / Appreciate Huge Impact of such endeavors**

The work to continue.

# Introducing Faculty at LSUHSC

**Dr. Amy Wolfe** : TB/ Post TB Lung Disease /Bronchiectasis

**Dr. Shelby MacRae** NTM and Non CF Bronchiectasis & NTM

**Dr. Michelle Korah-Sedgwick** : Immunology & Hypersensitivity in  
NTM &BE

Thank you for your kind participation  
today and ....

*..... Thank you for .....*

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*Juzar Ali*