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EDCTP Update | August 2026



Highlights



EDCTP FORUM 2027

EDCTP Forum 2027: final days to submit abstracts, scientific symposia and workshops

The deadline is fast approaching to submit applications for abstracts, scientific symposia and workshops for the EDCTP Forum 2027. Submissions close on 2 September 2026 at 17:00 Brussels time. As one of the leading global health research events focused on infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa, the Forum offers a unique platform to share research findings, build partnerships and help shape discussions on global health priorities.

Under the theme 'Innovating together for resilient global health', the 13th edition of the EDCTP Forum will take place in Madrid, Spain, from 5–9 April 2027 at the IFEMA Palacio Municipal. The event will be hosted by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII), under the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, and the Fundación CSAI (FCSAI), under the Ministry of Health. It is jointly organised by Global Health EDCTP3 and the EDCTP Association.

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EDCTP Prizes 2027: final days to submit applications

Submissions for the EDCTP Prizes 2027 are closing soon. Global Health EDCTP3 invites applications recognising outstanding individuals and research teams from Africa and Europe for their achievements in global health research and innovation.

The 2027 edition will award four prize categories, highlighting excellence in scientific leadership, collaborative team research, and gender-balanced scientific contributions. Prize winners will be announced at the EDCTP Forum 2027 in Madrid, Spain. The deadline for applications is 2 September 2026.

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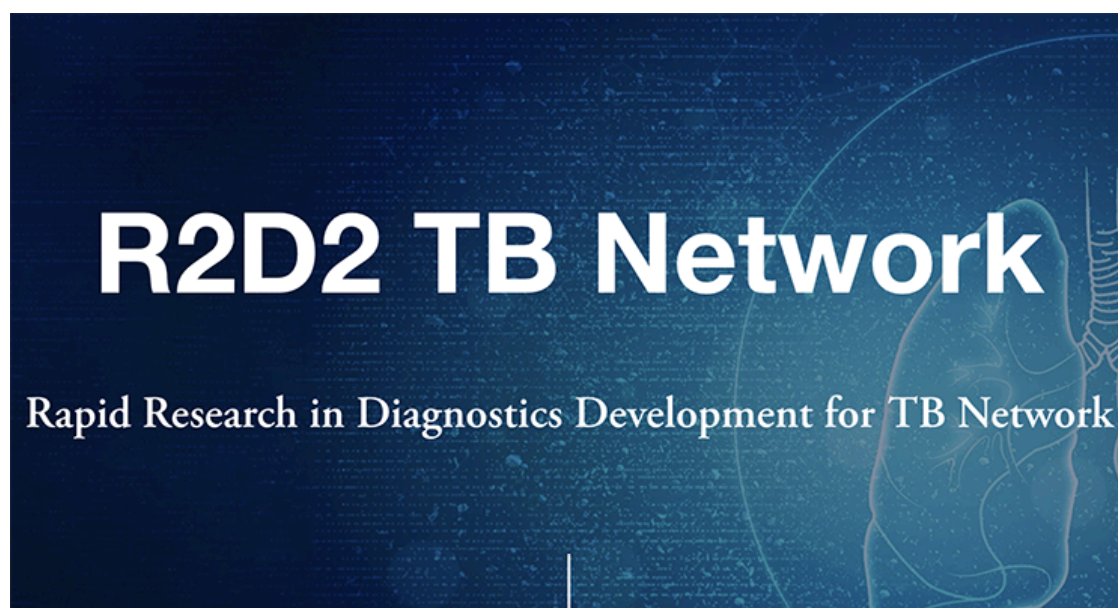
Credit: Wellcome

Expanding schistosomiasis treatment for young children in Tanzania

A child-friendly formulation of praziquantel is helping expand schistosomiasis treatment to preschool-aged children in Tanzania, addressing a longstanding gap in care for this neglected tropical disease.

Developed through international collaboration by the Paediatric Praziquantel Consortium, arpraziquantel was supported by the Global Health Innovative Technology (GHIT) Fund and the EDCTP2 programme.

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Study paves the way for simplified tuberculosis diagnosis

The global R2D2 Network II has evaluated a new swab-based test for pulmonary tuberculosis that can detect *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* without laboratory infrastructure and much faster than conventional diagnostics. Tested across seven high-burden countries, the method showed high diagnostic accuracy and could be administered easily by staff. The findings, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, helped inform the World Health Organization's recommendation for global use of the test. R2D2 Network II received bridge funding from the EDCTP Association to support efforts to close the tuberculosis diagnostic gap.

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Global Health EDCTP3 projects

In this section, you will find news, events and other relevant activities related to Global Health EDCTP3 projects, including those for which the EDCTP Association serves as the Coordinator.



STEAM-3D: Building sustainable modelling expertise across sub-Saharan Africa

STEAM-3D, the Sustainable Training in Epidemiological Analysis and Modelling for Data-Driven Decision Making in Africa project, is a three-year initiative supported by Global Health EDCTP3 and co-funded by CEPI to strengthen epidemiological, statistical and mathematical modelling skills in sub-Saharan Africa. Bringing together six partners from Belgium, Cameroon, Malawi, Mozambique, the Netherlands and South Africa, the project will deliver multidisciplinary training designed to build lasting capacity and support policy impact.

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TIMERA launches with successful kick-off meeting to strengthen epidemic modelling capacity in Africa

The Training Initiative for Modelling Epidemic Response in Africa (TIMERA), funded with a €1.3 million grant under the Global Health EDCTP3 programme and co-funded by CEPI, officially launched with a highly successful virtual kick-off meeting on 21 July 2026. The meeting was well attended (nearly 40 participants), bringing together representatives from CEPI, the Ethiopian Ministry of Health, Africa CDC, Addis Ababa University leadership and faculty, and all TIMERA consortium partners and institutional collaborators, demonstrating a strong commitment to strengthening epidemic modelling capacity across Africa.

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Publications

- BMJ Paediatrics Open: Cost-effectiveness of the IMPALA monitoring system for hospitalised children in low-resource settings: a pragmatic before-and-after study. Jornada Ben, A, et al. 12 August 2026
- BMC Infectious Diseases: Enablers and barriers to stool sample collection for TB diagnosis: insights from caregivers and adult patients in three high TB/HIV burden countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (Eswatini, Mozambique, and Uganda). Lima, AV, et al. 6 August 2026
- The Lancet. Microbe: Performance of a next-generation rapid lipoarabinomannan urine assay for tuberculosis in outpatients with and without HIV in South Africa and Uganda: a two-centre diagnostic accuracy study. Hamasur, B, et al. 6 August 2026
- CPT: Pharmacometrics & Systems Pharmacology: Modeling Treatment Response in Tuberculosis Early Bactericidal Activity Trials. McClean, M C W, et al. 1 August 2026
- Journal of Clinical Microbiology: Head-to-head evaluation of host blood biomarkers for point-of-care TB triage: diagnostic accuracy study. Komakech, K, et al. 27 July 2026
- Lancet (London, England): Oral step-down, optimal drug, and total duration of antibiotic treatment in African children hospitalised with severe community-acquired

- pneumonia (PediCAP): [a factorial randomised controlled trial](#). Bielicki, J A, et al. 23 July 2026
- The New England Journal of Medicine: [Cross-Reactive Bundibugyo Antibody Responses after Receipt of Licensed Ebola Vaccines](#). Lhomme, E, et al. 22 July 2026
 - Lancet (London, England): [Empirical treatment with valganciclovir in infants living with HIV and hospitalised with severe pneumonia in Africa: a multicentre, open-label, factorial, randomised, controlled, superiority trial](#). Moraleda, C, et al. 17 July 2026
 - Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy: [Population pharmacokinetics of ritonavir-boosted atazanavir in subsequent-line treatment in African children with HIV](#). van Dyk, J, et al. 17 July 2026
 - Microbiology Spectrum: [Rapid detection of treatment-emergent resistance to bedaquiline and pretomanid in Mycobacterium tuberculosis using TM4::GeNL reporter mycobacteriophages](#). Ngema, S L, et al. 16 July 2026
 - PLOS ONE: [Development and qualification of an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay to detect human serum immunoglobulin G reactive to multiple lineages of Lassa virus nucleoprotein](#). Yun H, et al. 2 July 2026
 - Frontiers in Psychiatry: [A systematic review and meta-analysis of diagnostic test accuracy of mental health screening tools applicable to adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa](#). Niyibizi JB, et al. 16 June 2026
 - SSM - Qualitative Research in Health: [Living in the shadows: the persistence of secrecy in young people living with HIV on antiretroviral therapy, a qualitative study of the BREATHER Plus trial](#). Seunanden TC, et al. 25 May 2026
 - The Lancet. HIV: [Efficacy and safety of short-cycle, dolutegravir-based antiretroviral therapy in adolescents living with HIV \(BREATHER Plus\): a multicentre, open-label, randomised, parallel, two-arm, non-inferiority trial](#). Kekitiinwa AR, et al. 7 April 2026
 - AIDS Care: [The role of parents and caregivers in motivating adolescents with HIV to participate in a long-acting injectable ART clinical trial in South Africa and Uganda](#). Makusha T, et al. 17 February 2026
 - Contemporary Clinical Trials: [Trial design and enrolment characteristics of LATA \(Long-Acting Treatment in Adolescents\): A randomised, open-label, non-inferiority, 96-week trial evaluating the virological efficacy, safety, acceptability and quality-of-life of the dual long-acting injectable regimen cabotegravir/ rilpivirine compared to daily oral therapy in virologically suppressed adolescents with HIV-1 infection, aged 12 to <20 years, in Sub-Saharan Africa](#). Anena D, et al. 7 January 2026

Training and funding opportunities

ADVAC: Advanced Course of Vaccinology

The ADVAC 2027 course is open for applications. The 27th edition of the Advanced Vaccinology Course will take place in Annecy, France from 10-27 May 2027. The deadline for applications is 15 November 2026.

EDCTP Prizes 2027

The EDCTP Prizes recognise outstanding individuals and research teams from Africa and Europe for their achievements in global health research and innovation.

Mark your calendar

EDCTP Forum 2027 | 5-9 April 2027

The 13th edition of the EDCTP Forum will take place from 5-9 April 2027 in Madrid, Spain. The EDCTP Forum 2027, under the theme 'Innovating together for resilient global health', will offer researchers, policymakers, funders and implementers the opportunity to showcase their work at a flagship global health event.

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Africa Patient Safety Summary | 16-17 September

Organised by Medicines for Africa in partnership with the African Medicines Agency, the inaugural Africa Patient Safety Summit 2026 (PSS2026) will be held from 16–17 September 2026 in Kigali, Rwanda. PSS2026 is a continental platform that will bring together policymakers, regulators, healthcare professionals, patient organisations, industry leaders and development partners to advance patient safety across Africa.

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5th International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA) | 1-5 November 2026

The 5th International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA 2026) will be held from 1–5 November 2026 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Co-hosted by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and the Government of Ethiopia, this conference will bring together political leaders, policymakers, researchers, innovators, civil society, and youth. Participants will work to define Africa's pathway to stronger, more resilient health systems and to reducing dependence on foreign aid.

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African Bioethics in Practice: Governance and Responsibility | 24-25 November 2026

The Africa Bioethics Conference 2026 (ABC2026) will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 24–25 November 2026 under the theme "African Bioethics in Practice: Governance and Responsibility." It will address research ethics and governance; health systems and clinical ethics; emerging technologies (AI, genomics, digital health); climate, environment and health ethics; and knowledge production and epistemic justice. Abstracts for oral presentations, workshops, posters and story-circle sessions are invited from all stakeholders, with a submission deadline of 31 July 2026.

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