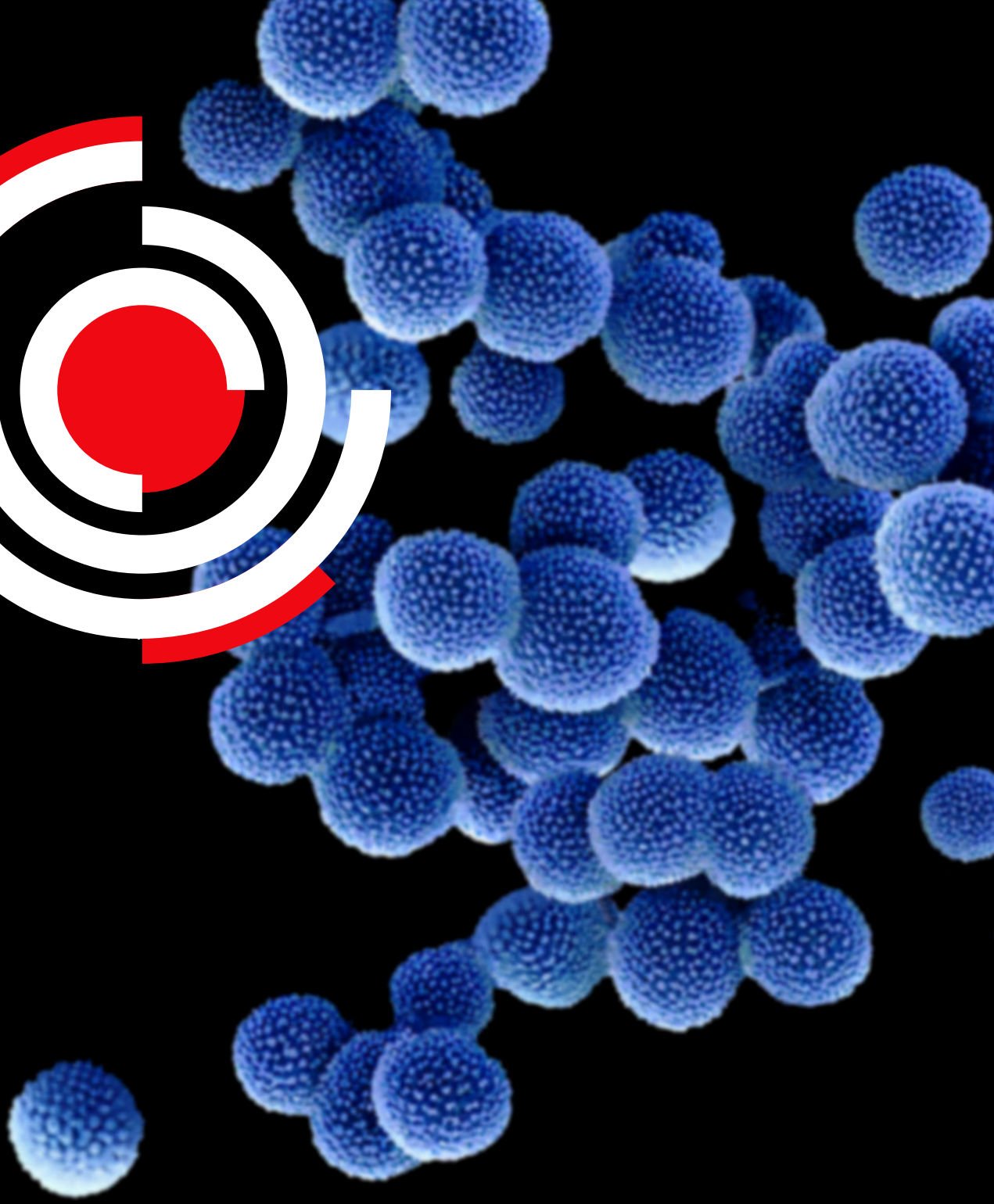


INDO-SWISS AMR INNOVATION DIALOGUE

Sunday 27 April to
Friday 2 May 2025

Outlook on the Indo-Swiss AMR Innovation Dialogue 2025

In light of recent global developments, we consider it more important than ever to foster collaborations between countries and continents to provide solutions for one of the world's most important challenges of the 21th century—antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

In the course of our last meeting in Bengaluru in 2023, it became evident that we need the concerted action of politicians, governments, universities, researchers, health care providers, medical doctors, veterinarians, livestock producers, regulators, start-up companies, big pharmaceutical companies and finally also the general public. To mitigate the risks of AMR, we need effective stewardship measures, better surveillance data and an economic climate incentivising investments into the development of novel antibiotics.

AMR is a global problem. Yet, the AMR burden is unequally distributed across the globe. The current AMR burden is more heavy in low and middle income countries (LMICs) such as India compared to European countries such as Switzerland. But AMR does not stop at borders and we need to find innovative approaches to curb AMR at the global level, and not just within single countries.

Inspired by the success of our last meeting in Bengaluru, as the organising team composed of Swiss and Indian researchers active in AMR research together with the offices of Swissnex in India, we compiled a rich programme across Switzerland with visits at the University of Zurich, University of Geneva, University of Berne, University of Basel, Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) and Roche. The core element of the programme is a workshop at the Swiss Re Center for Global Dialogue in Rüschlikon. We are confident that this AMR journey through Switzerland will provide interesting insights for the Indian and Swiss delegates alike.

Our vision remains unchanged. Let us learn from each other about how our countries tackle and deal with the AMR problem. Let us jointly identify areas where we can work together and find common ground for innovative projects. And let us build a network of experts who know and trust each other

and align their ideas in view of the challenging years that are ahead of us because of the growing AMR crisis.

As the organisers, we wish you an interesting and inspiring exchange, and last but not least, also a lot of joy and fun.

Prof Markus Seeger
Institute of Medical Microbiology, Zurich

Dr Lena Robra
Swissnex in India

Prof Patrick Viollier
University of Geneva

Prof Anjana Badrinarayanan
National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore

Prof Sunish Radhakrishnan
IISER Pune

AMR
INNOVATION PLATFORM

Greetings from the VP Research Office UZH

On behalf of the University of Zurich (UZH), it is with great pleasure that I welcome all participants to the Indo-Swiss AMR Dialogue, an event that brings together leading experts, researchers, and policymakers from Switzerland and India to address AMR—one of the most pressing global health challenges of our time. At UZH, we recognise that combating AMR requires a holistic, interdisciplinary approach that bridges microbiology, clinical sciences, policy and global health. We see AMR as a key area of mutual interest and global relevance, and we are proud to place it at the centre of our growing research ties with Indian institutions.

The most successful realisation of the Trialogue Days in Bengaluru in December last year—together with our partners, the Indian Institute of Science and Makerere University in Uganda—is testament to UZH's commitment to strengthening academic and scientific partnerships with India. Through collaborative platforms such as this Dialogue, we seek to strengthen these ties and foster co-operations even further, with the aim to catalyse innovative solutions that can translate into real-world impact.

I am particularly pleased that the Institute of Medical Microbiology at UZH is serving as one of the main organisers of this important event, working closely with our Indian and Swiss partners to co-create a productive dialogue. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Prof Markus Seeger and his team, Dr Lena Robra and Emma Ossola from Swissnex in India for their efforts in organising this event. Furthermore, I would like to thank UZH's Global Affairs Office for their generous funding to make this event possible.

I wish all participants a fruitful and inspiring exchange!

Prof Dr Elisabeth Stark
Vice-President Research
University of Zurich

Dear AMR Dialogue Participants,

When we launched the Indo-Swiss Innovation Platform at the first AMR Dialogue in 2023, we said clearly that this was not meant to be a one-off activity. And we meant it.

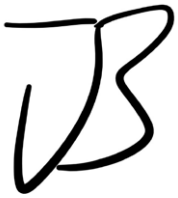
Over the past year and a half, the Innovation Platform has proven to be much more than a symbolic gesture—it has become a powerful tool to mobilisze stakeholders and focus our collective energy on long-term impact. It is incredibly encouraging to see this second edition of the Dialogue take shape, carrying forward the spirit of collaboration, mutual learning, and co-creation that defined the first.

While the much-anticipated Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme (JRP) call on One Health has not yet gone live, we have every reason to feel auspicious about what lies ahead. The past year has brought several significant developments: the signing of the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) between India and the EFTA countries (Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Iceland, and Norway), and just a few weeks ago, the Swiss National Council approved the agreement—paving the way for its ratification later this year, should there be no referendum.

Meanwhile, our research and innovation partnership continues to gain momentum. State Secretary Martina Hirayama's first visit to India in 2024 made one thing clear: we must be more ambitious. Since then, the incoming President of the Swiss National Science Foundation's Research Council, Torsten Schwede, visited India earlier this year and engaged in discussions with many of our Indian funding partners. These conversations and last year's visit are already shaping a bolder, more strategic agenda for the upcoming Joint Committee Meeting on Science and Technology in Switzerland later this year. This will hopefully result in more funding, more frequent open calls, and the possibility to carry out research over multiple phases.

All these efforts are guided by a single goal: to honor the important work that researchers and innovators like you are doing in addressing pressing challenges such as AMR by creating more concrete, enduring avenues for Indo-Swiss collaboration. It is our greatest privilege to play a small part in supporting you in accelerating positive transformations at the frontiers of knowledge.

Fair winds and following seas,



Jonas Brunschwig
CEO and Consul General
Swissnex in India
Consulate General of Switzerland in Bengaluru

Schedule

DAY 1
Basel
27 April - Sunday

14.00 Opening Session
NCCR, AntiResist Basel

Overview of the National Centre for Competence in Research (NCCR) - AntiResist

14.45 Plenary Session
Short Talks by Postdocs on AMR

15.30 Coffee Break
Networking

16.30 Plenary Session
Drug Discovery and AMR - the Indian Perspective

17.15 Plenary Session
Basel Research, Funders, Startups and Industry

19.15 Dinner
Dinner at Hotel Odelya

DAY 2
Basel / Rüschlikon
28 April - Monday

08.20 Site Visit
Roche Basel

Bus Travel and Site Visit to Roche Laboratories in Basel - for Indian Delegates Only

10.30 Basel - Rüschlikon
Bus Travel from Roche Basel to Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue

12.00 Lunch
Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue Rüschlikon

13.00 Opening Session
Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue Rüschlikon

13.20 Plenary Session
Introduction of Workshop 1

14.30 Coffee Break
Networking

15.00 Workshops

1.1 Innovative Potential of Academic Labs – The Future of Antimicrobial Treatments

1.2 From One Health Research to Impactful AMR Action Plans

1.3 What are the Global Risks Associated With AMR – and Can One Insure Them?

16.30 Plenary Session
Outcomes of Workshop 1

17.00 Short Talks
Early Career Scientists

17.30 Apéro
Open to All Participants

19.00 Dinner
Three-course Dinner at Swiss Re Centre Rüschlikon

Schedule

DAY 3
Rüschlikon / Zurich
29 April - Tuesday

09.00 Plenary Session
Swiss Re Rüschlikon

Introduction of Workshop 2

10.00 Coffee Break
Networking

10.30 Workshops
2.1 Access to Antibiotics in Switzerland – and the Key Role India Plays

2.2 Development of New TB drugs – Motivations, Frustrations and Learnings

2.3 Global Surveillance of AMR – Sharing is Caring

12.00 Plenary Session
Outcomes of Workshop 2

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Plenary Session
Introduction of Workshop 3

14.30 Coffee Break
Networking

15.00 Workshops
3.1 Reflecting on Strategies on how Antibiotics can be Better Valued

3.2 The Cogwheels of Antibiotic and Antifungal Development – Start-ups, SMEs, Big Pharma Working Together

3.3 AMR Stewardship in Hospitals - Comparing India and Switzerland

16.30 Plenary Session
Outcomes of Workshop 3

18.15 Travel
Rüschlikon - Zurich

Bus and Tram Travel from Swiss Re Centre to UZH Zurich

19.00 Dinner
Uniturm UZH

Dinner at Restaurant Uniturm

21:00 Travel
Zurich - Rüschlikon

Tram and Bus Travel from UZH Zurich back to Swiss Re Centre in Rüschlikon

DAY 4
Rüschlikon / Zurich / Bern
30 April - Wednesday

07.40 Breakfast and Check-out of Swiss Re Centre

08.00 Travel
Rüschlikon - Zurich

Bus Travel from Rüschlikon to UZH

09.00 Opening Session
AMR Research at UZH, Takes Place at Institute of Medical Microbiology, Gloriastrasse 30

09.30 Plenary Session
Stewardship and Diagnostics

10.30 Coffee Break
Networking

11.00 Plenary Session
Molecular AMR Research

12.00 Plenary Session
One Health

13.00 Lunch
UZH

Indian Restaurant Catering Ooh Curry!

14.00 Site Visits
UZH

Site Visits at University of Zurich

17.30 Travel
Zurich - Bern

Bus Travel from Zurich to Bern

Meeting point Institute of Medical Microbiology, UZH

Schedule

DAY 5
Bern / Geneva
1 May - Thursday

08.20	Check-out and walk to conference site	
09.00	Opening Session	UniBe AMR research at the University of Bern
09.10	Plenary Session	AMR surveillance
10.10	Coffee Break	Networking
10.45	Plenary Session	AMR Policy and Regulation
12.45	Lunch	Lunch at Ristorante Ambiente
14.00	Site Visits	Swiss Institute of Translational and Entrepreneurial Medicine (sitem-insel)
15.30	City Tour	Meeting point Hotel Ador Guided Tour through Bern
19.34	Travel	Bern - Geneva Train Travel from Bern to Geneva

DAY 6
Geneva
2 May - Friday

08.40	Travel	Bus and Train Travel from Yotel Geneva Lake to University of Geneva
10.00	Plenary Session	University of Geneva, Centre Médical Universitaire (CMU) AMR Research at GARDP
11.30	Lunch	
13.00	Opening Session	CMU AMR Research at University of Geneva
13.10	Plenary Session	Global Perspectives of Combating AMR
14.30	Coffee Break	Networking
15.30	Plenary Session	Winding-up
19.00	Dinner	City of Geneva Informal closing dinner at Restaurant Buvette des Bains

Our Philosophy behind Presentations and Talks

We wish to provide an opportunity for all participants to voice their ideas and thoughts. Therefore, we carefully planned the programme such that all participants actively contribute to the meeting, either in the form of a short talk and/or by actively shaping a workshop. For us, it is key that plenty of time is reserved for interactions and networking, because we consider this as the most valuable element of the meeting. This is why we limited most plenary talks to 10 minutes.

Guidance on how to Structure the Plenary Talks

1. Introduction of **your work** in relation to AMR and taking reference to the session topics - 4 min
2. Formulation of **your message** to the audience: What, in your view, is the most important measure to curb AMR at a global level? - 4 min
3. **Q&A/immediate feedback** on talk - 2 min (if time allows)

Note: Please keep in mind that the audience comes from diverse backgrounds.

Guidance how to Structure the Workshops at Swiss Re Centre in Rüschlikon

At the Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue, we will split the participants into three groups and offer parallel workshops on focussed AMR themes.

For each workshop, we have assigned up to six participants as workshop facilitators, who have a deeper knowledge of the respective topic. We invite the assigned workshop facilitators to e-meet before the meeting and develop a strategy on how they could structure and coin their respective workshop.

Participants not assigned as facilitators are free to join any workshop they are interested in.

Our intention behind the workshop is to provide the delegates an opportunity to develop ideas and concepts in a relaxed and stimulating setting. **The themes and initial instruction are meant as a starting point and are not set in stone.**

After the workshops, all participants will gather in a plenary session wherein the outcome of the workshops will be presented and further discussed.

Short Note on Selected Early-Career Researchers

The people most affected by our actions and decisions today have not yet started their careers. To give a voice to early-career researchers, we have selected seven young scientists conducting research on AMR by way of an open call. The 'Early-Career Scientist' session offers the six participants a platform to voice their perspectives, where they will introduce themselves in a three-minute pitch during the Dialogue's plenary session and will be actively present during the course of the programme.

Sunday 27 April - Visit to Biocenter Basel and NCCR Antiresist

Overview of the National Centre for Competence in Research (NCCR) - AntiResist

14:00 - Opening Session

The NCCR “New Approaches to Combat Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria” (NCCR AntiResist) aims to revitalise antibiotic discovery and development by creating in vitro models that replicate in-patient conditions. This innovative approach addresses the limitations of standard laboratory assays, which rely on rich media that poorly reflect the physiological environment bacteria encounter in patients. AntiResist focuses on the physiological state of bacterial pathogens in infected patients. These insights guide the development of human in vitro models mimicking clinically relevant conditions, expanding opportunities for the discovery of anti-infective therapies. AntiResist unites international experts in microbiology, biochemistry, human biology, pharmacology, bioengineering and clinical medicine from multiple institutions, collaborating to identify new antibiotics and antimicrobial strategies. Funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and based at the Biozentrum, University of Basel, AntiResist coordinates over 30 international research groups and fosters close collaboration with private-sector partners involved in antibiotic R&D.

Speakers

Prof Christoph Dehio

Director of NCCR AntiResist

University of Basel

Biography

Prof Urs Jenal

Deputy Director NCCR AntiResist

University of Basel

Biography

Prof Dr med Nina Khanna

Deputy Director NCCR Antiresist

University of Basel

Biography

Short Talks by Postdocs on AMR

14:45 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Dr Florian Marro

Postdoctoral Researcher

Biozentrum

University of Basel

Biography

Dr Benjamin Sellner

Postdoctoral Researcher

Biozentrum

University of Basel

Biography

Dr Julia Boos

Postdoctoral Researcher

Biosystems Engineering

ETH Zurich

Biography

Drug Discovery and AMR - the Indian Perspective

16:30 - Plenary Session

India plays a crucial role in global drug discovery, particularly in the fight against AMR. As one of the largest producers of generic medicines and antibiotics, the country faces a paradox—while supplying affordable drugs worldwide, it also grapples with rising AMR due to overuse, misuse and environmental contamination. Indian pharmaceutical companies, research institutes and government agencies are increasingly investing in novel antibiotic discovery and alternative therapies such as bacteriophage treatments and antimicrobial peptides. Initiatives like the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)'s AMR surveillance programme and collaborations with global organisations aim to develop new drugs and stewardship policies. Startups and biotech firms are leveraging AI and genomics for innovative solutions. Despite progress, challenges remain, including regulatory hurdles, funding constraints and the need for better public awareness. Strengthening research infrastructure and fostering public-private partnerships will be critical in advancing India's contribution to AMR drug discovery.

Introduction

Speaker

Prof Sunish Radhakrishnan

Associate Professor

Department of Biology

IISER Pune

Biography

Short Talks

Speakers

Prof Harinath Chakrapani

Professor

Department of Chemistry

IISER Pune

Biography

Prof Dr Nishad Matange

Assistant Professor

Department of Biology

IISER Pune

Biography

Dr Maneesh Paul-Satyaseela

CEO

R&D

Microvioma, Bangalore

Biography

Dr Hariharan Periasamy

Assistant Director

Drug Discovery Research

Wockhardt

Biography

Basel Research, Funders, Startups and Industry

Short Talks by INCATE, University of Basel, Bioversys and Roche

17:15 - Plenary Session

University Hospital Basel - The Role of Antibiotic Lethality in Mycobacterial Infection Outcomes

Antibiotic development and treatment focus on bacterial growth inhibition, often with limited success. In this talk Lucas Boeck will introduce Antimicrobial Single-Cell Testing (ASCT), an advanced imaging strategy to assess bacterial killing in real-time. By tracking 140 million bacteria and generating over 20,000 in vitro time-kill curves, they can predict Mycobacterium tuberculosis treatment outcomes in mice and humans and link strain-specific survival (drug tolerance) in Mycobacterium abscessus to clinical responses. Using ASCT, they reveal drug tolerance as a distinct genetically encoded bacterial trait conserved across drugs with similar targets and, via genome-wide associations, uncover molecular mechanisms that govern bacterial killing. This study establishes a technical framework and provides in vivo validation for large-scale bacterial killing assessments, advancing their understanding of bacterial survival, supporting antibiotic development and informing clinical decision-making.

Speaker

PD Dr Lucas Boeck

University of Basel

Biography

INCATE – INCubator for Antibacterial Therapies Europe – is a partnership which brings together translational and basic research, industry, experienced entrepreneurs and investors from across Europe and beyond. Their focus is on the development of new therapies and interventions that help reduce the prevalence and impact of AMR. INCATE helps early-stage innovators worldwide to accelerate their AMR

initiatives by providing advice on R&D or funding matters, access to their community, and funding.

Speaker

Dr Peter Seiler

Management Team

INCATE

Biography

Bioversys - Novel tuberculosis drugs are urgently needed to combat the leading infectious disease killer. Dose-dependent intolerability of ethionamide (Eto) limits its use in tuberculosis (TB) treatment. Alpibectir (formerly BVL-GSK098) stimulates an alternative pathway of Eto bioactivation in Mycobacterium tuberculosis, overcoming both Eto and isoniazid (INH) resistance and permitting dose reduction in vivo. They evaluated the early bactericidal activity (EBA), safety and tolerability of the alpibectir-ethionamide (AlpE) combination (NCT05473195).

Speaker

Dr Glenn Dale

Chief Development Officer

Bioversys

Biography

Roche - The Roche Group is deeply committed to Global Health Security and is uniquely positioned to combat the threat of AMR. Their efforts include investing in new antibiotic agents and diagnostic technologies, and collaborating with a range of partners to ensure a coordinated global response and concrete actions. They are dedicated to developing novel antibiotics targeting bacteria resistance to currently available treatments. Presently, they have two novel class antibiotics for gram-negative infections in clinical develop-

ment: zosurabalpin, aimed at treating carbapenem-resistant Acinetobacter baumannii (CRAB), and an arylomycin derivative, targeting multidrug-resistant gram-negative pathogens

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Speaker

Dr Kenneth Bradley

Vice President, Global Head

Infectious Disease Discovery

Roche, Basel

Biography

Monday 28 April - Visit to Roche

For Indian Delegates only

Roche - a Global Player that Reentered the Challenge of Developing and Marketing Novel Antimicrobials

9:00 - Visit to Roche Laboratories

Due to space constraints this visit is only open to the Indian participants of the AMR Innovation Dialogue. We apologise for the inconvenience and thank you for understanding.

Roche, a Swiss multinational healthcare company founded in 1896, addresses infectious diseases, with increasing attention to AMR. The company's infectious disease portfolio encompasses various approaches to bacterial and fungal pathogen detection and treatment. Roche's diagnostic division develops molecular assays that help identify resistant organisms, enabling more targeted treatment decisions. Their pharmaceutical research explores potential solutions for difficult-to-treat infections. Through collaborations with academic institutions and biotechnology firms, Roche works to strengthen its pipeline of antimicrobial therapies. The company's dual focus on diagnostics and therapeutics reflects their comprehensive approach to infectious diseases. Roche continues to pursue scientific advancements that may help address the growing global challenge of AMR, following the healthcare industry's broader trend of seeking innovative solutions to this critical public health threat.

Facilitator

Dr Kenneth Bradley

Vice President, Global Head

Infectious Disease Discovery

Roche, Basel

Biography

Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 April - Workshops and Discussions at Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue

About the Programme Structure

The three half-days at the Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue mark the core element of the meeting. The venue offers excellent opportunities for scientific and personal exchanges in an attractive and beautiful setting. Each half-day will be structured in the same manner: we start with six plenary input talks, followed by three parallel workshops on different AMR topics. The workshops will be facilitated by Indian and Swiss experts among the delegates. After the workshops, we will meet again in the plenum to discuss the workshop outcomes. On the first evening, early-career researchers selected from abstracts will present themselves in the form of short pitches. We are looking forward to fruitful discussions in a unique setting.

About the Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue in Rüschlikon

The Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue, located in Rüschlikon, Switzerland, fosters interdisciplinary discussions on key global issues such as risk management, sustainability and climate change. It brings together experts from various sectors to collaborate, share knowledge and generate innovative solutions. Through events and conferences, the centre aims to inspire thought leadership and drive impactful change in addressing the world's most pressing challenges.

About the workshops

The three half-days at the Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue mark the core element of the meeting. The venue offers excellent opportunities for scientific and personal exchanges in an attractive and beautiful setting. Each half-day will be structured in the same manner: we start with six plenary input talks, followed by three parallel workshops on different AMR topics. The workshops will be facilitated by Indian and Swiss experts among the delegates. After the workshops, we will meet again in the plenum to discuss the workshop outcomes. On the first evening, early-career researchers selected from abstracts will present themselves in the form of short pitches. We are looking forward to fruitful discussions in a unique setting.

Introduction for Workshops at Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue

13:00 - Opening Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Markus Seeger

Associate Professor

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Dr Christoph Nabholz

Chief Research & Sustainability

Swiss Re Institute

Biography

Plenum - Introduction of the Workshop 1

13:20 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Joy Sarojini Michael

Department of Clinical Microbiology

Christian Medical College, Vellore

Biography

Dr Vinay Nandicoori

Director

Microbial Signaling Lab

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad

Biography

Prof Dr Pilar Junier

Professor in Microbiology

Institute of Biology

University of Neuchâtel

Biography

Dr Shawna McCallin

Group Leader

Neuro-Urology, Phage Therapy and Research

Balgrist University Hospital, Zurich

Biography

Dr Anuj Sharma

Technical and Team Focal Point - AMR & IPC

Country Office for India

World Health Organization

Biography

Prof Dr Jakob Zinsstag

Head of Department

Epidemiology and Public Health

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

Biography

Workshops

1.1) Innovative Potential of Academic Labs – The Future of Antimicrobial Treatments

Most innovations in antibiotic development originated in academic labs. In recent years, however, attention in the AMR field has shifted to translational approaches. Inevitably, this comes at the cost of basic research in this domain. This workshop will outline recommendations for funders on how to enable ground-breaking research in the AMR space and to pin-point what is needed to ensure that promising approaches also will reach the market one day.

Possible key questions to be addressed:

- At the example of phage therapies, what is the role of academic research now and in the near future?
- Is there sufficient funding for basic AMR research?
- What is the value of basic research in AMR?

Facilitators

Dr Shawna McCallin

Group Leader

Neuro-Urology, Phage Therapy and Research

Balgrist University Hospital, Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Peter Seiler

Management Team

INCATE

Biography

Prof Dr Nishad Matange

Assistant Professor

Department of Biology

IISER Pune

Biography

Prof Dr Christoph Dehio

Director of NCCR AntiResist

University of Basel

Biography

Dr Arunava Dasgupta

Senior Principal Scientist

Molecular Microbiology and Immunology

CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute

Biography

1.2) From One Health Research to Impactful AMR Action Plans

An ultimate goal of the One Health approach is to integrate our knowledge on how antibiotic resistance emerges and spreads. While the correlation between antibiotic consumption and antibiotic resistance is well established, it remains non-trivial to estimate the antibiotic consumption worldwide, and it is difficult to predict through which routes and mechanisms resistances spread and also disappear again. The holy grail of the One Health approach is to identify opportunities for smart and effective AMR action plans, and to measure their impact.

Possible key questions to be addressed:

- What are the most relevant “missing links” in One Health approaches? Data, analyses or knowledge?
- How can one measure the impact of AMR action plans?

Facilitators

Prof Dr Joy Sarojini Michael

Department of Clinical Microbiology

Christian Medical College, Vellore

Biography

Prof Dr Jakob Zinsstag

Head of Department

Epidemiology and Public Health

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

Biography

Dr Maneesh Paul-Satyaseela

CEO

R&D

Microvioma, Bangalore

Biography

Dr Santanu Chatterjee

Visiting Lecturer

KPC Medical College and Hospitals, Kolkata

Biography

Dr Abdifatah Muktar Muhummed

Postdoctoral Researcher

Fundamental Microbiology

University of Lausanne

Biography

1.3) What are the Global Risks Associated With AMR – and Can One Insure Them?

AMR is one of many risks humanity is facing. It stands in competition with other risks, such as natural disasters and wars, but it also stands in competition with other health challenges, including the aging population, diabetes, dementia and cancer. What will be the proportional impact of AMR in light of all risks and challenges? And what is the risk trajectory?

Possible key questions to be addressed:

- In relation to all risks humanity is facing, does the AMR problem receive enough attention?
- Will there be AMR insurance 20 years from now?
- How is the risk of AMR linked to other global risks?

Facilitators

Dr Florian Rechfeld

Manager

Life & Health R&D

Swiss Re Institute

Biography

Dr Christoph Nabholz

Chief

Research & Sustainability

Swiss Re Institute

Biography

Dr Anuj Sharma

Technical and Team Focal Point - AMR & IPC

Country Office for India

World Health Organization

Biography

Damien Somé

Manager

External Affairs

GARDP

Biography

Plenum - Outcomes of the Workshop 1

16:30 - Plenary Session

Representatives of each workshop are invited to present the major outcomes of their discussions to the plenum.

Early Career Scientists

17:00 - Pitch Talks

Seven early career researchers present their AMR research in 180 seconds.

Dr Josianne Kollmann

Postdoctoral Researcher

Department of Environmental Social Sciences

Eawag, Zurich

Biography

Arpita Sahoo

Doctoral Researcher

Institute for Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Srinithi Purushothaman

Master's Student

Institute for Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Rui Wang

Doctoral Researcher

Institute for Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Dr Daniel Richards

Postdoctoral Researcher

Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences

ETH Zurich

Biography

Dr David Weller

Postdoctoral Researcher

Division of Infectious Diseases and Hospital

University Hospital Zurich

Sakthi Jaya Sundar Rajasekar

Medical Student

Microbiology

Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Institute of Medical Sciences and Research

Biography

Plenum - Introduction of the Workshop 2

9:00 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Varadharajan Sundaramurthy

Associate Professor

Cellular Organization and Signaling

National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore

Biography

Prof Dr Silvio Brugger

Senior Physician

Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology

University Hospital Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Adrian Egli

Director

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Tavpritesh Sethi

Associate Professor

Computational Biology

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi

Biography

Prof Dr Stefan Mühlebach

Professor Emeritus

Pharmaceutical Sciences

University of Basel

Biography

PD Dr med Gunar Günther

Consultant Pulmonologist

Pulmonology and Allergology

University Hospital Bern

Biography

Workshops

2.1) Access to Antibiotics in Switzerland – and the Key Role India Plays

Patients in Switzerland have an increasing need to get access to the newest generation of antibiotics. However, complex regulations and the need to file a separate approval from the Swiss health authority—Swissmedic—prevents many companies from offering their newest antibiotics in Switzerland. But also access to "old" key antibiotics is increasingly difficult. Globalisation and cost pressure have resulted in fragile supply chains for off-patent drugs, including antibiotics. India is one of the main producers of "old" antibiotics, and has become an important innovator for new ones. Therefore, good political and economic relations between Switzerland and India will be key to mutually profit from each other's innovation potential and manufacturing capacities.

Possible key questions to be addressed:

- What can Switzerland do to have continued access to antibiotics, old and new?
- What are the current bottlenecks and challenges in bringing novel antibiotics to the market, e.g. novel drugs developed in India to Europe and Switzerland and vice versa?
- How can we make the global supply chains for antibiotics more robust?

Facilitators

Prof Dr Stefan Mühlebach

Professor Emeritus

Pharmaceutical Sciences

University of Basel

Biography

Dr Silvio Inderbitzin

Member of the Board

Round Table on Antibiotics, Bern

Biography

Madhav Joshi

CEO

India Health Fund, Mumbai

Biography

Dr Nicholas Adomakoh

Medical Director

Global Medical Affairs

Sandoz

Biography

Dr Hariharan Periasamy

Assistant Director

Drug Discovery Research

Wockhardt

Biography

2.2) Development of New TB drugs – Motivations, Frustrations and Learnings

Eradication of tuberculosis has been in the focus of global initiatives for many decades and impressive progress has been made. But it is still very challenging to treat TB and the rise and spread of resistances are worrisome. In the past 20 years, several new TB drugs came to the market, the most important being bedaquiline. However, resistance to bedaquiline is on a steep rise. Hence, it is a sad example of losing a new antibiotic within a very short time period. The workshop is dedicated to finding solutions and recommendations on how to avoid the loss of new miracle drugs too quickly.

Possible key questions to be addressed:

- What drives the development of new TB drugs? Public money and philanthropy? Economic opportunities?
- Looking at the example of bedaquiline (a potent drug heavily used to treat MDR-TB facing massive resistance problems and thus being soon lost again), what can we do better in the future to keep good drugs active?
- Why is the pipeline for novel TB drugs quite full (as compared to other bacterial pathogens)? Luck, public money or cleverness of the TB research community?

Facilitators

Prof Dr Michael Berney

Head of Division

Pathogen Biology

University of Zurich

Biography

PD Dr med Gunar Günther

Consultant Pulmonologist

Pulmonology and Allergology

University Hospital Bern

Biography

Prof Dr Peter Sander

Research Group Leader

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Varadharajan Sundaramurthy

Associate Professor

Cellular Organization and Signaling

National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore

Biography

Prof Dr Harinath Chakrapani

Professor

Department of Chemistry

IISER Pune

Biography

Dr Vinay Nandicoori

Director

Microbial Signaling Lab

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad

Biography

2.3) Global Surveillance of AMR – Sharing is Caring

The advent of next generation sequencing offers unprecedented insights into the spread dynamics of AMR. However, publicly available information on (recent) NGS data is very unevenly spread across the globe. In particular, there are major gaps in countries where new resistance patterns emerge, including India.

Possible key questions to be addressed:

- Sequencing is costly. Do we sequence the right strains when looking at the global scale?
- How could we incentivise researchers to share sequencing data?
- How can we enable researchers in India/world-wide to better analyse and interpret NGS data (and thereby also profit better from their costs invested into sequencing)?

Facilitators

Dr Shraddha Karve

Research Faculty Fellow

Trivedi School of Biology and Koita Centre for Digital Health

Ashoka University, New Delhi

Biography

Prof Dr Tavpritesh Sethi

Associate Professor

Computational Biology

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi

Biography

Prof Dr Adrian Egli

Director

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Sagar Khadanga

Associate Professor

Infectious Diseases

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal

Biography

Plenum - Outcomes of the Workshop 2

12:00 - Plenary Session

Representatives of each workshop are invited to present the major outcomes of their discussions to the plenum.

Plenum - Introduction of the Workshop 3

13:30 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Madhav Joshi

CEO

India Health Fund, Mumbai

Biography

Prof Dhanya Dharmapalan

Senior Consultant

Paediatrics and Paediatric Infectious Diseases

Apollo Hospitals, Navi Mumbai

Biography

Dr Kenneth Bradley

Vice President, Global Head

Infectious Disease Discovery

Roche Basel

Biography

Dr Mark Jones

Head of Department

Global Affairs

Basilea Pharmaceutica International

Biography

Prof Dr Suzanne Suggs

Professor

Institute of Communication and Public Policy

University of Lugano

Biography

Prof Dr Flurin Condrau

Professor

Institute for Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine

University of Zurich

Biography

3.1) Reflecting on Strategies on how to give the Value to Antibiotics they really Deserve

The key strength of the 2016 O'Neill report was to recognise that antibiotics are massively undervalued: they are cheap, the underlying business is unattractive and research in the area is underfunded. In this "reflective" workshop, the task would be to think about how we can increase the value of antibiotics as a whole. Because a higher value could ensure prudent use.

Possible key questions to be addressed by the speakers:

- Is it only about the monetary value? Would it help to increase costs of antibiotics?
- Should the development of antibiotics be cross-financed by the pharma industry (diverting money into antibiotics from more lucrative fields)?
- Should we consider antibiotics as a common good (like water supply or clean air)? And would that help?

Facilitators

Prof Dr Flurin Condrau

Professor

Institute for Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Jan Fehr

Head of Department

Public & Global Health

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Suzanne Suggs

Professor

Institute of Communication and Public Policy

University of Lugano

Biography

Prof Dr Jörg Jores

Professor and Director

Infectious Diseases and Pathobiology

Institute of Veterinary Bacteriology, University of Bern

Biography

Dr Nishad Matange

Assistant Professor

Department of Biology

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune

Biography

Prof Hugo Sax

Senior Researcher

Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Biography

Dr Santanu Chatterjee

Visiting Lecturer

KPC Medical College and Hospitals, Kolkata

Biography

3.2) The Cogwheels of Antibiotic and Antifungal Development – Startups, SMEs, Big Pharma working together

The development of novel antibiotics is costly, but the potential profits are marginal. In recent years, the discussion centred around the question of how governments (or more generally the G20 countries) can make the antibiotics market more attractive again through mechanisms generally called "pull incentives". Yet, not much has really happened in this domain, since most governments are reluctant (or otherwise unable) to implement pull incentives. Other important pillars are large public and private funds (CARBX and AMR Action Fund), which invest in clinical-stage antibiotics development. And finally, it is mainly SMEs and startups who carry out the large majority of clinical antibiotics/antimicrobial programmes, while most big pharma companies have left the field.

Possible key questions to be addressed

- How well do the above mentioned cogwheels work together?
- What are the key factors preventing novel antibiotics entering the market?
- Provided that pull incentives are a reality in 5 to 10 cases, how will that affect the development of antibiotics (and the economic situation in the field as a whole)?

Facilitators

Dr Giorgia Greter

Postdoctoral Researcher

Department of Health Sciences and Technology

ETH Zurich

Biography

Dr Kenneth Bradley

Vice President, Global Head

Infectious Disease Discovery

Roche Basel

Biography

Dr Hariharan Periasamy

Assistant Director

Drug Discovery Research

Wockhardt

Biography

Dr Mark Jones

Head of Department

Global Affairs

Basilea Pharmaceutica International

Biography

Prof Dr Pilar Junier

Professor in Microbiology

Institute of Biology

University of Neuchâtel

Biography

Yann Ferrisse

Director

Business Development

GARDP

Biography

3.3) AMR Stewardship in Hospitals - Comparing India and Switzerland

It is in hospitals and their ICUs where critically ill patients are particularly vulnerable to bacterial infections. Therefore, hospitals play a key role in the development and implementation of effective hygiene and surveillance strategies to prevent the generation and spread of highly-resistant bacteria. Currently, the AMR burden in Indian hospitals is alarmingly high, while in Switzerland infections with highly resistant bacterial strains are still infrequent.

Possible key questions to be addressed

- What are the key parameters effectively preventing the spread of resistant strains within hospitals?
- How is antimicrobial stewardship incentivised in Indian and Swiss hospitals?
- Projecting the current trends in AMR development, will it be possible to have a safe surgery in 10-20 years from now?

Facilitators

Prof Dr Sanjeev Singh

Medical Director

Infection Prevention and Epidemiology

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences & Research Center, Kochi

Biography

Prof Silvio Brugger

Senior Physician

Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology

University Hospital Zurich

Biography

Dr Ravindra Aggarwal

Chief Coordinator AMR

Lok Nayak Hospital, New Delhi

Biography

Prof Dhanya Dharmapalan

Senior Consultant

Paediatrics and Paediatric Infectious Diseases

Apollo Hospitals, Navi Mumbai

Biography

Prof Dr Sagar Khadanga

Associate Professor

Infectious Diseases,

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal

Biography

Plenum - Outcomes of the Workshop

16:30 - Plenary Session

Representatives of each workshop are invited to present the major outcomes of their discussions to the plenum.

Wednesday 30 April - Plenary Sessions at the University of Zurich

AMR Research at the University of Zurich

The day is dedicated to AMR research at the University of Zurich. In the morning, UZH researchers will showcase the diversity of AMR topics investigated at the UZH, the University Hospital Zurich, and at the Vetsuisse Faculty. The talks are flanked by contributions by Indian delegates, who work in similar fields and in some cases are already engaged in collaborations with UZH researchers. In the afternoon, we will offer site visits to the Routine Diagnostics at the Institute of Medical Microbiology or to the Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Zurich organised by the One Health Institute.

About the Institute of Medical Microbiology, UZH

The Institute of Medical Microbiology (IMM) at UZH is a centre of excellence in microbiological basic research and the diagnostics of bacterial and fungal pathogens. Research topics include host-pathogen interactions, ribosome assembly, drug efflux, drug resistance and virulence in mycobacteria as well as systems biology of pathogens using genomics and artificial intelligence approaches. Our ISO-accredited diagnostic laboratories process over 100,000 clinical samples each year and cover bacteriology, mycology, mycobacteriology and serology. The IMM serves as the Swiss National Reference Center for Mycobacteria and, in collaboration with the National Reference Laboratory for Emerging Antibiotic Resistance (NARA), leads the national effort in bacterial whole genome sequencing (WGS). By integrating diagnostics, research and teaching, the Institute of Medical Microbiology plays a key role in combatting infectious diseases and preparing the next generation of microbiologists and clinicians.

About the One Health Institute, UZH

The One Health Institute (OHI) was founded in 2023 as an interfaculty institute of the Vetsuisse Faculty, Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Science of the University of Zurich. Its current research focus areas lie in the domains of AMR, zoonotic diseases and metabolic disorders. The OHI strives to become a leading nationally and internationally recognised hub for One Health research.

9:00 - Opening Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Elisabeth Stark

Vice-President Research

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Stephan Neuhauss

Professor for Neurobiology

Molecular Life Sciences

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Adrian Egli

Director

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Stewardship and Diagnostics

9:30 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Dr Reety Arora

Principal Scientist

Research and Development

CRISPRBITS

Biography

Dr Santanu Chatterjee

Visiting Lecturer

KPC Medical College and Hospitals, Kolkata

Biography

Prof Hugo Sax

Senior Researcher

Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Biography

Molecular AMR research

11:00 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Peter Sander

Research Group Leader

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Michael Berney

Head of Division

Pathogen Biology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Annelies Zinkernagel

Director

Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology

University Hospital Zurich

Biography

Dr Arunava Dasgupta

Senior Principal Scientist

Molecular Microbiology and Immunology

CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute

Biography

Prof Dr Oliver Zerbe

Head of NMR facility

Department of Chemistry

University of Zurich

Biography

One Health

12:00 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Prof Hubert Hilbi

Professor

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Thomas Van Boeckel

Associated Professor

One Health Institute

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Jan Fehr

Head of Department

Public and Global Health

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Utpal Tatu

Professor and Chairman

Biochemistry

Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru

Biography

Dr Lara Urban

Principal Investigator

Vetsuisse Faculty

University of Zurich

Biography

Site Visits at the University of Zurich

14:00 - Site visits

Visit to the Animal Hospital and Vetsuisse Faculty

This is a site visit to the University Animal Hospital and Vetsuisse Faculty, including input talks and site visits by experts to different clinics and labs related to the topics of AMR and AMR stewardship in animals and One Health. The University Animal Hospital is one of Europe's largest veterinary clinics, treating more than 28,000 patients per year, ranging from small animals, farm animals and equines to zoo animals, exotic pets and wildlife. The Vetsuisse Faculty (university veterinary center) has repeatedly been ranked amongst the top ten universities in the world for veterinary science.

Guided Tour Through the Diagnostic Unit of the Institute of Medical Microbiology

This is a site visit to a modern operating routine diagnostics lab, which is the largest of its kind at a Swiss university. Apart from modern equipment and automated units, the visit will offer participants insights into technical workflows, from clinical samples to resistance pattern reports. The tour is guided by experienced staff of the Institute of Medical Microbiology, which will allow participants an opportunity to engage in expert discussions.

Facilitators

Dr Laura Tüshaus-Rudin

General Manager

One Health Institute

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Markus Seeger

Associate Professor

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Thursday 1 May - Plenary Sessions at the University of Bern

AMR Research at the University of Bern

9:00 - Opening Session

The Institute of Infectious Diseases, University of Bern combines diagnostic services, teaching and research under one roof and is home to the Swiss Antibiotic Resistance Information System (ANRESIS), a nationwide, representative, continuous surveillance system and research tool on antibiotic resistance and consumption, co-financed by the University and the Federal Office of Public Health. In addition to research, ANRESIS regularly provides up-to-date data on antibiotic resistance and use for healthcare providers, politicians and the public. The intuitive ANRESIS guide (guide.anresis.ch) makes resistance data easily available in daily clinical routine and thus supports physicians in the appropriate prescription of antibiotics. With the support of Swissnex and in collaboration with Ashoka University, the Indian edition of this guide was launched in 2024, presenting data from three groups of Indian hospitals from the northern and western regions. Now that the methodology has been implemented, additional data could easily be added in the future.

Speakers

Prof Dr Stephen Leib

Director

Institute for Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Biography

Prof Dr Rudolf Blankart

Professor of Regulation in Healthcare

KPM Center for Public Management

University of Bern

Biography

AMR Surveillance

9:10 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Vincent Perreten

Institute of Veterinary Bacteriology

University of Bern

Prof Dr Andreas Kronenberg

Head of Swiss Antibiotic Resistance Centre (ANRESIS)

Institute for Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Biography

Dr Shraddha Karve

Research Faculty Fellow

Trivedi School of Biology and Koita Centre for Digital Health

Ashoka University, New Delhi

Biography

Dr med Philipp Jent

Head of Hospital Hygiene and Member of the Hospital Management

Inselspital, University Hospital Bern

Biography

AMR Policy and Regulation

10:45 - Plenary Session

Welcome address by:

Jacques Ducrest

Ambassador

Head of International Relations Division

State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation

Speakers

MD Celine Gardiol

Head of Section Infection Control and Vaccination Programs

Federal Office of Public Health

Biography

Bernhard Fischer

Treasurer and Member of the Executive Board

Swiss Indian Chamber of Commerce

Biography

Prof Dr Rudolf Blankart

KPM Center for Public Management

University of Bern

Biography

Prof Maria Luisa Balmer

SNSF Eccellenza Professor

TrimLab

Institute for Infectious Diseases

Biography

Prof Dr Sanjeev Singh

Medical Director

Infection Prevention and Epidemiology

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences & Research Center, Kochi

Biography

Dr Martin Heidecker

Chief Investment Officer

AMR Action Fund, Basel

Biography

Swiss Institute of Translational and Entrepreneurial Medicine (sitem-insel)

14:00 - Site Visit

Sitem-insel, the Swiss Institute for Translational and Entrepreneurial Medicine, is a leading hub for advancing medical innovation by bridging research and clinical applications. During our site visit, we will explore its state-of-the-art facilities, including the biosafety laboratory level 3 (BSL3) of the Institute for Infectious diseases, University of Bern, designed for safe research on highly infectious pathogens and designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Biosafety and Biosecurity, and the Diabetes Center Berne (DCB), which focuses on cutting-edge diabetes research and treatment solutions. These visits will provide valuable insights into pioneering healthcare developments at the intersection of science, entrepreneurship and patient care.

Site Visit at Biosafety Laboratory Level 3 (BSL3)

Facilitator

Prof Dr Stephen Leib

Director

Institute for Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Biography

Site Visit at Diabetes Center Berne (DCB)

Facilitator

Prof Maria Luisa Balmer

SNSF Eccellenza Professor

TrimLab

Institute for Infectious Diseases

Biography

Friday 2 May - Interaction with GARDP and Plenary Sessions at the University of Geneva

GARDP: Making Antibiotic Treatments Accessible

10:00 - Plenary Session

GARDP - The Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) is a not-for-profit global health organisation driven to protect people from the rise and spread of drug-resistant infections, one of the biggest threats to us all. By forging public and private partnerships that matter, GARDP develops and makes accessible antibiotic treatments for people who need them.

Speakers

Yann Ferrisse

Director

Business Development

GARDP

Biography

Damien Somé

Manager

External Affairs

GARDP

Biography

Dr Jennifer Cohn

Director

Global Access

GARDP

Biography

Dr François Françeschi

Associate Director

Serious Bacterial Infections

GARDP

Biography

Dr Renata da Costa

Scientific Manager

Research & Development

GARDP

Biography

AMR research at University of Geneva

13:00 - Opening Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Patrick Viollier

Associate Professor

Professor

Microbiology and Molecular Medicine

University of Geneva

Biography

Global Perspectives on Combating AMR

13:10 - Plenary Session

Speakers

Prof Dr Sagar Khadanga

Associate Professor

Infectious Diseases

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal

Biography

Dr Ravindra Aggarwal

Chief Coordinator AMR

Lok Nayak Hospital, New Delhi

Biography

Prof Dr Suzanne Suggs

Professor

Institute of Communication and Public Policy

University of Lugano

Biography

Dr Anuj Sharma

Technical and Team Focal Point - AMR & IPC

Country Office for India

World Health Organization

Biography

Dr Baptiste Bourgine

Business Development Manager

Precise Health SA, Switzerland

Biography

Dr Abdifatah Muktar Muhummed

Postdoctoral Researcher

Fundamental Microbiology

University of Lausanne

Biography

Winding Up

15:30 - Closing Session

Speakers

Prof Markus Seeger

Associate Professor

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Patrick Viollier

Professor

Microbiology and Molecular Medicine

University of Geneva

Biography

Prof Dr Sunish Radhakrishnan

Associate Professor,

Department of Biology

IISER Pune

Biography

Dr Lena Robra

Head of Academic Engagement

Swissnex in India

Biography

Prof Dr Anjana Badrinarayanan

Associate Professor

Cell Biology and Microbiology

National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru

Biography

Helpful Information for Your Stay:

Points of Contact

Emma Ossola

emma.ossola@swissnex.org

0041 774 95 97 99

Ambulance: 144

Police: 117

Transport

Please note that during the conference days (27 April to 2 May), all travel arrangements will be organised and covered, so you won't need to worry about transportation.

For your remaining travels in Switzerland, we recommend using public transport as it is the fastest and most economical option. All airports are well-connected to railway stations, and the hotels where we will be staying are easily accessible by train or bus. Detailed timetables and ticket prices can be found on the official SBB website.

If you prefer to travel by car, taxis are available outside airports and major train stations. Alternatively, you can use the Uber app , which is generally a more affordable option.

Locations and Contacts:

DAY 1 (Sunday 27 April)

Venue	Biozentrum Basel, welcoming starting at 13.30. https://www.nccr-antiresist.ch/ Address: Biozentrum, University of Basel, Spitalstrasse 41, 4056 Basel Contact: a.hiebel@unibas.ch, +41 61 207 21 08
Dinner	Odelya Basel, starting at 19.15
Hotel	Odelya Basel https://odelya.ch/en Address: Missionsstrasse 21a, CH-4055 Basel. The location is a 10-minute walk from Biozentrum Basel Contact: hotel@odelya.ch, +41 61 260 21 21

DAY 2 (Monday 28 April)

Breakfast	Hotel Odelya Organised bus transfer from Hotel Odeya to Roche Basel at 8.20, transfer time of 30 min. Possibility to leave the luggage inside the bus.
Site Visits	Roche Basel, meeting at 9.00 at pRED Center, Building nr. 007. Address: Grenzacherstrasse 124, CH-4070 Basel Contact: sonja.fischer@roche.com, +41 79 811 83 11

Organised bus transfer from Roche Basel to Swiss Re Rüschlikon at 10.30, transfer time of 1 hour and 30 min. All Swiss participants who are going to travel by bus to Rüschlikon are requested to be at Museum Tinguely at 10.30 (red arrow on plan).

Blue arrow: Roche visit.

Red arrow: bus arrival/departure.

Conference Venue & Hotel

Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue, lunch starting 12.00

Address: Gheistrasse 37, CH-8803 Rueschlikon

Contact: Sarah_Schmidt@swissre.com, +41 79 207 34 70

DAY 3 (Tuesday 29 April)

Breakfast	Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue
Conference Venue	Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue, welcoming starting at 9.00. Organised transfer to University of Zurich by bus and tram. Walking from Swiss Re at 18.15, we will be taking the bus 165, departing at 18.28 from Rüschlikon, Säumerstrasse in the direction of Bürkliplatz.
Dinner	Restaurant UniTurm, starting at 19.00. Address: Restaurant UniTurm, Rämistrasse 71, CH-8006 Zürich Contact: uniturm@zfv.ch, +41 44 634 21 41 Transfer to Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue by tram and and bus at 21.00 or at one's own convenience.
Hotel	Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue

DAY 4 (Wednesday 30 April)

Breakfast

Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue

Organised bus transfer from Swiss Re Centre for Global Dialogue to University of Zurich departing at 8.00, possibility to leave the luggage inside the bus.

Venue

University of Zurich, Institute of Medical Microbiology

Address: Gloriastrasse 30

Contact: m.seeger@imm.uzh.ch, +41 44 634 53 96

Organised bus transfer from Institute of Medical Microbiology, Gloriastrasse 30, University of Zurich to Bern at 17.30, transfer time of 1 hour and 30 minutes. Check-in at Hotels Ador and Arabelle. Free time after that, no dinner will be offered as part of the program.

Hotel

Hotel Ador

Address: Laupenstrasse 15, CH-3001 Bern

Hotel Arabelle

Address: Mittelstrasse 6, CH-3012 Bern

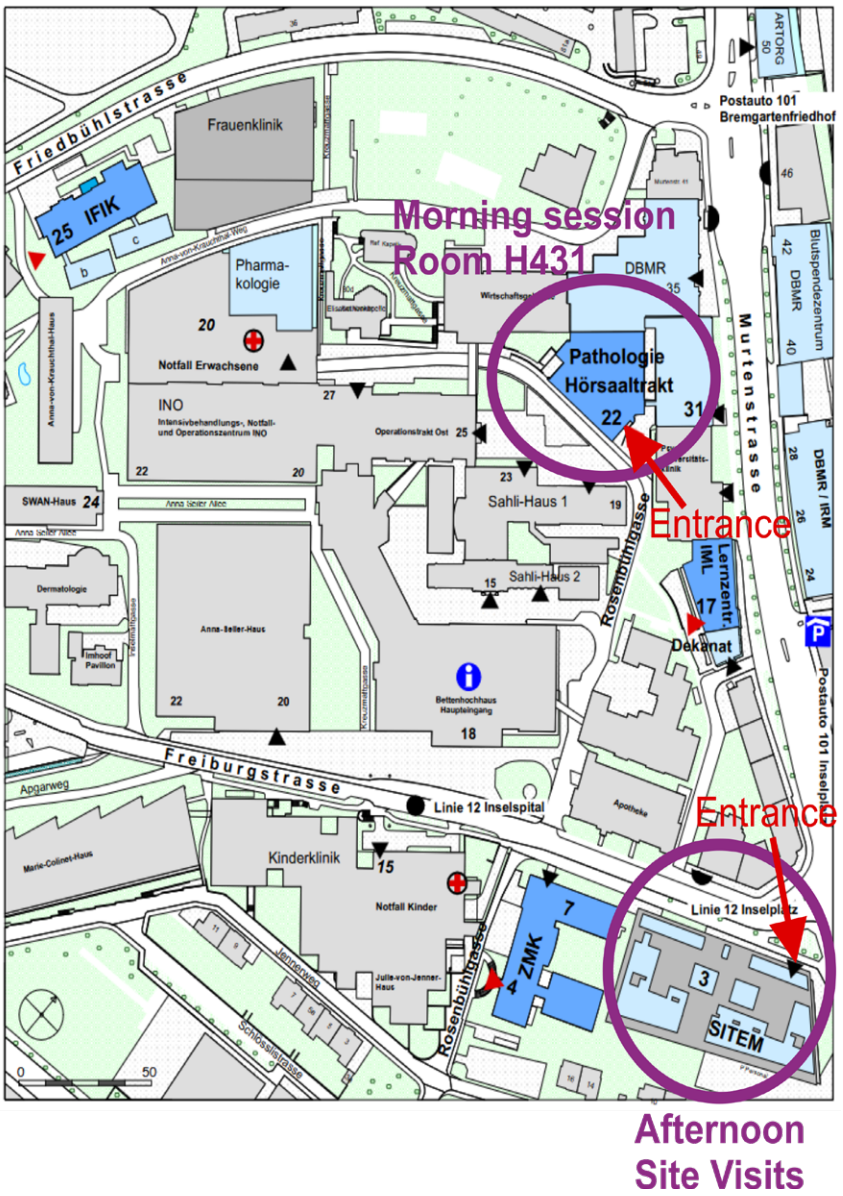
Contact: ines.aeschlimann@sorellhotels.com, +41 31 388 01 11

DAY 5 (Thursday 1 May)

Breakfast Hotels Ador or Arabelle

Both hotels are walking distance from the University of Bern.

Venue University of Bern (see picture for exact location of entrance)



Lunch	Ristorante Ambiente, Bühlstrasse 5, 3012 Bern Starts at 12.45.
Site Visits	Swiss Institute of Translational and Entrepreneurial Medicine (sitem-insel), Freiburgstrasse 3, 3010 Bern Starts at 14.00.
City Tour of Bern	Starts at 15.30 at Hotel Ador and will last 1 hour. Organised train transfer to Geneva. Train departs from Bern at 19.34. Please be there on time, as Swiss trains are particularly punctual. We have reserved the train for that exact time, so we will not be able to cover the ticket cost for a different departure time. Dinner won't be offered as part of the program, please make your own choices in the city of Bern or take away on the train.
Hotel	Yotel Geneva Lake, https://www.yotel.com/en/hotels/yotel-geneva-lake Address: Chem. Ballessert 1, CH-1297 Founex Contact: +41 22 960 78 00

DAY 6 (Friday 2 May)

Breakfast	Yotel Geneva Lake Travel with bus and train to Geneva CMU. Departure from Yotel at 08.40.
Venue	Centre médical universitaire (CMU) Address: Rue Michel Servet 1 4th floor of the new building (A/B): room A04.2713
Lunch	CMU Cafeteria
Dinner	Buvette des Bains Address: Quai du Mont-Blanc 30, CH-1201 Geneva

Hotel

Yotel Geneva Lake, https://www.yotel.com/en/hotels/yotel-geneva-lake

Address: Chem. Ballessert 1, CH-1297 Founex

Contact: +41 22 960 78 00

Organisers

Prof Dr Markus Seeger

Associate Professor

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Biography

Prof Dr Patrick Viollier

Professor

Microbiology and Molecular Medicine

University of Geneva

Biography

Prof Dr Anjana Badrinarayanan

Associate Professor

Cell Biology and Microbiology

National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru

Biography

Prof Dr Sunish Radhakrishnan

Associate Professor

Department of Biology

IISER Pune

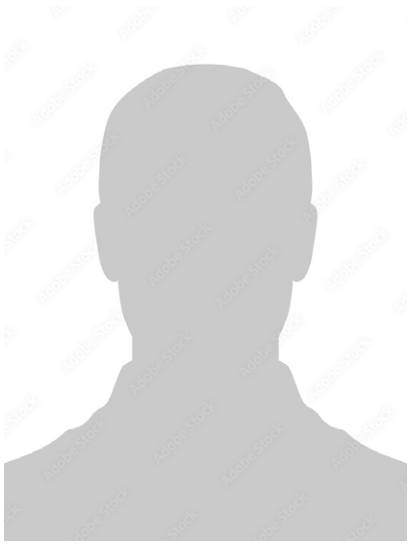
Biography

Dr Lena Robra

Head of Academic Engagement

Swissnex in India

Biography



Dr Abdifatah Muktar Muhummed

AbdifatahMuktar.Muhummed@unil.ch

Postdoctoral Researcher

Fundamental Microbiology

University of Lausanne

Dr Abdifatah Muktar Muhummed is a One Health expert specialising in the prevention, control and stewardship of AMR across human, animal and environmental health sectors. He holds a PhD in Epidemiology and Public Health, with a focus on implementing transdisciplinary One Health strategies for AMR prevention and control in Africa, from the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and the University of Basel, Switzerland. Abdifatah has extensive experience designing, planning, and implementing global health projects in both low- and high-income settings, such as Ethiopia and Switzerland. His research focuses on AMR genes shared between humans, animals and the environment. In addition to his scientific and operational research expertise, he excels in project management, donor and community engagement, and leadership

Prof Adrian Egli

aegli@imm.uzh.ch

Director

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Prof Adrian Egli, MD PhD, ESCMID Fellow, is the Director of the Institute of Medical Microbiology and Chair of Medical Microbiology at the University of Basel. His research centres on the evolution of virulence and resistance in host-pathogen interactions, employing high-resolution omics technologies. Adrian founded the Swiss Pathogen Surveillance Platform and leads the SPHN National Datastream Project IICU, utilising bioinformatics and data-driven approaches to explore pathogen transmission and severe infections. His work focuses on genotype-phenotype prediction by analysing MALDI-TOF MS and whole genome sequencing data. Adrian and his team aim to develop algorithms that can be applied in diagnostics and surveillance to better understand AMR and improve patient care. His contributions to the field have had a significant impact on advancing the use of omics data in clinical microbiology.

Prof Dr Andreas Kronenberg
andreas.kronenberg@unibe.ch

Head of Swiss Antibiotic Resistance Centre (ANRESIS)

Institute for Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Prof Dr Andreas Kronenberg is a specialist in internal medicine and infectiology, with training in Bern and Zurich. Since 2004, he has worked part-time at the Swiss Centre for Antibiotic Resistance at the University of Bern. In addition, he serves as a general physician and infectious diseases specialist in a general medicine practice in Bern. As Head of the Swiss Antibiotic Resistance Centre, he oversees the collection and analysis of antibiotic resistance and consumption data across Switzerland. His role involves presenting trends through online platforms and reports to assist physicians and policymakers in making informed decisions based on current, localised data, helping to guide effective strategies in combating antibiotic resistance.

Prof Dr Anjana Badrinarayanan
anjana@ncbs.res.in

Associate Professor

Cell Biology and Microbiology

National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru

Prof Dr Anjana Badrinarayanan is an Associate Professor of Microbiology at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru. Her research focuses on understanding the mechanisms of bacterial DNA damage response and repair. By using quantitative cell biological approaches, her lab investigates how bacteria regulate these pathways to adapt to stressful environments, such as those encountered within the host. These mechanisms play a crucial role in bacterial survival, allowing them to evolve resistance to antibiotics. Anjana's work aims to provide insights into the cellular processes that enable bacteria to thrive under adverse conditions, contributing to the development of strategies to combat AMR.

Prof Dr Annelies Zinkernagel, MD PhD, is a specialist in infectious diseases, internal medicine and experimental microbiology. She currently serves as the Chair and Professor of the Department of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Hygiene at the University Hospital Zurich, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Her research focuses on understanding bacterial pathogen-host interactions, with the aim of identifying novel therapeutic targets for anti-infective treatments. Annelies's work also explores the pathogenesis of chronic infections associated with biofilms and persisters as well as the mechanisms driving antibacterial resistance.

Prof Dr Annelies Zinkernagel
Annelies.Zinkernagel@usz.ch

Director

Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology

University Hospital Zurich

Dr Anuj Sharma is a medical doctor with an MD in Clinical Microbiology. At WHO India, he leads the AMR-IPC team, supporting the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, state governments, and other key stakeholders in AMR and IPC activities. He initiated the monthly publication Sameeksha on AMR and IPC. Before joining the WHO Country Office for India, Anuj worked on AMR, IPC, laboratory strengthening, and eHealth across WHO Member States in the South-East Asia and Western Pacific Regions. He has also contributed to numerous WHO documents and resources on AMR and IPC.

Dr Anuj Sharma
sharmaan@who.int

Technical and Team Focal Point - AMR & IPC

Country Office for India

World Health Organization

Ms Arpita Sahoo
asahoo@imm.uzh.ch

PhD Candidate

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Ms Arpita Sahoo is a third-year PhD student at the University of Zurich, working under the supervision of Prof Dr Markus Seeger. She holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Biotechnology from IIT Kharagpur, India. Arpita is a member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) and the Swiss Society of Microbiology (SSM), with a keen interest in AMR. Her current research involves harnessing synthetic nanobodies for the characterisation and diagnosis of Staphylococcus aureus infections. Her further interests lie in precision medicine, where she aims to tackle the AMR crisis by developing novel techniques for rapid diagnosis and innovative platforms for drug testing.

Dr Arunava Dasgupta
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Senior Principal Scientist

Molecular Microbiology and Immunology

CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute

Dr Arunava Dasgupta is a Senior Principal Scientist/ Professor in the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology and is in charge of the International Science & Technology Affairs Group of CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow. His research focuses on host-pathogen interaction and drug discovery against resistant mycobacteria and ESKAPE pathogens. His lab specialises in biological evaluation (in vitro, ex vivo and in vivo models) of synthetic compounds and natural products for anti-bacterial activity, target-based screening and identification of new drug targets/target assays to combat AMR.

Dr Baptiste Bourgine is the Business Development Manager at Precise Health SA, a healthtech startup pioneering an AI-driven platform designed to match bacteriophages with bacterial infections. Dedicated to combating multidrug-resistant infections, he plays a key role in driving business growth, forging strategic partnerships, and expanding access to phage therapy. With a strong focus on innovation and market development, Baptiste is committed to bridging the gap between cutting-edge research and real-world clinical applications to help integrate phage therapy into mainstream healthcare.

Dr Baptiste Bourgine
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Business Development Manager

Precise Health SA, Switzerland

Dr Benjamin Sellner studied in Basel and did his PhD under Prof Urs Jenal, working on single-cell heterogeneity in the c-di-GMP network in E. coli and later on phages and exopolysaccharides. He then joined the group of Prof Christoph Dehio for a postdoctoral researcher position, where his work focuses on axenic media development.

Dr Benjamin Sellner
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Postdoctoral Candidate

Infection Biology

Biozentrum, University of Basel

Mr Bernhard Fischer
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Vice President

Treasurer

Swiss Indian Chamber of Commerce

Mr Bernhard Fischer is the Vice President of Internal Affairs and Treasurer at the Swiss Indian Chamber of Commerce (SICC). He is also a member of the Executive Board at Credit Suisse. In his role at SICC, Bernhard plays a pivotal part in strengthening economic and trade relations between Switzerland and India. He actively represents the Chamber at various events, including the Swiss Biotech Day, where he serves as a key representative. His extensive experience in finance and international business, combined with his leadership roles, underscores his commitment to fostering bilateral economic ties and promoting collaboration between Swiss and Indian enterprises.

Dr Céline Gardiol
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Head of Section

Communicable Diseases

Federal Office of Public Health

Dr Céline Gardiol is a medical doctor specialising in internal medicine and infectious diseases. She holds an MSc in Control of Infectious Diseases from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In 2016, she joined the Federal Office of Public Health, where she has been actively involved in the prevention, control and surveillance of healthcare-associated infections and AMR, as well as the implementation of hospital surveillance systems. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she played a key role as the head of the “Infection Control” group. Since 2022, she has been leading the Infection Control and Prevention Measures section, responsible for implementing the Swiss Strategy on Antibiotic Resistance (StAR).

Ms Chandni Doulatramani
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Staff Writer

Swissnex in India

Ms Chandni Doulatramani is the Staff Writer at Swissnex in India where she builds longform narratives around the various initiatives and activities undertaken by the organisation for the website and the monthly newsletter Anomaly. She is a journalist by education and training and her work has appeared in publications including Reuters, The Guardian, Foreign Policy, Al Jazeera, Slate, VICE, Dissent Magazine and Rest of World where she has reported on gender, politics, international affairs, social justice, public health, technology and culture. In 2021, she was awarded the Commonwealth Scholarship by the UK government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office to pursue an MA in Journalism at Goldsmiths, University of London. In 2022, she was awarded the Lavanya Sankaran Fellowship as a writer-in-residence at the Sangam House International Writers' Residency. In 2023, she was selected as a writer-in-residence, fully funded by two fellowships at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. She is also Director at Amnesty International India.

Dr Christoph Bieniossek
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Senior Principal Scientist

Infectious Diseases

Hoffmann-La Roche

Dr Christoph Bieniossek studied Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the ETH Zurich. He then joined the University of Bern for a PhD with a focus on structural biology and biochemistry. During his postdoctoral studies on the structural and functional analysis of multiprotein complexes at ETH Zurich and the European Molecular Biology Laboratories (EMBL) in Grenoble he established novel expression and characterisation methods. Christoph joined the Department of Infectious Diseases at Roche in Basel in 2013 and has acted in various roles in drug discovery since. For many years Christoph's focus has been in the discovery of novel antibiotics to tackle the challenge of AMR.

Prof Christoph Dehio
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Director of NCCR AntiResist

University of Basel

Prof Christoph Dehio is a Professor of Molecular Microbiology at Biozentrum, University of Basel, Switzerland, where he has been since 2000. He earned his diploma in Biology (1989) and PhD in Genetics (1992) from the University of Cologne, Germany. Christoph completed postdoctoral research at Institut Pasteur in Paris (1993-1995) and was a research group leader at the Max Planck Institute for Biology in Tübingen (1995-2000). He served as President of the National Research Project "Antimicrobial Resistance" (NRP72) from 2016-2019 and is currently the Director of the National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) "Antiresist" (2020-2032). His research focuses on understanding pathogen physiology in patients and developing model systems to study the molecular mechanisms underlying antibiotic resistance.

Dr Christoph Nabholz
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Chief

Research & Sustainability

Swiss Re Institute

Dr Christoph Nabholz is the Chief Research & Sustainability Officer at the Swiss Re Institute, where he leads efforts to navigate a volatile world through innovation, risk insights and partnerships. The Institute identifies emerging trends, develops business opportunities and positions Swiss Re as a provider of solutions that enhance societal and financial resilience. Christoph has been with Swiss Re since 2002, taking on roles in research and business, including heading Life & Behaviour R&D and leading Global Life & Health Underwriting. Prior to Swiss Re, he was a postdoctoral research fellow in genomics at Harvard University. Christoph holds a diploma in biochemistry from the University of Basel and a PhD in molecular genetics from the University of Freiburg, Switzerland. His work focuses on forecasting AMR trends and mortality impact modeling, contributing valuable insights to the global fight against AMR.

Mr Damien Somé
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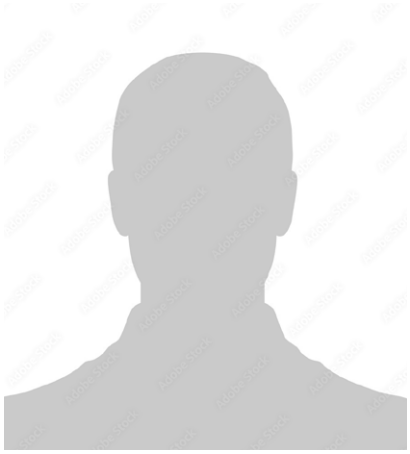
Manager

External Affairs

Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP)

Mr Damien Somé manages public, private and multistakeholder partnerships to mobilise the resources needed to achieve GARDP's mission. He has over 11 years of experience working across the public and private sectors. Before joining GARDP, he worked with UNICEF offices in Geneva and Beijing. Prior to that, he was part of the Africa Progress Panel within the Kofi Annan Foundation in Geneva, where he worked under the late UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. Damien holds an Associate Degree in Law from the University of Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), a Bachelor's in Business Administration from Tamkang University (Taiwan), and a Master's in International Affairs from the Geneva Graduate Institute. He is fluent in French, English and Mandarin. A political economist by training, Damien's key areas of interest include International Political Economy, Global Health Diplomacy and Health Financing.



Dr Daniel Richards
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Senior Scientist

Institute for Chemical and Bioengineering

ETH Zurich

Dr Daniel Richards is a chemist by training, having received his PhD in Chemistry from University College London. Since 2022, he has been leading an independent research programme at ETH Zurich, where he leverages chemical and bio-engineering approaches to develop novel diagnostic devices. Highlights include helping to establish the DAVINCI consortium, a multi-institutional effort that resulted in the first saliva-based combined test for SARS-CoV-2 antigens and antibodies, and his nomination for the prestigious ETH Spark Award for "Best Invention of 2023" (top-5 finalist) for his contributions to the development of electrofluidic diagnostic devices. Daniel is a founding member of the In Vitro Diagnostics Thematic Platform for Biotechnet and previously served on the board of Manufacturing for In Vitro Diagnostics (M4IVD). He is also a member of ETH4D, an organisation dedicated to addressing global challenges, and i-sense, a UK-based research consortium dedicated to developing diagnostics systems for infectious diseases.

Prof Dr Dhanya Dharmapaln
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Senior Consultant

Pediatrics and Pediatric Infectious Diseases

Apollo Hospitals, Navi Mumbai

Prof Dr Dhanya Dharmapalan is a Senior Consultant Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Apollo Hospitals, Navi Mumbai, India. She is internationally recognised for her expertise in antimicrobial stewardship, leading the Apollo Antimicrobial Stewardship Programme (ASP) across over 70 hospitals in India. Dhanya currently chairs the AMR Working Group of the International Pediatric Association (IPA) and co-leads the Global Health Committee of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society, USA. With more than 50 publications in national and international peer-reviewed journals, she has served as an editor for 19 pediatric textbooks. She is a recipient of numerous awards and was honored as a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) in 2019. In 2023, she became the first doctor outside North America to be honored as a Fellow of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (FPIDS). Dhanya is a clinician, educator and researcher focused on combating drug-resistant infections in children.

Prof Elisabeth Stark
Vice President Research

University of Zurich

Prof Elisabeth Stark has been a Professor of Romance Linguistics at the University of Zurich (UZH) since 2008 and currently holds the position of Vice-President for Research at UZH. In this role, she oversees internal and external research funding, supports early career researchers, manages large infrastructures and fosters innovation. She is actively involved in various research committees at both national (Swissuniversities, SNSF) and international (Una Europa, LERU, U21) levels. Additionally, she is responsible for the funding of the One Health Institute at UZH.

Emma Ossola is an Academic Engagement Associate at Swissnex in India, coordinating meetings on Planetary Health and on Antimicrobial Resistance. She has a Master's in Environmental Science from the ETH Zurich, where she specialised in Biogeochemistry and Pollutant Dynamics. Her Master's thesis focused on the influence of wheat breeding on plant water use strategies under increasing atmospheric drought. She has also worked at Eawag on a project about water management and quality in The Gambia, and at the University of Benin City on the analysis of a tropical forest.

Ms Emma Ossola
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Academic Engagement Associate

Swissnex in India

Dr Florian Marro is a postdoctoral researcher in the Bumann Group at the Biozentrum, University of Basel, Switzerland. As part of NCCR AntiResist, he investigates bone biopsies to unravel Staphylococcus physiology in human infections. He earned his PhD in 2023 at Evotec and the Centre International de Recherche en Infectiologie (CIRI) in Lyon, France, where he explored the replication dynamics of antibiotic-tolerant Staphylococcus aureus in bone cells.

Dr Florian Marro
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Postdoctoral Researcher

Biozentrum

University of Basel

Mr Florian Rechfeld
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Manager

Life & Health R&D

Swiss Re Institute

Florian Rechfeld is a Life & Health R&D Manager at Swiss Re, where he specialises in various aspects of life insurance, including medical research aimed at developing and modifying underwriting and risk assessment guidelines. He provides expertise on mortality and morbidity issues, and supports product development and pricing for advanced life and health products. Florian's research interests extend to new drug discovery, human genome sequencing, genetic testing and personalised medicine's future impact on healthcare. Before joining Swiss Re, Florian was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Infectious Diseases and Oncology at the University Children's Hospital in Zurich. He studied biochemistry and molecular biology at ETH Zurich and received a PhD in medical biochemistry from Innsbruck Medical University. Florian's work also addresses emerging risk trends, such as AMR, in key markets.

Prof Dr Flurin Condrau
flurin.condrau@uzh.ch

Professor

Institute for Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine

University of Zurich

Prof Dr Flurin Condrau was educated at the University of Zurich, where he studied history, sociology and economics. He earned his PhD at the University of Munich, specialising in the history of tuberculosis. Flurin held permanent academic positions at Sheffield and Manchester, UK, where he continued his research in the history of medicine. In 2011, he returned to Switzerland to take up the chair once held by Erwin H. Ackerknecht, a founding figure in the modern history of medicine and medical anthropology. Flurin views his work as following in Ackerknecht's tradition, exploring medicine as a cultural, political and social phenomenon.

Dr François Franceschi
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Associate Director

Serious Bacterial Infections

GARDP

Dr François Franceschi has been working at GARDP since 2018 and has more than 30 years of experience in AMR. Prior to that, François served as Program Officer for antibacterial and antifungal development at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) in Bethesda, Maryland, where he also served as NIAID's liaison to CARB-X Scientific and Milestone Review Boards. Before NIAID, he held various directorial positions in Antibiotic R&D at Rib-X Pharmaceuticals (now Melinta Therapeutics) in New Haven, Connecticut. Prior to Rib-X François was Principal Investigator at the Max Planck Institute (MPI) for Molekulare Genetik in Berlin, researching the structure and function of ribosomes in complex with antibiotics. His group at the MPI was a pivotal part of a consortium headed by Ada Yonath, linked to the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2009. François earned a PhD in Chemistry at the Freie Universität Berlin, and a degree in Biology at Universidad Simon Bolívar in Venezuela.

Dr Giorgia Greter
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Postdoctoral Researcher

Department of Health Sciences and Technology

ETH Zurich

Dr Giorgia Greter previously studied Biology and Ecology at New York University and ETH Zurich. She specialised in quantitative microbial ecology at ETH Zurich, with a focus on developing methods to study bacterial metabolism and spatial dynamics. She is currently establishing a startup that is developing a glycoconjugate vaccine to prevent E. coli infections.

Through participation in various entrepreneurial programmes aimed at enhancing her industrial skills, she is now focusing on business development and investor relations for her start-up. Giorgia is also deeply engaged in exploring emerging regulatory and manufacturing considerations in the field of vaccine development.

Dr Glenn E. Dale
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Chief Development Officer

BioVersys

Dr Glenn E. Dale is Chief Development Officer of BioVersys. He is a distinguished expert in infectious diseases, the author of numerous publications, and inventor on many patents. Since February 2019 Glenn has led the clinical development activities at BioVersys, applying his 30 years of R&D experience and significant knowledge in the modern development of antibiotics. Glenn obtained his PhD in Biochemistry in 1993 from the University of Basel, following which he has held the following positions: Group Leader at Roche, Head of Biology, Site Head at Morphochem AG and Scientific Coordinator responsible for pre-clinical research at Arpida. In 2009 he joined Polyphor where he led the Antibiotic Research and Early Development, successfully transitioning Murepavadin (POL7080) from pre-clinical activities to Phase 3 studies. Glenn is an expert in developing and implementing modern antibiotic clinical development plans (such as devising pathogen specific development) and is experienced in presenting to and discussing with European and US regulatory authorities such as scientific advice meetings (MHRA, EMA), Type C meetings (FDA) and End of Phase 2 meetings (FDA).

Dr Gunar Günther
gunar.guenther@insel.ch

Consultant Pulmonologist

Pulmonology and Allergology

University Hospital Bern

Dr Gunar Günther is a chest physician at the University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland, with a strong focus on tuberculosis (TB) and global health. With clinical and research experience in countries such as Ethiopia, Uganda, South Africa and the United Kingdom, he has developed a deep understanding of TB care in diverse settings. From 2015 to 2019, Günther served as the first respiratory physician in the public sector in Namibia and held a visiting professor position at the University of Namibia. Since 2019, he has continued to provide part-time clinical care, teaching and co-leading a research group on TBat the University of Namibia.Additionally, Günther is the Vice-Chair of TBnet, a Europe-based collaborative research network focused on TB. His research primarily focuses on the treatment of TB, with a particular interest in drug-resistant TB.

Dr Hailey Kim
hyein.kim@unibas.ch

Project Manager

Innovation Office

University of Basel

Dr Hailey Kim is a Project Manager at the Innovation Office of the University of Basel, where she has been working since 2023. She holds a PhD in Clinical Neuroimmunology from University Hospital Basel and has prior experience in the life science and molecular diagnostics sectors. At the Innovation Office—the university's central hub for innovation and entrepreneurship—Hailey is responsible for international and industry collaborations to strengthen the startup and innovation ecosystem. She leads initiatives such as Superpella, an international startup support programme, which helps startups from abroad explore and connect with the Basel ecosystem. She is also actively engaged in public-private partnerships such as SPEARHEAD, an Innosuisse Flagship project focused on combatting AMR through advanced AMR stewardship using machine-learning algorithms trained on real-world data.

Prof Harinath Chakrapani
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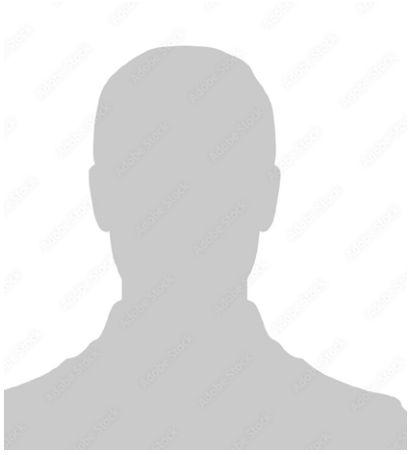
Professor

Department of Chemistry

IISER Pune

Prof Harinath Chakrapani completed his undergraduate and post-graduate studies in Chemistry at Loyola College and the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, respectively. He then pursued doctoral studies in organic chemistry at Duke University, USA, where he earned his PhD in 2005. His post-doctoral research was conducted at Wake Forest University and the National Cancer Institute, focusing on developing new prodrug approaches for cancer therapy. In July 2009, Harinath joined IISER Pune, where he is currently a Professor. His research interests include developing tools to investigate redox biology, applying medicinal chemistry approaches to discover new lead molecules, and identifying new druggable targets in bacteria.



Dr Hariharan Periasamy is a veterinary microbiologist with a doctoral degree. He has 21 years of experience in the discovery and development of novel antibiotics targeting unmet needs. His expertise encompasses the identification of potential drug candidates for non-clinical and clinical development, as well as pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic profiling and dose optimisation for new antibiotics.

Dr Hariharan Periasamy
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Assistant Director

Drug Discovery Research

Wockhardt

Prof Hubert Hilbi is a Professor and Research Group Leader at the University of Zurich, Institute of Medical Microbiology, where he has been since 2015. He earned his PhD in Microbiology from ETH Zurich in 1994 and went on to complete his postdoctoral studies at New York University Medical Center and Columbia University in New York. Hubert held appointments as Assistant Professor at ETH Zurich (2002-2009) and Associate Professor at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich (2010-2014). His main research interests focus on One Health, surveillance, persistence, virulence, and communication of Legionella spp., the causative agents of Legionnaires' disease, a severe form of pneumonia.

Prof Hubert Hilbi
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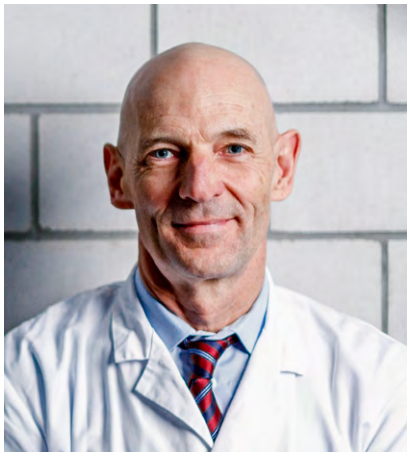
Professor

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich



Prof Dr med Hugo Sax
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Senior Researcher

Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Prof Dr med Hugo Sax is a board-certified specialist in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases with over 20 years of experience in the fields of Infectious Diseases and Infection Prevention and Control. Currently a Senior Researcher at the Department of Infectious Diseases at University Hospital Bern, Switzerland. He is also the founder of Sax Health Design. Hugo is a past president and board member of Swissnoso, the Swiss National Center for Infection Prevention, Swissnoso, and a member of the WHO's First Challenge on Patient Safety. His research, focused on human factors and systems thinking in healthcare, has led to the development of the globally recognised 'y five moments for hand hygiene' concept. He has published over 100 research papers and enjoys teaching medical students about infection prevention. In his practice, AMR is a critical focus alongside healthcare-associated infections.

Prof Dr Jakob Zinsstag
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Head of Department

Epidemiology and Public Health

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

Prof Dr Jakob Zinsstag is a veterinarian with a PhD in tropical animal health, leading a research group at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute since 1998. His work focuses on controlling zoonoses and providing healthcare to mobile pastoralists using a One Health approach. A former president of the scientific board of the Swiss Academies' Transdisciplinary Network, he teaches One Health and transdisciplinary methods. He received the Meritorious Award by WOAH in 2023 and is a member of the One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP). His research includes integrated environmental-animal-human AMR surveillance in Africa and the Middle East. His team, in collaboration with researchers in Palestine, identified whole genome sequence homologies between Salmonella and Campylobacter AMR patterns across manure, chickens, poultry meat and humans. Further studies aim to analyse the phylodynamics of AMR bacteria, advancing the understanding and management of AMR.

Prof Jan Fehr
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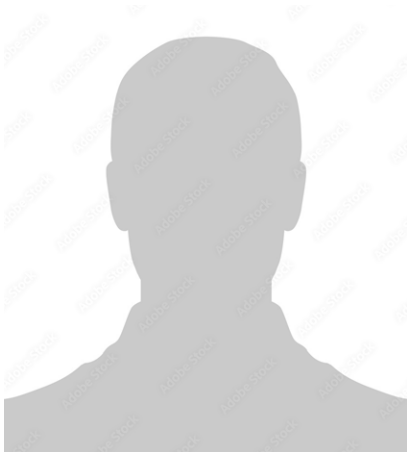
Head of Department

Public and Global Health

University of Zurich

Prof Jan Fehr is a Professor of Global Health & Mobility and Head of the Department of Public and Global Health at the University of Zurich. He also serves as the Chief Physician of the Centre for Travel Medicine at UZH, which is the only WHO Collaboration Centre for Travellers' Health and the largest travel clinic in Switzerland, handling over 30,000 consultations annually. Jan is a founding member of initiatives such as the 'Trialogue Days' and 'Researchers for Global Health', aiming to address global health challenges in close collaboration with partners in the Global South. His research focuses on AMR in both local and global health contexts, particularly in clinical and infectious disease settings, with specific projects in Uganda and India.



Dr Jennifer Cohn
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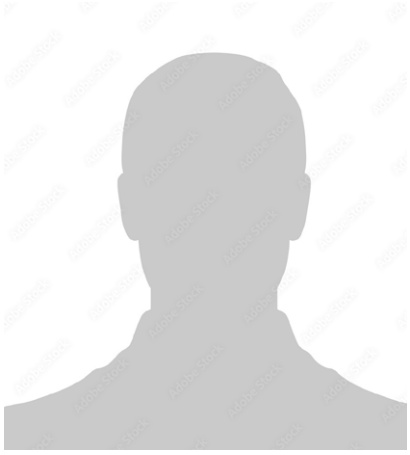
Director

Global Access

GARDP

Dr Jennifer Cohn is an infectious disease physician focusing on improving access to and uptake of effective health products and models of care in low- and middle-income countries. She currently serves as the Director of GARDP. Before that, Jennifer served as Senior Director of Innovation at the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, and as the Medical Coordinator for the Doctors Without Borders (MSF) Access Campaign. Jennifer has served on international advisory groups for TB, HIV, non-communicable diseases and viral hepatitis. She has published over 90 papers in peer-reviewed medical journals.



Prof Dr Joy Sarojini Michael
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Professor

Department of Clinical Microbiology

Christian Medical College, Vellore

Prof Dr Joy Sarojini Michael is a Clinical Microbiologist with over 22 years of experience in Mycobacteriology, Mycology, and Infection Prevention & Control. Her expertise includes diagnostics and research in evaluating new TB diagnostics for both adults and children, and molecular epidemiology of mycobacterial infections, including drug-resistant TB, zoonotic TB, and non-tuberculosis mycobacteria. She has collaborated extensively with the NTEP at both the Tamil Nadu state and national levels. For over 17 years she was the Secretary of the institution's Hospital Infection Control Committee and was actively involved in infection and prevention control activities in the hospital including surveillance of healthcare-associated infections and antimicrobial stewardship in intensive care units. She also works in the field of serological and molecular diagnosis of invasive fungal diseases. Currently she is on sabbatical working as a consultant for the Gates Foundation in India in tuberculosis and infectious diseases

Prof Jörg Jores
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Professor and Director

Infectious Diseases and Pathobiology

Institute of Veterinary Bacteriology, University of Bern

Prof Jörg Jores graduated as a veterinarian in Berlin in 1996 and completed his doctorate on Vibrio isolated from the Baltic Sea at the Robert Koch Institute. He then joined the Institute of Microbiology and Epizootics at the Free University Berlin, focusing on intestinal pathogens like Escherichia coli, while also lecturing and providing diagnostic services.

From 2005 to 2016, he worked at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, Kenya, where he established a mycoplasma research team and contributed to the development of diagnostics and vaccines. In 2016, he became Director of the Institute of Veterinary Bacteriology at the Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Bern, Switzerland. Jörgs' research expertise includes host-pathogen interactions of mycoplasmas, synthetic genomics and hoof diseases.

Dr Josianne Kollmann
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Doctoral Researcher

Environmental Social Sciences

Eawag Zurich

Dr Josianne Kollmann completed her Master's in Psychology at Philipps University Marburg, Germany, and her doctoral studies in Health Psychology at the University of Konstanz, Germany. She then moved to Switzerland to work as a post-doctoral researcher in the Environmental Health Psychology research group at Eawag, the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology. By working at the intersection of health psychology and environmental psychology, Josianne aims to protect and improve planetary health by investigating how human perceptions and behaviours contribute to this goal. In her research, Josianne focuses on predictors of behaviour change, as well as on people's perceptions and acceptance of health and environmental risks, along with environmental policies and technologies. She has applied her research to the contexts of decentralised wastewater treatment and reuse, microplastics pollution and infectious diseases among others.

Dr Jose Bila
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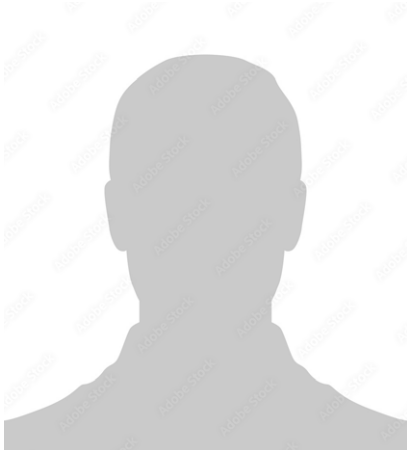
CEO and Co-founder

Precise Health SA, Switzerland

Dr José Luis Bila is the CEO and Co-Founder of Precise Health SA, a healthtech startup developing an AI-driven platform designed to match bacteriophages with bacterial infections. With a focus on combating multidrug-resistant infections, he leads initiatives to accelerate access to phage therapy through innovation and strategic partnerships. Passionate about translational science, José is committed to bridging research and clinical applications to integrate phage therapy into mainstream healthcare.



Dr Julia Boos
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Postdoctoral Researcher

Department of Biosystems Science and Engineering

ETH Zurich

Dr Julia Boos is a postdoctoral researcher at the Bioengineering Laboratory of ETH Zurich. She holds a Master's degree in Biotechnology from the University of Life Sciences in Vienna and a PhD in Bioengineering from ETH Zurich in Basel. Her research focuses on the development and application of advanced in vitro methods, particularly for toxicological and microbiological applications. As both a scientist and project leader, she works with microphysiological systems and organoid-based human culture models to improve the predictive power and human relevance of experimental systems. Julia is actively engaged in interdisciplinary research at the intersection of engineering and biology, contributing to the refinement of next-generation testing strategies and supporting the broader transition toward animal-free, human-relevant approaches in biomedical research and safety assessment.

Dr Kenneth Bradley
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Vice President, Global Head

Infectious Disease Discovery

Roche Basel

Dr Kenneth Bradley is a seasoned pharma executive and scientist, dedicated to advancing novel therapeutics and cures for patients battling viral and bacterial diseases. Currently, he serves as the Global Head of Infectious Disease Discovery at Roche Pharma Research and Early Development (pRED) in Basel, Switzerland. In addition to his role at Roche, Kenneth contributes as a board member and co-chair of the Scientific Working Group for the INTREPID alliance. He is also a member of the strategic advisory board for Pathways to Antimicrobial Clinical Efficacy (PACE), the external advisory board for the Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research, AntiResist, and the Research & Science Working Group of the AMR Industry Alliance.

Dr Lambert Potin
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Corporate Development Manager

Basilea Pharmaceuticals

Dr Lambert Potin is Corporate Development Manager at Basilea Pharmaceutica, where he drives partnerships with other academic and industry players to advance the development of anti-infectives.

Prior to Basilea Pharmaceutica, Lambert was responsible for partnering on opportunities in the oncology and antibiotics spaces. Prior to this, he served as a Consultant for Alcimed Sàrl, Switzerland, leading strategic projects in life sciences for large companies. Lambert also spent five years conducting academic research at the University of Chicago, USA. He was recently appointed Board Member of the Swiss Healthcare Licensing Group. Lambert holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Life Sciences & Technology from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). He also hass a PhD in Biotechnology & Bioengineering from EPFL.

Dr Lara Urban
lara.urban@uzh.ch

Principal Investigator

Vetsuisse Faculty

University of Zurich

Dr Lara Urban is a statistical geneticist and ecologist with a PhD in computational genomics from the University of Cambridge and the European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI) and has independent research experience with the national Department of Conservation as a Humboldt Fellow in New Zealand. Since 2022 she has led her own research group, now on track for a professorship at the University of Zurich and its Food Safety and One Health Institutes, and as invited member of the One Health Advisory Council of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Prior to this, she was a Helmholtz Principal Investigator at the Helmholtz AI Institute with a faculty position at the Technical University of Munich. Her research focuses on portable nanopore technology to better understand One Health at the intersection of human, animal and environmental health. This research was honoured by the German Young Scientist of the Year award in 2023.

Dr Laura Tüshaus-Rudin
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General Manager

One Health Institute

University of Zurich

Dr Laura Tüshaus-Rudin completed her PhD in neuroscience at the University of Zurich in 2016, focussing on "Resting State Networks and Sleep Regulation." Since then, she has concentrated on research project management at ETH Zurich, the University Children's Hospital Zurich, and Hochschulmedizin Zurich. In 2022, Laura joined the One Health Institute (OHI) at the University of Zurich, which was officially established in 2023 by the Vetsuisse Faculty, the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Science as the first of its kind at a European university. As General Manager, she oversees the strategic development of the OHI and actively expands its local and international network.

Dr Lena Robra
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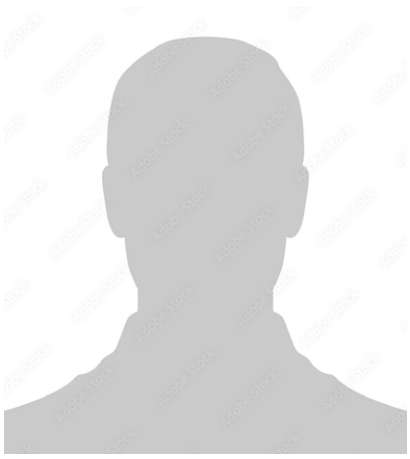
Head of Academic Engagement

Swissnex in India

Dr Lena Robra is a curious scientist and trained biochemist with a strong interest in sustainability. She has been heading the Academic Engagement team at Swissnex in India since 2021. Prior to this, she led the Bengaluru Sustainability Forum, an entity formed by Bengaluru's academic institutions aimed at bringing the UN SDGs to the local context. She holds a PhD in Biology from the National Science Institute/ Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and a Master's degree in Biochemistry from Hannover University. She has been coorganizer of the first Indo-Swiss AMR Innovation .



PD Dr Lucas Boeck is a respiratory medic and scientist working in Basel, Switzerland. He works as a consultant in respiratory medicine at the University Hospital and leads a research group at the Department of Biomedicine, University of Basel. Lucas's research focuses on molecular mechanisms and bacterial phenotypes of antibiotic treatment failures, particularly in mycobacterial infections. By combining innovative in vitro technologies, computational biology and clinical studies, his team aims to uncover determinants of bacterial behaviours and clinical responses, thereby paving the way for more effective therapies.

PD Dr Lucas Boeck
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Research Group Leader

University of Basel

Mr Madhav Joshi is the CEO of India Health Fund (IHF), a catalytic initiative from Tata Trusts that focuses on de-risking the development of science and technology-based innovations for communicable diseases. IHF partners with organisations in India and other LMICs to scale solutions, particularly in primary care, and collaborates on financing mechanisms for development and scale-up. The fund emphasises affordable, prototype-ready innovations, such as minimally invasive diagnostics for AMR and digitising care for diseases like TB. Madhav has a deep background in global health, with extensive experience in corporate roles at Pfizer and Nestle. Under his leadership, IHF has become a leading force in the development and validation of innovative solutions, with a focus on tackling infectious diseases and improving health systems. IHF is committed to pioneering advancements in diagnostics, climate adaptation in healthcare, and the application of AI in health solutions, driving meaningful change in public health.

Dr Madhav Joshi
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CEO

India Health Fund, Mumbai

Dr Maneesh Paul-Satyaseela
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CEO
R&D
Microvioma, Bangalore

Dr Maneesh Paul-Satyaseela is the Project Leader and lead co-inventor of Enmetazobactam, the first anti-infective from India to receive USFDA approval. He has been leading the programme at Orchid Pharma, Chennai since 2006, continuing to drive its approval and Phase-4 studies in India. Maneesh is one of the first Indian non-clinicians to be awarded the Fellow of Infectious Diseases Society of America (FIDSA). He has published over 40 papers and holds five co-inventions in antimicrobials. He serves on several advisory committees in the AMR space, including the AMR Committee of IDSA, UKRI's PACE-Strategic Advisory Committee, and GARDP's REVIVE. As the CEO of Microvioma, he provides advisory solutions on microbiology, anti-infectives, AMR and planetary health. He has received training at prestigious institutions such as MAHE (India), Johns Hopkins (USA), and Umea University (Sweden). Maneesh is an active contributor to policy advocacy and research efforts to combat AMR.

Prof Maria Luisa Balmer
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SNSF Eccellenza Professor
TrimLab
Institute for Infectious Diseases

Prof Maria Luisa Balmer is a physician scientist and Assistant Professor at the University of Bern. Her research investigates how gut microbes and their metabolites shape host metabolism and immunity, with a focus on microbial contributions to metabolic diseases beyond classical infection paradigms. Using gnotobiotic models, metagenomics and metabolomics, her lab aims to uncover mechanistic insights into host-microbe interactions and translate them into novel strategies for the prevention and treatment of obesity and related disorders.

Dr Mark Jones
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Head of Department

Global Affairs

Basilea Pharmaceutica International

Dr Mark Jones is a clinical microbiologist with nearly 30 years of experience in AMR research. He began his career as a clinical scientist at the UK National Mycology Laboratory before moving to Utrecht Medical Center, where he led AMR-focused research projects. He has since spent over 20 years in the pharmaceutical industry, currently serving as Head of Global Affairs at Basilea. Mark has been integral to the development and successful global launch of ceftobiprole and isavuconazole and is now leading efforts to advance novel antibacterials and antifungals, such as fosmanogepix. Throughout his career, he has published more than 120 peer-reviewed papers and has been an influential voice in the AMR field, serving as a board member of both the EU BEAM Alliance and the Swiss Round Table for Antibiotics. His work focuses on developing treatments for resistant and refractory invasive infections.

Dr Martin Heidecker
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Chief Investment Officer

AMR Action Fund, Boston

Dr Martin Heidecker, PhD, MBA, joined the AMR Action Fund in August 2021, bringing with him extensive international experience in venture capital, drug development and pharmaceutical marketing. Most recently, he was Managing Director USA of Boehringer Ingelheim Venture Fund in Boston, where he built a portfolio spanning multiple therapeutic areas, including oncology, central nervous system disorders and anti-infectives, and led numerous companies to successful exits through M&As, IPOs and product launches. Martin's investing career began in Germany with Bayern Kapital. Over the years, he has served on the board of directors at numerous biotech companies. His deep understanding of the global biopharmaceutical industry is informed by his work at Solvay Pharmaceuticals and Boehringer Ingelheim, where he held a position in business development and marketing, and helped launch several successful CNS drugs.

Prof Markus Seeger
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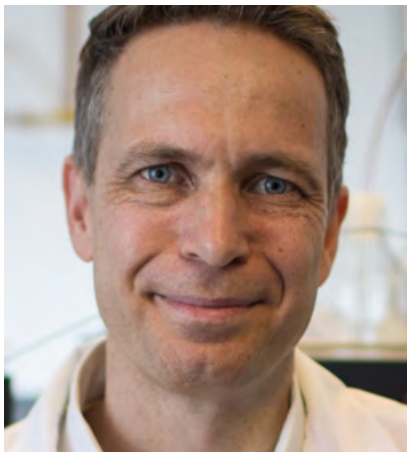
Associate Professor

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Prof Markus Seeger is an Associate Professor at the Institute of Medical Microbiology at the University of Zurich. Research in his lab focuses on the structure and function of membrane transporters found in pathogenic bacteria, which includes multidrug efflux pumps belonging to the large class of ABC transporters, as well as lipid and siderophore transporters in Mycobacterium tuberculosis. Markus holds a PhD from the ETH Zurich (2007) and pursued postdoctoral studies in Cambridge, UK. He received a SNSF professorship in 2013 and an ERC consolidator grant in 2018. Since 2015, he leads the antibiotics platform of the Swiss association Biotechnet with the aim to foster collaboration between academic and industrial partners involved in the development of novel antibiotics and rapid diagnostics. Markus was actively involved in drafting the synthesis report for the National Research Programme "Antimicrobial Resistance" (NRP 72), where he was heading the report section "Faster diagnostic and new therapeutic approaches". Further, he acts as an executive board member of the Swiss Round Table on Antibiotics.



Prof Dr Michael Berney
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Head of Division

Pathogen Biology

University of Zurich

Prof Dr Michael Berney holds a Master's in Environmental Sciences and a PhD in Microbiology from ETH Zurich, where his thesis focused on low-cost water disinfection methods. After completing postdoctoral studies in New Zealand, he worked on the bioenergetics of M. tuberculosis (Mtb) as a target for intervention. Michael then joined the faculty at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, where he established a successful NIH-funded programme focusing on Mtb pathogenesis, AMR and drug discovery. Currently, he leads a lab at the University of Zurich, where his research continues to investigate the fundamental biology of tuberculosis. His work aims to develop new therapeutic strategies and interventions to combat Mtb, with a particular focus on understanding drug mechanisms of action and the underlying mechanisms of AMR in tuberculosis.

Dr Nicholas Adomakoh
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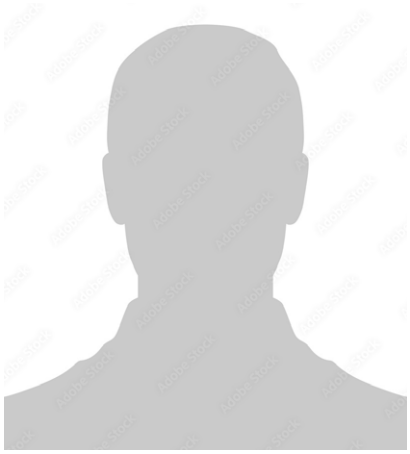
Medical Director

Global Medical Affairs

Sandoz

Dr Nicholas Adomakoh is the Global Medical Affairs Lead for Anti-Infectives at Sandoz International GmbH, based in Germany. He is responsible for developing and implementing strategies to leverage the company's anti-infectives portfolio and key competencies to address unmet needs in infectious disease management. Previously, he held global and European regional medical affairs roles in infectious diseases at Astellas Pharma and Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS). He obtained his medical degree from King's College London and worked for 20 years as an infectious diseases physician before joining the industry. Nicholas has worked in hospital-based clinical networks in the United Kingdom, Australia and the Caribbean, with responsibilities spanning the management of nosocomial and ICU-related infections, tropical medicine, HIV and STI clinics. He also spent several years in the Caribbean leading multisectoral government and regional programmes aimed at building capacity to scale up HIV, TB and vector-borne disease prevention and control.



Prof Dr med Nina Khanna
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Deputy Director

NCCR AntiResist

Prof Dr med Nina Khanna is Chair of Infectious Diseases at the University of Basel and leads research groups within the Departments of Biomedicine and Clinical Research at the University Hospital Basel. Her research centres on understanding infectious disease susceptibility and the treatment of difficult-to-treat infections, with a particular focus on immunocompromised patients. As Deputy Director of NCCR AntiResist, she is committed to establishing a unique interdisciplinary centre dedicated to developing novel strategies against antibiotic-resistant pathogens.

Dr Nishad Matange
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Assistant Professor

Department of Biology

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune

Dr Nishad Matange is an Assistant Professor at IISER Pune, where he leads a research group focused on AMR evolution in gram-negative bacteria. After earning his Bachelor's in Life Sciences from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, he pursued a Master's and a PhD at IISc Bangalore, studying cyclic nucleotide signaling in Mycobacterium tuberculosis. His fascination with AMR led him to an independent research fellowship at IISER Pune, where he now investigates the genetic and genomic underpinnings of AMR. His work has garnered national and international recognition, including awards such as the Ben Barres Prize from eLife and the DBT-Wellcome Trust India Alliance Intermediate Fellowship. In addition to his research, Nishad is passionate about education and teaches both undergraduate and graduate students. He is also a dedicated practitioner of Hindustani classical music. His lab explores the evolution of AMR and strategies to develop "resistance-proof" antibiotics.

Prof Dr Oliver Zerbe
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Head of NMR facility

Department of Chemistry

University of Zurich

Prof Dr Oliver Zerbe studied Chemistry at the University of Hamburg and the University of Southampton, and completed his PhD at the University of Zurich. He then worked as a postdoc with Kurt Wüthrich at the ETH Zurich, followed by a habilitation at the Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, ETH Zurich. Currently, he is a group leader and Head of NMR Facilities at the University of Zurich.

Oliver's research is focused on structural biology, primarily using NMR to study G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs), repeat proteins and metalloproteins. About eight years ago, he expanded his research to antimicrobial peptides targeting LPS transport. His team has determined the mode of action of these peptides and their structures in complex with target proteins. The peptides discovered are effective against carbapenem-resistant enterobacteriaceae (CREs) and demonstrate low resistance rates, offering promising solutions in combating AMR.

Prof Dr Oya Tagit
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Professor

Biointerfaces Group

University of Applied Sciences and Arts
Northwestern Switzerland

Prof Dr Oya Tagit obtained her PhD at the MESA+ Institute for Nanotechnology, University of Twente, The Netherlands. With a diverse background spanning academia and industry across multiple countries (France, Singapore, Ireland), she now leads the Biointerfaces Group at FHNW and serves as a member of the Swiss Nanoscience Institute Executive Committee. The Biointerfaces Group focuses on addressing unmet biomedical needs in disease diagnosis, monitoring and treatment through engineered nanoparticles tailored for specific biological targets and functions. By combining expertise in materials chemistry, nanotechnology and biology, the group advances bench-to-bedside development of optical and magnetic detection probes, (pre-)clinical imaging agents and drug delivery systems based on inorganic and polymeric nanoparticles. The diagnostic and therapeutic performance of these nanoparticles is evaluated through advanced imaging techniques, cell culture models and in vivo disease models.

Prof Patrick Viollier
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Professor

Microbiology and Molecular Medicine

University of Geneva

Prof Patrick Viollier is a bacterial geneticist and cell biologist with a PhD in Microbiology from UNIBAS. After completing a postdoc at Stanford University and an assistant professorship at Case Western Reserve University, he became an Associate Professor at the University of Basel in 2009, later named Professor in 2015. He teaches Bacteriology to third-year medical students and since 2022, has been running a practical course in Bacteriology for both biology and medical students on AMR and bacterial cell biology. His recent research explores the sensitivity of Caulobacter crescentus mutant cells to the peptidoglycan-targeting antibiotic vancomycin. This work has expanded his interest in applying chemical-genetic approaches with antibiotics, leading to new concepts in drug resistance and protection in Pseudomonas aeruginosa mutants with cell envelope defects.

Prof Dr Peter Sander
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Research Group Leader

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Peter Sander is a Professor of Microbiology at the Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zurich, and Co-Head of the Swiss National Reference Laboratory for Mycobacteria. With over 30 years of experience in mycobacterial research, he is an internationally renowned scientist, particularly known for his work on antibiotic resistance mechanisms in both tuberculous and non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM). Peter is a member of the European Committee on Antimicrobial Testing for Mycobacterium tuberculosis and NTM. His research investigates innate and acquired drug resistance mechanisms in these pathogens and aims to overcome them by screening and characterising novel inhibitors targeting underexplored drug targets. His team applies phenotypic screening, genetic and biochemical methods, and structural biology techniques to resolve enzyme-inhibitor complexes. Peter's work continues to advance understanding of mycobacterial resistance and to contribute to the development of new therapeutic strategies.

Dr Peter Seiler
peter.seiler@incate.net

Management Team

INCATE

Dr Peter Seiler is an infection immunologist with a PhD from ETH Zurich and over 25 years of experience in the research and development of vaccines and small molecules targeting bacterial and mycobacterial pathogens. He has worked at both large pharmaceutical companies and small- to mid-sized biotech firms in Switzerland and internationally. Peter has led and co-led diverse programmes from hit-to-lead stages to preclinical and clinical development, including NDA preparations. He has also been a founder of startup companies, including refscout.net (exit 2012) and praedpharm.com (founded 2021). Since 2019, Peter has focused on antibacterial research, contracting for companies and organisations in the development of small molecules and vaccines. He has been an active member of the management team of INCATE since 2023 and is also affiliated with the HKI in Jena.

Dr Philipp Jent
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Head Infection Prevention and Control

Department of Infectious Diseases

Inselspital University Hospital Bern and

Dr Philipp Jent is the Head of Infection Prevention and Control at Inselspital University Hospitall Bern Switzerland. After working as a clinician in Internal Medicine , he specialised in Infectious Diseases and Infection Prevention and Control. He is the editor of one of the most popular antibiotic treatment guides in Switzerland (antibiotika.insel.ch). His research focus is in mechanisms of transmission of respiratory viruses and prevention of nosocomial infections, with a focus on surgical-site infections. He investigates respiratory virus infections in school class transmission studies and simulated transmission studies. Together with several collaborators, he authored a recently published multicentre cluster randomised controlled trials investigation on the outcome of two different ways of preoperative skin antisepsis.

Prof Pilar Junier
pilar.junier@unine.ch

Professor in Microbiology

Institute of Biology

University of Neuchatel

Prof Pilar Junier is a microbiologist with expertise in fungal-bacterial interactions and their impact on ecosystem processes. Her research focuses on developing innovative strategies to combat the growing challenge of antifungal resistance. By exploring the interactions between fungi and bacteria, her work aims to discover novel approaches for controlling pathogens that affect both agriculture and human health. Pilar's team also investigates microbial consortia, mineral formation and the biotechnological potential of fungi and bacteria, including their use in sustainable bioremediation and resource recovery. They have developed techniques to study microbial interactions in situ and have contributed to the discovery of new fungal species and mutualistic relationships. In addition to her research, Pilar is dedicated to public outreach and education, working to raise awareness of microbiology and AMR through interdisciplinary initiatives and science communication.

Dr Ravindra Agarwal
raviaggarwal29@gmail.com

Chief Coordinator AMR

Lok Nayak Hospital, New Delhi

Dr Ravindra Aggarwal is a graduate (MBBS) and postgraduate (MD in Clinical Microbiology) from the University of Delhi. Currently, he serves as the Chief Coordinator for AMR with the Government of NCT of Delhi, where he is responsible for implementing the State Action Plan for Containment of Anti-Microbial Resistance (SAPCARD). He has also worked on a national project for the certification of AMR Smart Hospitals in collaboration with the Indian Medical Association (IMA). Previously, Ravindra served as the Assistant Director General (ADG) for Hospital Waste Management in Delhi for eight years. He is deeply involved in youth engagement initiatives, raising awareness on AMR in schools and colleges. Ravindra was selected for a WHO fellowship on AMR at the prestigious Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden. His work focuses on AMR containment and public health awareness efforts.

Dr Reety Arora
reety@crisprbits.com

Principal Scientist

Research and Development

CRISPRBITS, New Delhi

Dr Reety Arora is a molecular biologist specialising in cancer, viruses and CRISPR technology. As the leader of R&D at CRISPRBITS, she drives the development of CRISPR-based diagnostics, tools for rare diseases and service projects. Her team focuses on AMR markers, creating rapid, accurate diagnostics for resistant pathogens, including a prototype targeting the carbapenem resistance marker NDM for ICU and hospital-acquired infections. Reety holds a Bachelor's in Biotechnology from Panjab University and a PhD in Molecular Biology from the University of Pittsburgh, where she researched Merkel cell polyomavirus under Profs. Yuan Chang and Patrick Moore. She has also worked on stemness and cancer at inStem and NCBS in Bengaluru. Awarded the Wellcome Trust-DBT India Alliance Early Career Fellowship, she trained at Harvard Medical School and the University of Leipzig. After her fellowship, she consulted for Sankalp India Foundation and Capulus Therapeutics.

Dr Renata da Costa
rdacosta@gardp.org

Scientific manager

Research & Development

GARDP

Dr Renata da Costa is a senior microbiologist at GARDP. She has a background in molecular biology and specialises in studies that identify the molecular mechanisms that living organisms use to survive stress. At GARDP, she leads and coordinates microbiology projects related to the access and R&D programmes. She coordinates non-clinical microbiology projects that aim to obtain scientific evidence for the use and incorporation of new antibacterial treatments in low- and middle-income populations. She also coordinates microbiology studies from interventional and observational clinical studies.

Prof Dr Rudolf Blankart
rudolf.blankart@unibe.ch

Professor of Regulation in Healthcare

KPM Center for Public Management

University of Bern

Prof Dr Rudolf Blankart is a researcher at the KPM Center for Public Management at the University of Bern and sitem-insel, and chairs the Economics Cluster at Bern's Multidisciplinary Center for Infectious Diseases (MCID). He holds a Master's in Industrial Engineering from TU Berlin and a doctorate in Economics from the University of Hamburg. Rudolf's research focuses on optimising the pathway from idea to patient by improving regulatory and reimbursement frameworks for medicinal products and medical devices.

Previously, he held positions at the University of Hamburg and was a visiting researcher at Imperial College, London and Brown University. As the president of the Swiss Round Table on Antibiotics, he plays a key role in advocating for policy reforms that encourage innovation in the antibiotic market. Additionally, he advises private and public organisations on health policy and regulatory matters and serves on Decomplix AG's board. Rudolf is particularly passionate about creating pull-incentives to revitalise the antibiotic market and ensure a stable supply of essential antibiotics in Switzerland.

Ms Rui Wang
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Doctoral Student

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Ms Rui Wang is a PhD candidate in Microbiology and Immunology. She investigates the mechanism of action of a novel anti-tuberculosis compound. Her research focuses on its activation by an underexplored mycobacterial enzyme, using a multidisciplinary approach that combines microbiology, biochemistry, structural biology and metabolomics. Her research illustrates how basic science can uncover intracellular activation pathways for rational drug design, with broader implications for combating AMR. At the Indo-Swiss AMR Innovation Dialogue 2025, Rui looks forward to cross-disciplinary exchange, collaborative inspiration and exploring how science can inform global AMR policy.

Prof Dr Sagar Khadanga
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Additional Professor

Infectious Diseases

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal

Prof Dr Sagar Khadanga has over a decade of experience in the field of AMR and antimicrobial stewardship programmes (AMSP). He has worked closely with the ICMR-initiated AMR surveillance network in secondary and tertiary health centres and collaborated with the WHO AMR Country Office for India. As the Technical Lead for the Madhya Pradesh (MP) State AMR Committee, he helped develop the state's Action Plan in 2019, making MP the second state in India to do so. He has led extensive efforts in Community AMSP and Nursing AMSP initiatives to combat AMR, developing training modules for healthcare workers and the public. Sagar is the Principal Investigator of four AMR-related projects and Co-Investigator in 15 others. With more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, he also represents India at the WHO SEAR AMR conclave. He is the faculty lead for AMSP at the ICMR AMRSN in Central India.

Prof Dr Sanjeev Singh
sanjeevksingh@fbd.amrita.edu

Medical Director

Infection Prevention and Epidemiology

Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences & Research Center, Kochi

Prof Dr Sanjeev Singh is a Medical Director and a trained pediatrician with a Master's in Hospital Management and a PhD in Infectious Diseases. He has worked with the WHO on Disease Eradication Projects in multiple countries and holds fellowships in Patient Safety from the University of Virginia, Health Technology Assessment from the University of Adelaide, and Healthcare Quality from the International Society for Quality. Sanjeev is a member of the National Task Force for AMR and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), and has served as a consultant to the WHO on regulatory issues, AMR, and infection prevention. He is a technical advisor for AMR and IPC to the State of Kerala and chairs the Research Committee at the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals. Sanjeev also co-chairs the Technical Committee for hospital standards at the Quality Council of India and was awarded Infection Disease Champion by BMJ. He initiated a comprehensive Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at a large university teaching hospital.

Dr Santanu Chatterjee
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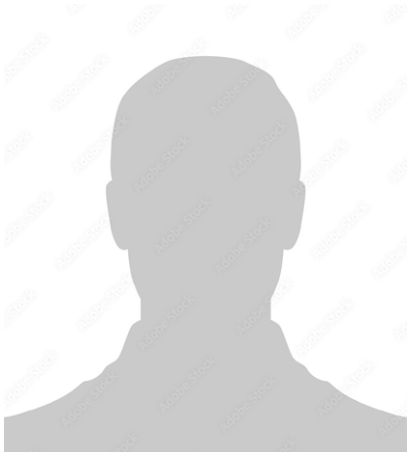
Visiting Lecturer

KPC Medical College and Hospitals, Kolkata

Dr Santanu Chatterjee is a seasoned expert in tropical and travel medicine with over 35 years of experience in independent private practice. He is a Visiting Lecturer at KPC Medical College in Kolkata and an International Advisor to the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow. Santanu has held several prominent leadership roles, including Past President of the Asia-Pacific Travel Health Society and Past Counselor of the International Society of Travel Medicine. He is also a Fellow of the Faculty of Travel Medicine (FFTM RCPS) and Fellow of the International Society of Travel Medicine (FISTM). Santanu is actively involved in implementing AMR policies at KPC Medical College and Hospitals, incorporating AMR education for both medical and nursing staff, and initiating AMR data collection and analysis for OPD and IPD sections. He is committed to advancing AMR awareness and action within the healthcare community.



Mr Sakthi Jaya Sundar Rajasekar
drsakthi03@gmail.com

Medical Student

Microbiology

Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Institute of Medical Sciences and Research

Mr Sakthi Jaya Sundar Rajasekar is a medical student from India, currently pursuing his internship (CRMI) at the Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Institute of Medical Sciences and Research,affiliated with the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University. His research interests include AMR, artificial intelligence, audiomics, medical informatics, medical imaging and medical device development. He is working on developing rapid antibiotic susceptibility testing (AST) solutions and laboratory automation techniques to combat AMR. He has been awarded the Best Researcher Award – Undergraduate Medical Student by the university. He is also a recipient of the ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship for his research stay at EPFL, Lausanne. Additionally, he has received fellowships and funding from agencies including the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi; Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi; and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), India.

Dr Shawna McCallin
shawna.mccallin@balgrist.ch

Group Leader

Neuro-Urology, Phage Therapy and Research

Balgrist University Hospital Zurich

Dr Shawna McCallin is the group leader of the Phage Therapy and Research Group at Balgrist University Hospital, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Her team is pioneering individual phage therapy treatments for urinary tract infections (UTIs) and is preparing for a randomised controlled trial using engineered phages for UTI treatment. Shawna has served on the executive boards of the International Society for Viruses of Microbes (ISVM) and the ESCMID study group for Non-Traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA). She is currently the chair of the steering committee for the International Phagistry, a registry for patients undergoing phage therapy. Her research focuses on developing phage therapy as a promising alternative to antibiotics, specifically targeting UTI infections, through clinical trials and patient registries.

Dr Shraddha Karve
shraddha.karve@ashoka.edu.in

Research faculty fellow

Trivedi School of Biology and Koita Centre for Digital Health

Ashoka University, New Delhi

Dr Shraddha Karve is a faculty fellow at the Trivedi School of Biology and Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka University, India. She completed her PhD at IISER Pune, studying the effects of fluctuating environments on microbes, followed by postdoctoral research in Andreas Wagner's group at the University of Zurich, where she investigated the evolution of novel traits of resistance in bacteria. Shraddha is the recipient of the Indian National Science Academy Medal for Young Scientist (2020) and led the team that won the Innovation Award for the global data challenge on AMR by the Vivli AMR Register in 2023. Her research group is involved in genomic surveillance of AMR across healthcare centres in India, collaborating with the University of Bern to analyse culture sensitivity data. Her team also uses experimental evolution to understand the mechanisms behind de novo resistance. Shraddha's work is supported by grants from WHO and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Prof Silvio Brugger
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Senior Physician

Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology

University Hospital Zurich

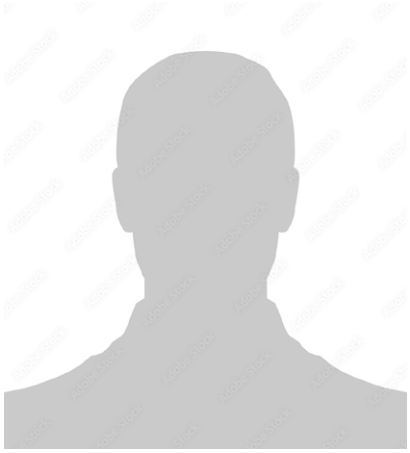
Prof Silvio Brugger is a Senior Attending Physician and Head of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory (Hospital Epidemiology Laboratory) in the Department of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology at the University Hospital Zurich. He is also a Professor at the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich, holding an SNSF Starting Grant. A Fellow of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (FESCMID), Silvio serves on ESCMID's Scientific Affairs Subcommittee and the Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases guideline committee. He holds Swiss Board Certifications in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, with a focus on AMR, microbiota and bacterial colonisation. After completing Switzerland's national MD-PhD programme, Silvio pursued postdoctoral research at Harvard Medical School. His work has earned multiple awards, including the Siegenthaler and SGM Awards, and he completed his habilitation at the University of Zurich in 2021. Silvio's research emphasises microbiota-targeted strategies to combat AMR and his clinical expertise focuses on multidrug-resistant (MDR) infections.

Dr Silvio Inderbitzin
silvio.inderbitzin@hispeed.ch

Member of the Board

Round Table on Antibiotics, Bern

Dr Silvio Inderbitzin is a seasoned business professional with over 20 years of experience in leadership roles within the pharmaceutical industry, including COO, CEO and board member positions. After successfully selling his company, he now serves as a business angel and board member for 10 to 15 life science startups, particularly in the pharma, biotech and medtech sectors. Silvio has witnessed the challenges of antimicrobial drug development, with two startups failing due to a lack of investor interest, underscoring the difficulty of making antibiotics an attractive business case. As a board member of Helvecura, he is well-versed in issues such as drug shortages, including antibiotics, and advocates for raising awareness about AMR. He believes action must be taken to support the development and launch of new antimicrobial drugs to address the growing resistance problem.



Ms Srinithi Purushothaman
spurushothaman@imm.uzh.ch

PhD Candidate

Institute of Medical Microbiology

University of Zurich

Ms Srinithi Purushothaman is currently pursuing her doctoral degree at the Applied Microbiology Research Lab, under the supervision of Prof Dr Adrian Egli at the Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zurich. Her thesis focuses on screening for multidrug resistant pathogens directly from patient samples using shotgun metagenomics with rapid long-read Oxford Nanopore Technologies in a culture-independent manner, with the aim of reducing the turnaround time for clinical diagnostics and screening.

Prof Dr Stefan Mühlebach
stefan.muehlebach@unibas.ch

Professor Emeritus

Pharmaceutical Sciences

University of Basel

Prof Dr Stefan Mühlebach is a pharmacist and pharmacologist with over 25 years of experience in both hospitals and industry. He has worked as a head pharmacist, member of a hospital board, and held leadership roles in regulatory sciences and pharmaceutical research. With over 250 peer-reviewed publications, he has directed PhD theses and served as a regular conference speaker. Stefan has extensive experience with Swiss authorities, including four years at Swissmedic and 12 years at the Federal Office of National Supply. From 2020-2023, he led the working group for COVID-19 vaccine logistics at the Federal Office of Public Health. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Semmelweis University in 2019. Since 2020, he has been a Board Member of the Swiss Round Table on Antibiotics, where he contributes to combating AMR by ensuring access to essential antibiotics and supporting innovative antibiotic development efforts.

Prof Dr Stephan Neuhauss
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Professor for Neurobiology

Molecular Life Sciences

University of Zurich

Prof Dr Stephan Neuhauss is a neuroscientist specialising in the zebrafish model to investigate vision, glutamate homeostasis in the brain, and pediatric brain tumors. He studied biology at Tübingen (Germany) and Eugene (Oregon, USA), before completing his PhD at Harvard Medical School. After postdoctoral work at the Max-Planck Institute in Tübingen, Stephan became a Senior Group Leader and Assistant Professor at ETH Zurich. He currently serves as a Full Professor of Neurobiology at the University of Zurich, where he also holds the role of Vice-Dean of Research in the Science faculty. Additionally, Stephan is a board member of the One Health Institute at Zurich, contributing to interdisciplinary initiatives in health research.

Prof Dr Stephen Leib
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Director

Institute for Infectious Diseases

University of Bern

Stephen Leib is a full Professor of Clinical Microbiology and Director of the Institute for Infectious Diseases (IFIK) at the University of Bern, Switzerland. He is board-certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases, with clinical training and research experience at the Universities of Zurich, Basel and Bern, as well as at the University of California, San Francisco. Stephen previously headed the Biology Department at Spiez Laboratory, Federal Office of Civil Protection, and currently serves on the board of the Swiss Society of Infectious Diseases. His research focuses on AMR and the mechanisms of brain damage and regeneration in infections. He is a member of the executive committee for ANRESIS, the Swiss Centre for Antibiotic Resistance, and the Swiss Round Table on Antibiotics, both of which are dedicated to promoting the development of antimicrobial technologies and ensuring their availability.

Prof Sunish Radhakrishnan

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Associate Professor

Department of Biology

IISER Pune

Prof Sunish Radhakrishnan completed his PhD at Pondicherry University and pursued postdoctoral studies at the Case School of Medicine, Cleveland, and the Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva. Before joining IISER Pune in 2019, he was an Assistant Professor at IISER Thiruvananthapuram, India, and an Associate Professor at the University of Warwick, UK. The work in Sunish's group is focused on understanding the signaling network that regulates bacterial cell cycle and proliferation in response to nutrient availability and metabolism. The lab aims to uncover how this network is reprogrammed when cells encounter external cues, such as antimicrobials. This research is crucial for developing new strategies to combat AMR and enhance the efficacy of existing antibiotics.

Prof Suzanne Suggs

suzanne.suggs@usi.ch

Professor

Institute of Communication and Public Policy

University of Lugano

Prof Suzanne Suggs is a Professor at the Institute of Communication and Public Policy at the University of Lugano, Switzerland. She specialises in health communication and social marketing, with her research primarily focusing on eating habits and vaccine uptake. Her work also explores the intersection of human and planetary health. Suzanne has served on the expert group "Science Communication" for the Swiss Academies and was a member of the Swiss National COVID-19 Science Task Force. She is the Vice President of the Swiss School of Public Health, Chair of the Lugano Summer School in Public Health, and Director of the Master's programme in Health Communication.

Prof Tavpritesh Sethi
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Associate Professor

Computational Biology

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi

Prof Tavpritesh Sethi is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computational Biology and the founding head of the Center of Excellence in Healthcare at IIIT-Delhi. He holds an MBBS from Government Medical College, Amritsar, and a PhD in Computational Biology from CSIR-IGIB, New Delhi. His research focuses on data-driven, evidence-based stewardship and surveillance of AMR. Tavpritesh has led the development of AMROrbit, an award-winning AI-based scorecard, and the AMRSense data ecosystem. His team won second place in The Trinity Challenge. A Visiting Faculty at Stanford University, a Fellow of the DBT/Wellcome India Alliance, and a recipient of MIT Technology Review's TR35 India award and the Kavli Fellowship, he has published over 50 papers and delivered two TEDx talks. Tavpritesh is passionate about training the next generation of purpose-driven data scientists in healthcare.

Prof Dr Thomas Van Boeckel
thomas.vanboeckel@uzh.ch

Associated Professor

One Health Institute

University of Zurich

Prof Dr Thomas Van Boeckel is a spatial epidemiologist at the One Health Institute of the University of Zurich (UZH). He is also a visiting fellow at the One Health Trust, a WHO collaborating centre on AMR with offices in Washington DC and Bengaluru. Before joining UZH, he held positions at ETH Zurich, Princeton and Oxford. He earned his PhD from the Free University of Brussels. His work primarily focuses on AMR but also includes research on bird flu (H5N1), HIV, hand, foot, and mouth disease, and livestock population maps. Thomas and his team focus on assembling large databases of spatial data and developing methods to map infectious diseases in animals and humans. Their primary interest is mapping AMR in animals raised for food in low- and middle-income countries, aiming to inform policymakers and reduce the global burden of AMR.

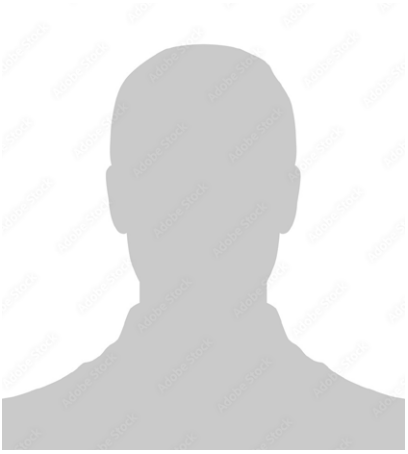
Dr Tim Keys
keyst@ethz.ch

Senior Scientist

Mucosal Immunology Lab

ETH Zurich

Dr Tim Keys studied Biochemistry in Australia and worked at the Institute for Glycomics, Gold Coast, Australia before moving to the Hannover Medical School, Germany for his PhD on directed evolution of bacterial polysaccharide polymerases. Tim received an ETHZ Postdoctoral Fellowship to join the Microbial Glycobiology group of Prof Markus Aebi inZurich, where he pioneered artificial biosynthetic pathways producing new-to-nature glycoproteins, including antibody mimetics and self-assembling protein nanoparticles decorated with diverse glycans, with applications as vaccines, therapeutics and drug delivery vehicles. Tim now leads Microbial Glycoengineering and Polysaccharide Vaccines projects in the Mucosal Immunology Lab at ETH Zurich. His current interests are biochemical and genetic studies of E. coli's capsular polysaccharides as well as the development of strategies for preventing disease caused by extraintestinal pathogenic E. coli (ExPEC). Tim is Cofounder and Future CSO of Baxiva, which will commercialise their patented glycoconjugate vaccine technology.



Prof Urs Jenal
urs.jenal@unibas.ch

Deputy Director

NCCR AntiResist

Prof Urs Jenal studied Experimental Biology at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich and received his PhD from there in 1991. Subsequently, he completed postdoctoral research at the ETH Zurich and at Stanford University, USA. Since 1996, Urs has taught and conducted research at the Biozentrum University of Basel; first as an Assistant and Associate Professor and since 2008 as Full Professor of Molecular Microbiology. He is Deputy Director of NCCR AntiResist, leading research on lung microtissues and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. His research focuses on airway infections, with particular attention to the molecular basis of virulence and persistence of the opportunistic human pathogen Pseudomonas aeruginosa.

Prof Dr Utpal Tatu
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Professor and Chairman

Biochemistry

Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru

Prof Dr Utpal Tatu's research at the Indian Institute of Science focuses on neglected infectious diseases, with a particular emphasis on understanding the drivers of AMR from a One Health perspective. His multi-pronged approach addresses AMR by conducting human and animal infection surveillance to reduce the inappropriate use of antibiotics, as well as environmental monitoring to detect antibiotics in natural bodies of water and animal farms, identifying key drivers of AMR. Notably, Utpal team has identified multi-drug-resistant forms of Candida auris through surveillance, developed the reference genome sequence for this often misdiagnosed pathogen and created a diagnostic kit to differentiate drug-resistant from sensitive strains. Additionally, his outreach activities at animal farms focus on educating about the risks of antibiotic misuse and its link to AMR. This comprehensive research highlights the urgent need for interdisciplinary strategies to mitigate the spread of AMR and improve both human and animal health outcomes.

Dr Vinay Nandicoori
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Director

Microbial Signaling Lab

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad

Dr Vinay Nandicoori is the Director of the Microbial Signaling Lab at the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in India. His research focuses on Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb), the causative agent of TB. Vinay and his team are part of a consortium that is sequencing 32,000 clinical strains of Mtb across India, with their lab contributing to the sequencing of 13,000 strains. Their primary research interest is in identifying novel mutations that lead to drug resistance in Mtb, and they have successfully validated such mutations in previous studies. His work plays a key role in understanding the genetic basis of drug resistance and advancing TB diagnostics and treatment strategies.

Dr
Varadharajan Sundaramurthy
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Associate Professor

Cellular Organization and Signaling

National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore

Dr Varadharajan Sundaramurthy specialises in host-pathogen interactions, with a focus on how Mtb manipulates host cell pathways to establish infection and resist treatment. After earning his PhD at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, where he studied malaria parasite interactions with red blood cells, he pursued postdoctoral research at the Biozentrum, University of Basel, and MPI-CBG, Dresden, focusing on host-directed therapies for TB. At NCBS, his lab investigates how TB modulates host trafficking pathways, uncovering mechanisms beyond the pathogen-containing vacuole. His research highlights the roles of both host and bacterial heterogeneity in TB pathogenesis and drug tolerance. In addition to fundamental insights, his team has developed preclinical assays for TB drug discovery, identifying promising host-targeting compounds. Through impactful publications and securing competitive grants, Varadharajan continues to advance TB research with both scientific and translational outcomes.

Mr Yann Ferisse
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Director

Business Development

Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP), Geneva

Mr Yann Ferrisse is the Director of Business Development & Partner Engagement at GARDP , where he leads all interactions with private partners to enrich GARDP's portfolio and ensure the delivery of products at national and regional levels. In this role, he works to advance GARDP's mission of accelerating the development of new treatments for drug-resistant infections while ensuring their responsible use and sustainable access. Prior to joining GARDP, Yann was a Partner at an innovation consulting firm, where he specialised in exploring and developing uncharted territories and played a key role in establishing country offices across Europe and Asia. GARDP is a Swiss not-for-profit organisation dedicated to addressing the global challenge of AMR through innovative solutions and partnerships. Yann's expertise lies in driving collaboration and innovation in the field of global health and antimicrobial research.

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