



Pacific Islands Tuberculosis Controllers Association (PITCA) Conference

September 10 – 14, 2026 | GUAM

AGENDA

DAY 1 | Thursday, September 10

Grand Ballroom | 7:00 – 8:00 am registration

Time	Session Title & Presenter(s)
7:00 – 8:00	BREAKFAST/REGISTRATION
Opening Ceremony <i>Moderators: Chima Mbakwem, MSHS, PGCFE & Derrick Felix, MPH</i>	
8:00 – 10:55	U.S. National Anthem and Guam Hymn (5 minutes)
	Invocation and Guam Traditional Prayer (5 minutes)
	Cultural Performance (10 minutes)
	Welcoming Remarks (30 minutes) <i>Governor Lourdes Aflague “Lou” Leon Guerrero & Lieutenant Governor Josh Franquez Tenorio</i>
	Opening Remarks (30 minutes) <i>Director of Public Health Theresa C. Arriola, MBA & Congressman James C. Moylan</i>
	Special Remarks (15 minutes) <i>Terence Chorba, MD, DSc; Lisa Chen, MD; Donna Wegener, MA</i>
	U.S. National Anthem and Guam Hymn (5 minutes)
Plenary	
9:40 – 11:00	TB Survivor Experience (10 minutes)
	Keynote: From Control to Elimination of TB: Taiwan’s Experience and Implications for the Pacific Islands (60 minutes) <i>Jann-Yuan Wang, MD, PhD (International Union Against TB & Lung Disease The Union Asia Pacific Region)</i>
	Q&A (5 minutes)
	Benediction (5 minutes)
11:00 – 12:00	LUNCH (60 minutes)
Site Visits	
12:00 – 4:00	Travel to Site Visits (30 minutes)
	Facility Tours (180 minutes) <i>North Clinic, South Clinic, New Lab, Todu Guam Foundation</i>
	Return to Conference (30 minutes)
4:00	ADJOURN



DAY 2 | Friday, September 11, 2026

Grand Ballroom | 7:30 – 8:30 am registration

Time	Session Title & Presenter(s)			
7:30 – 8:30	BREAKFAST/REGISTRATION			
BREAKOUT SESSIONS				
	LABORATORY (Room: TBD)	PROGRAM MANAGERS (Room: TBD)	NURSING & OUTREACH (Room: TBD)	CLINICAL (Room: TBD)
8:30 – 4:00	Full day Laboratory- focused discussion breakout	Full day Programmatic - focused discussion breakout	Full day Nursing- focused discussion breakout	Full day Clinician- focused discussion breakout
4:00	ADJOURN			



DAY 3 | Saturday, September 12

Grand Ballroom | 7:00 – 8:00 am registration

Time	Session Title & Presenter(s)
7:00 – 8:00	BREAKFAST/REGISTRATION
Session 1: Opening Session: Global and Pacific Island Overview	
8:00 – 8:15	Opening Remarks (15 minutes) <i>Governor Lourdes Aflague “Lou” Leon Guerrero & Lieutenant Governor Josh Franquez Tenorio</i>
8:15 – 8:20	Welcome (5 minutes) <i>Chima Mbakwem, MSHS, PGCFE (Guam)</i>
8:20 – 9:20	High-level View of Global TB Activities and Concerns (60 minutes) <i>Guy Marks, MBBS, PhD, FRACP, FAFPHM, GAICD (International Union Against TB & Lung Disease)</i>
9:20 – 9:50	TB Epidemiologic Profile and Vaccine Readiness in the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands (30 minutes) <i>Richard Brostrom, MD, MSPH (CDC)</i>
9:50 – 10:00	TB Survivor Experience (10 minutes)
10:00 – 10:15	Q&A (15 minutes)
10:15 – 10:30	BREAK (15 minutes)
Session 2: Jurisdiction Updates I	
10:30 – 10:50	Guam (20 minutes)
10:50 – 11:10	American Samoa (20 minutes)
11:10 – 11:30	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (20 minutes)
11:30 – 11:45	Q&A (15 minutes)
11:45 – 12:45	LUNCH (60 minutes)
Session 3: Clinical TB Updates	
12:45 – 1:25	LTBI Updates: DX, RX + CY-TB (40 minutes) <i>Lisa Chen, MD (CITC) and Richard Brostrom, MD, MSPH (CDC)</i>
1:25 – 1:55	What’s New in Pediatric TB? (30 minutes) <i>Ben Marais, MBChB, MMed, MRCP, FRACP, PhD (University of Sydney)</i>
1:55 – 2:05	Q&A (10 minutes)
Session 4: Programmatic Hot Topics	
2:05 – 2:25	Tracing the Tide: Aggregated TB Contact Investigation Findings from the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands <i>Smita Ghosh, DrPH, MS (CDC) (20 minutes)</i>
2:25 – 2:55	TB Travel Restrictions for Commercial Air and Maritime Travel (30 minutes) <i>Rhonda Nembhard, MSN (CDC)</i>
2:55 – 3:05	Q&A (10 minutes)
3:05 – 3:35	BREAK & POSTER VIEWING MEET THE AUTHORS (30 minutes)
Session 5: Oral Presentations	
3:35 – 4:10	Oral Poster Presentations & Q&A (35)
4:10	ADJOURN



DAY 4 | Sunday, September 13

Grand Ballroom | 7:30 – 8:30 am registration

Time	Session Title & Presenter(s)
7:30 – 8:30	BREAKFAST/REGISTRATION
8:30 – 8:35	Welcome (5 minutes) <i>Chima Mbakwem, MSHS, PGCFE (Guam) & Terrence Chorba, MD, DSc (CDC)</i>
Session 6: Jurisdiction Updates II	
8:35 – 8:55	Federated States of Micronesia (20 minutes)
8:55 – 9:15	Republic of the Marshall Islands (20 minutes)
9:15 – 9:35	Republic of Palau (20 minutes)
9:35 – 9:50	Q&A (15 minutes)
9:50 – 10:05	BREAK (15 minutes)
Session 7: Special Topics in TB Care	
10:05 – 10:45	TB Inflammatory Response (40 minutes) <i>David Ashkin, MD, FCCP (Florida Department of Health & Southeastern National TB Center)</i>
10:45 – 11:15	No Island Left Behind: Integrating TB-HIV Care (30 minutes) <i>Janice Louie, MD, MPH (San Francisco DPH/UCSF; Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center)</i>
11:15 – 11:45	TBD
11:45 – 12:00	Q&A (15 minutes)
12:00 – 1:00	LUNCH (60 minutes)
Session 8: Laboratory Spotlight	
1:00 – 1:45	WHO New Policy Recommendations for TB Diagnosis Testing (45 minutes)
1:45 – 2:15	Understanding TB Test Results & Clinical Case Scenarios (30 minutes) <i>Amy Woron, PhD (Diagnostic Laboratory Services) & Lea Nisay (Guam)</i>
2:15 – 2:30	Q&A (15 minutes)
1:50 – 2:10	BREAK (20 minutes)
Session 9: TB Treatment: Essential Pieces of the Puzzle	
2:45 – 3:05	REPORT: Access to TB Drugs & Global Drug Facility Initiatives (20 minutes) <i>Donna Wegener, MA (National TB Coalition of America) & Subhash Yadav, MD (Republic of the Marshall Islands)</i>
3:05 – 3:30	Nutrition: Part of a Successful TB Regimen (25 minutes) <i>Cherie Stafford, MSN, MPH, RN (Arizona DHS/Curry International tB)</i>
3:30 – 3:45	Q&A (15 minutes)
3:45 – 3:50	Wrap-up & Weekend Event Closure (5 minutes) <i>Chima Mbakwem, MSHS, PGCFE (Guam) & Terrence Chorba, MD, DSc (CDC)</i>
3:50	ADJOURN



DAY 5 | Monday, September 14, 2026

Grand Ballroom | 7:30 – 8:30 am registration

Time	Session Title & Presenter(s)			
7:30 – 8:30	BREAKFAST/REGISTRATION			
BREAKOUT SESSIONS				
	LABORATORY (Room: TBD)	PROGRAM MANAGERS (Room: TBD)	NURSING & OUTREACH (Room: TBD)	CLINICAL (Room: TBD)
8:30 – 12:00	Half-Day Laboratory- focused discussion breakout	Half-Day Programmatic - focused discussion breakout	Half-Day Nursing- focused discussion breakout	Half-Day Clinician- focused discussion breakout
12:00 – 1:00	LUNCH (60 minutes)			
Session 10: TB Prevention				
1:00 – 1:25	Impacts of Large-Scale TB Screening (25 minutes) Richard Brostrom, MD, MSPH (CDC)			
1:25 – 1:50	Kiribati PEARL Project: Progress to Date (25 minutes) Ben Marais, MBChB, MMed, MRCP, FRACP, PhD (University of Sydney)			
1:50 – 2:05	Q&A (15 minutes)			
2:05 – 2:20	BREAK & POSTER REMOVAL (15 minutes)			
Closing Ceremony Moderators: Chima Mbakwem, MSHS, PGCFE & Derrick Felix, MPH				
2:20 – 2:25	2027 PITCA Conference Announcement (5 minutes)			
2:25 – 2:30	Closing Remarks (5 minutes)			
2:30	ADJOURN			
6:00 – 9:00	Closing Reception			