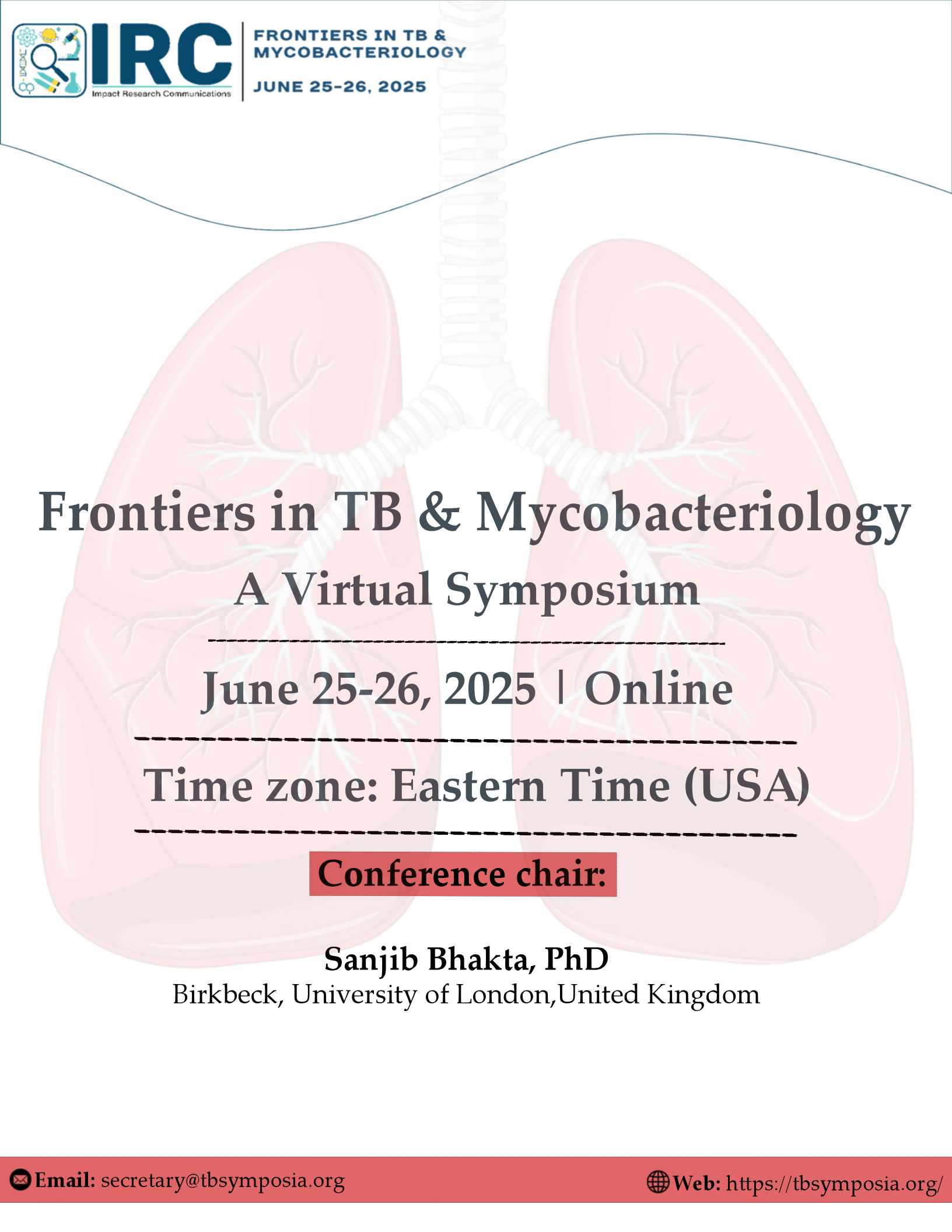




# Frontiers in TB & Mycobacteriology

## A Virtual Symposium

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**June 25-26, 2025 | Online**

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**Time zone: Eastern Time (USA)**

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**Conference chair:**

**Sanjib Bhakta, PhD**

Birkbeck, University of London, United Kingdom

# Scientific Program

**Day 1**    **Wednesday, June 25th 2025, Time zone: Eastern Time (USA)**

**08:00-08:10**    **Welcome and Introduction to TB & Mycobacteriology Symposium ~ Prof. Sanjib Bhakta**

**Session chair: Sanjib Bhakta**, UCL and Birkbeck, University of London, United Kingdom

**08:10-08:40**    **Vinay Kumar Nandicoori**, CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, India  
**Evolution of drug resistance in mycobacteria**

**08:40-09:10**    **Galina Mukamolova**, University of Leicester, United Kingdom  
**Catch me if you can: Investigation of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* persists**

**09:10-09:40**    **Raju Mukherjee**, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Tirupati, India  
**New targets in energy metabolism and glycogen metabolism in *Mycobacterium* and their mechanism of action**

**09:40-10:10**    **Ramandeep Singh**, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), Faridabad, India  
**Role of inorganic polyphosphate homeostasis in the pathophysiology of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis***

**10:10-10:20**    **Discussion**

**10:20-10:40**    **Break**

**Session chair: Hedia Marrakchi**, IPBS, France

**10:40-11:10**    **Joel Freundlich**, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, NJ, USA  
**Recent efforts in the translation of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* KasA inhibitors**

**11:10-11:40**    **Ruben Hartkoorn**, CNRS INSERM, France  
**Evaluating the therapeutic potential of NADH inhibitors against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis***

**11:40-12:10**    **Vinayak Singh**, University of Cape Town, South Africa  
**Disrupting alanine biosynthesis: A novel approach to combatting *Mycobacterium tuberculosis***

**12:10-12:40**    **Matthew Champion**, University of Notre Dame, IN, USA  
**Decoding mycobacterial systems with bioanalytical chemistry**

**12:40-12:50**    **Discussion**

**12:50-13:10**    **Break**

**Session chair: Sam Willcocks**, Brunel University London, United Kingdom

**13:10-13:40**    **Selvakumar Subbian**, New Jersey Medical School, Rutgers University, NJ, USA  
**Evaluation of a novel candidate vaccine for tuberculosis**

**13:40-14:10**    **Deepak Kaushal**, Texas Biomedical Research Institute, TX, USA  
**Prevention of tuberculosis in macaques by next-generation Delta-sigH double/triple mutant vaccine candidates**

**14:10-14:40**    **Ashley R Wolf**, University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA  
**The role of the gut microbiome in TB infection and diagnosis**

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|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14:40-15:10  | Cynthia Amaning Danquah, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana<br><i>Discovery and development of new antimicrobials from natural sources to tackle Tuberculosis</i>                                                       |
| 15:10        | Day 1 Concluding Remarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Day 2</b> | <b>Thursday, June 26th 2025</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 08:00-08:10  | Day 2 Opening Remarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|              | <i>Session chair: Tiago Beites, University of Porto, Portugal</i>                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 08:10-08:40  | Sanjib Bhakta, UCL and Birkbeck, University of London, United Kingdom<br><i>TB, AMR and the antibiotic apocalypse: Turning the tide before time runs out</i>                                                                                   |
| 08:40-09:10  | Robert Wallis, Aurum Institute, South Africa<br><i>Host-directed therapies to prevent post-TB lung disease</i>                                                                                                                                 |
| 09:10-09:40  | Jan Rybníček, University of Cologne, Germany<br><i>The role of inflammasomes as central inflammatory hubs in <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> infection</i>                                                                                   |
| 09:40-10:10  | Sayed Hasnain, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi; Sharda University, Greater Noida, India<br><i>The <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> PE-PPE_PGRS gene family: Role in virulence, possible drug resistance and vaccine candidate</i> |
| 10:10-10:20  | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10:20-10:40  | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|              | <i>Session Chair: Ankita Nag, Emory University School of Medicine, GA, USA</i>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 10:40-11:10  | Tiago Beites, University of Porto, Portugal<br><i><i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> adaptation to lipid-rich environments</i>                                                                                                                  |
| 11:10-11:40  | Pierre Santucci, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France<br><i>Pyrazinamide efficacy - Why context matters</i>                                                                                                             |
| 11:40-12:10  | Sam Willcocks, Brunel University London, United Kingdom<br><i>Drug repurposing for MDR-TB – New treatments from old medicines</i>                                                                                                              |
| 12:10-12:40  | Federico Brucoli, De Montfort University, United Kingdom<br><i>Strategies to combat antimicrobial resistance in pathogenic mycobacteria</i>                                                                                                    |
| 12:40        | Symposium Closing Remarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |



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