The TB Alliance is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the discovery and development of new, affordable, faster-acting drugs for tuberculosis. Through innovative science and with partners around the globe, we aim to ensure equitable access to faster, better tuberculosis cures that will advance global health and prosperity.

TB is a global epidemic, killing 1.4 million each year and robbing people around the world of health and hope. Since the disease often strikes those in their most productive years, it exacts an insurmountable economic toll on countries, reinforces poverty in the poorest communities, and leaves millions of families economically and physically vulnerable.

We envision a TB-free world. However, we cannot eradicate this global killer without new TB treatments. There have been no new TB drugs in nearly 50 years old and the current therapy is highly inadequate, and growing increasingly resistant to today's available therapies.

When treated with the currently available drugs, TB takes 6-24 months to cure. Long treatment times result in poor adherence, which drives the development of drug resistance, including multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB). Treatment for MDR-TB and XDR-TB is even more complex, toxic, and prohibitively expensive. Therefore, only a small percentage of MDR-TB and XDR-TB patients can access treatment. Less than 10% of MDR-TB patients receive proper care, and of those, 40% of patients still die due to the inadequacy of the medicines.

The global TB epidemic cannot be controlled with today's drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics. Without new and improved TB drugs, the epidemic will continue to worsen, destroying the lives and wellbeing of individuals, communities, and whole countries along the way.

Fighting for Faster, Better TB Cures
The TB Alliance is leading the world's search for better, faster, and simpler TB cures. We engage with stakeholders at every level to perform innovative science and remove barriers in order to catalyze others to contribute science, partnership, advocacy, and resources to ensure new TB drug regimens are discovered, developed, and made available to all those in need.

Until the TB Alliance was established in 2000, the lack of commercial interest in the TB market meant there were no new TB drugs under development—and little hope for a better cure. Since that time, the TB Alliance, working with its partners worldwide, has developed and manages the largest and most promising pipeline of new TB drugs in history. Our portfolio includes the first novel TB drug combination, along with 3 compounds in clinical development, and a robust discovery program – more than 20 active projects in all.

The TB Alliance is a not-for-profit Product Development Partnership (PDP), an organizational model established to accelerate the development of new technologies to fight public health diseases for which market incentives are lacking. As a PDP, the TB Alliance builds partnerships between the public, private, academic, and philanthropic sectors to drive the development of new TB treatments for underserved markets. We combine the unparalleled research and development expertise of our staff with the skills and resources of our highly accomplished network of partners to efficiently leverage the most promising science and partnerships, wherever they are.

Our Commitment to Patients
The TB Alliance can only achieve its mission if new, faster-acting, and better TB cures are adopted, available, and affordable to those that need them. This commitment—we call it our “AAA Mandate” —is our explicit pledge to ensure that any new TB treatments developed will have maximum impact on the global pandemic.

Since its establishment, the TB Alliance has built a formidable understanding of the existing TB treatment landscape. Understanding the landscape into which new TB treatments are to be introduced is critical to developing the best TB drug regimens and ensuring that, once approved, they are quickly adopted by healthcare systems around the globe and used to benefit people suffering from TB.

Multiplying Our Impact
TB is transmitted through the air we breathe, its impact multiplying as it spreads. The average TB patient infects 10-15 others each year before he/she is cured. Each person that develops the disease will lose an average of 30% of their annual income, further perpetuating the poverty cycle whereby TB causes poverty and poverty breeds TB. TB’s resistance to drugs is also amplifying its impact on individuals and health systems. Treating drug-resistant TB takes 3 or 4 times longer than treating drug-sensitive TB and requires exponentially more human and financial resources. The continual evolution of the TB epidemic makes the need for action ever more urgent.

The TB Alliance is working to outpace TB by multiplying our impact—and accelerating the global response to the TB pandemic—through our scientific, strategic, and community-based initiatives.

Innovative science The TB Alliance isn’t just developing drugs, but is revolutionizing TB drug development with new models that dramatically speed testing of innovative treatments and save hundreds
of millions of dollars. The new testing paradigm tests innovative multi-drug regimens, instead of individual drugs. These novel TB regimens show promise to treat both drug-sensitive and drug-resistant disease with the same regimen, dramatically simplifying treatment and facilitating the global scale-up of faster, safer, and affordable treatments for TB.

The TB Alliance partners with public and private organizations to advance the most promising TB cures.

Pharma Partners:
- AstraZeneca
- Bayer
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Novartis
- Sanofi-Aventis
- Johnson & Johnson/Tibotec

Research Institutes:
- Beijing Tuberculosis and Thoracic Tumor Research Institute
- Institute of Materia Medica
- Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences
- Novartis Institute for Tropical Diseases

Academic Partners:
- Johns Hopkins University
- New York Medical College
- University of Auckland
- University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
- Yonsei University

Global partnerships to advance the field The TB Alliance is expanding not only our impact—but that of all TB drug developers—by driving collaboration through the Critical Path to TB Drug Regimens (CPTR) initiative so that the most promising TB drugs are developed together as regimens, regardless of sponsor. Launched in May 2010 by the TB Alliance, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Critical Path Institute, CPTR now includes a broad collaboration of pharmaceutical companies, civil society organizations, and others working together to dramatically accelerate the introduction of impactful new TB drug combinations.

The TB Alliance partners widely with WHO, governments, communities, patients, research-based organizations, other PDPs—and many more groups—to realize efficiencies and generate solutions and resources across the spectrum of global health. In 2011, the TB Alliance helped establish China’s first PDP, the Global Health R&D Center of China (GHRC), which focuses on translational medicine for TB and other diseases. Other partnerships include the Consortium for TB Biomarkers (CTB2), established in partnership with CDC’s TB Trials Consortium and NIAID’s AIDS Clinical Trials Group, to discover biomarkers to streamline the search for new TB drugs and a collaboration with the Drug for Neglected Disease initiative (DNDi) to share TB compounds that show promise for fighting other neglected tropical diseases. Through our Community Engagement programs, the TB Alliance works with people affected directly by TB surrounding our clinical trial sites to empower them with knowledge and skills that accelerate the pace, promise, and capacity of TB research.

Return on investment Our relationships and unmatched expertise in the TB field has made us the partner of choice and an invaluable resource for all those conducting or considering participation in TB drug development. Through this work, we have catalyzed the field, paving the way for our collaborators to deepen their involvement and investment in TB drug development. Today, the total value of the TB Alliance’s drug development programs is more than double our direct investment, which allows funders’ contributions to go further. We also make the most of every donation, with nearly 90% of the funds invested in the TB Alliance dedicated to program services.

Partner with us TB is a global epidemic that impacts every nation, and everybody has a role in combatting this plague. Our portfolio of new drug candidates represents hope to millions of women, children, and families around the world – hope for improved health, prosperity, and opportunity. But making that hope a reality requires your help. Ask the TB Alliance how to join the fight against TB and eradicate this global killer.