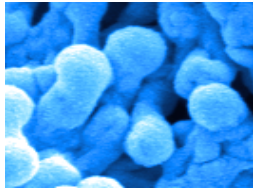




MTBVAC



# IN THE SEARCH OF A NEW TB VACCINE: FROM THE LAB TO THE CLINICAL TRIALS IN ENDEMIC COUNTRIES



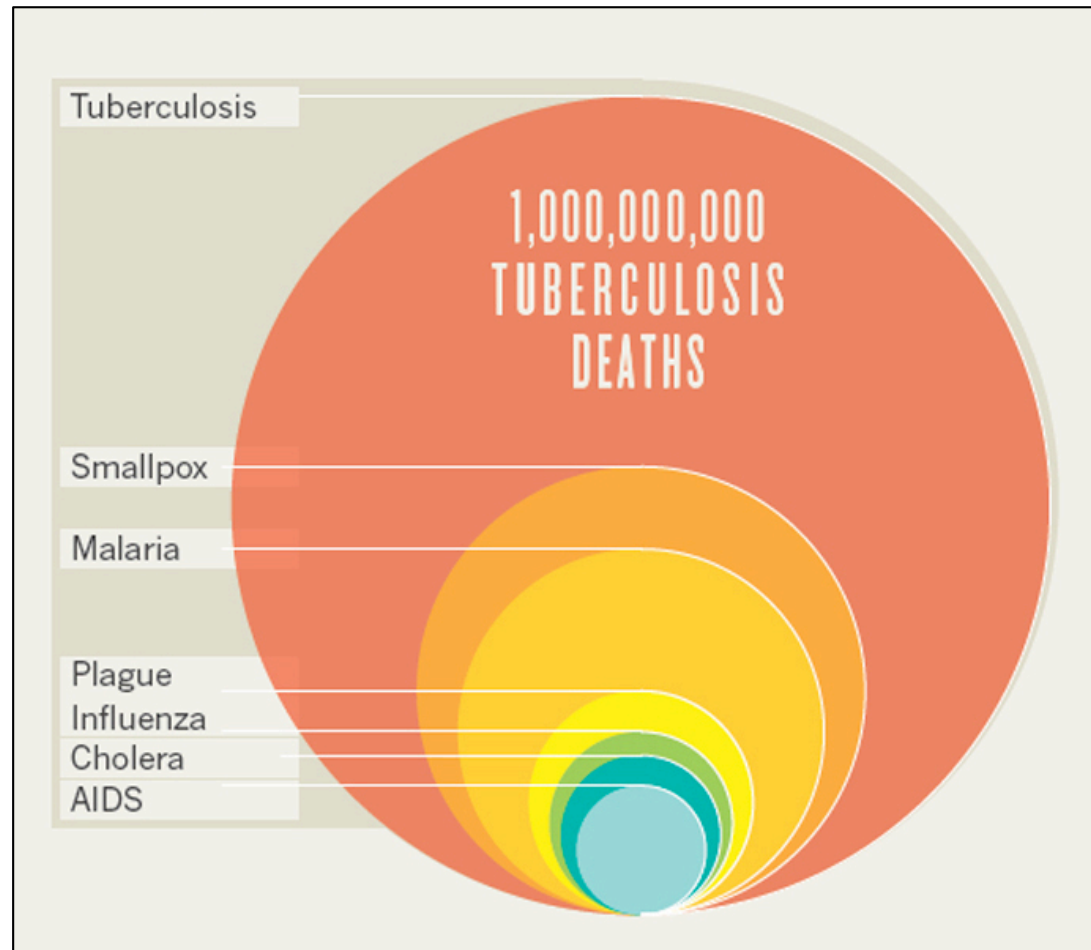
Universidad  
Zaragoza

Carlos Martín  
University of Zaragoza  
[carlos@unizar.es](mailto:carlos@unizar.es)

BIOFABRI



# TUBERCULOSIS THE BIGGEST KILLER



**TB has killed more than any other infectious disease in history.  
Over a billion lives in the past two hundred years**

# WHO GLOBAL TB REPORT 2016

Actions and investments to End TB fall far short

Tuberculosis among top 10 causes of death worldwide last year

Here are the statistics from 2015

**10.4 million** people  
**FELL ILL FROM TB**



That's 28,500 people every day

**1.8 million** people  
**DIED FROM TB**  
including 400,000  
**WITH HIV + TB**

That's over 4,900 people every day

60% of TB cases **worldwide occurred in just SIX COUNTRIES**



More action and investment in these countries will drive down the TB burden



World Health  
Organization

## 3 MILLION LIVES WERE SAVED BY THE GLOBAL TB RESPONSE IN 2015

### ACCESS TO CARE

**6.1 million** people had  
ACCESS TO QUALITY TB CARE

**4.3 million** people  
**MISSED OUT**

Better reporting, diagnosis and  
access to care will close this gap

### DRUG RESISTANCE

**Only 1 in 5** people needing  
treatment for **multidrug-**  
**resistant TB in 2015**  
**ACTUALLY RECEIVED IT**

**Only half** of those who started  
MDR-TB treatment **WERE CURED**

Better detection, prevention  
and cure will address the crisis  
of multidrug-resistant TB



# BCG the present vaccine against tuberculosis

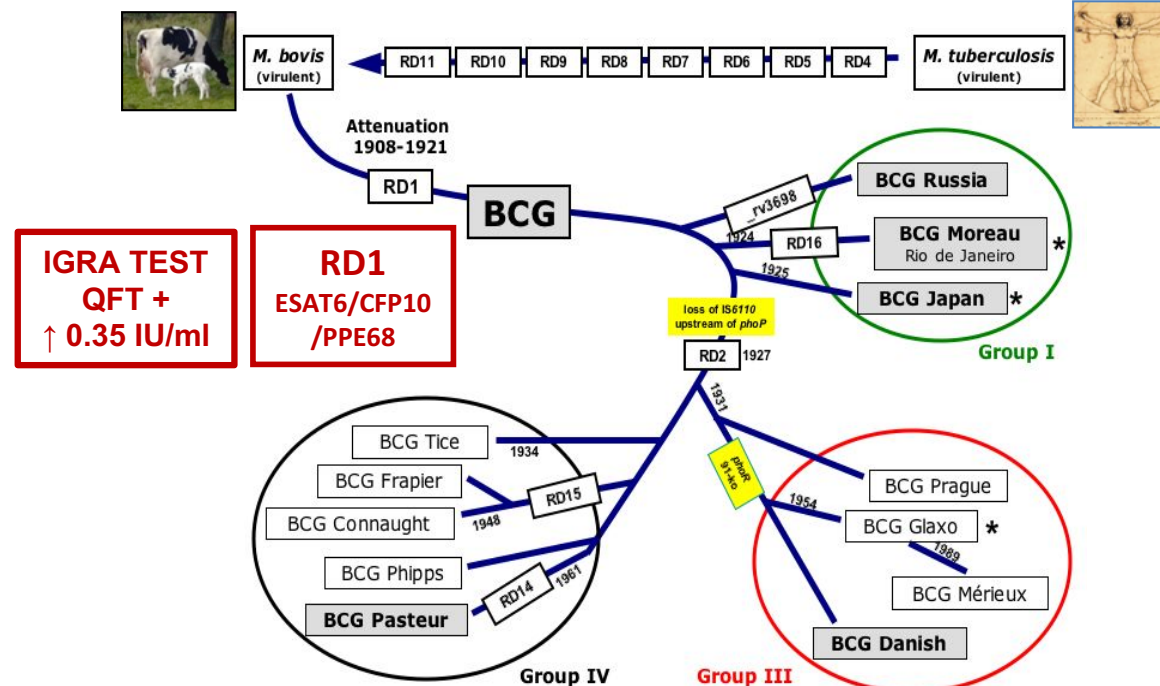
**Albert Calmette**  
(1863–1933)

**Camille Guérin**  
(1872–1961)



*Mycobacterium bovis* 1908-1921  
230 serial passages

This isolate was subsequently distributed to several laboratories in the world and a number of strains developed



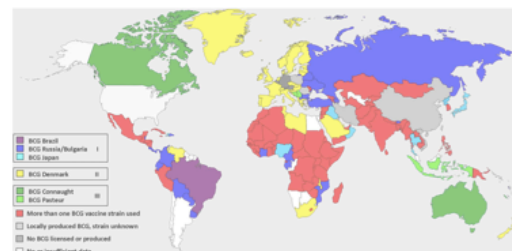
Adapted Brosch et al 2007 PNAS National Academy of Sciences Copyright © 2007

Exper Opin. Biol. Ther. (2008) 8:1-11

Adapted from Brosch et al PNAS 2007

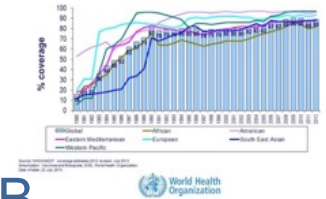
Currently, five main strains account for more than 90% of the vaccines in use worldwide with each strain possessing different characteristics:

- ✓ **BCG Russian BCG-I**
- ✓ **BCG Moreau RDJ**
- ✓ **BCG Tokyo 172-1**
- ✓ **BCG Pasteur 1173 P2**
- ✓ **BCG Danish 1331**





BCG global coverage at birth 89% worldwide



Provides variable protection against respiratory forms of TB

Intradermal administration at birth



Scar after vaccination



### BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF BCG VACCINATION:

1. BCG provides **strong protection against disseminated forms** of the disease.
2. BCG vaccination **reduces all-cause mortality** through beneficial non-specific (heterologous) effects on the immune system.

**A BETTER VACCINE AGAINST RESPIRATORY FORMS TB IS NEEDED**

# TB vaccine research in Europe

## CLINICAL TRIAL:

**EDCTP** (EU)

**AERAS** (Gates Foundation)

**NORAD**/ Gulbenkian

INDUSTRY: GSK, Sanofi

**BIOFABRI**

2015 – 2018

EU H2020 TBVAC2020

2000 – 2004

**Tuberculosis Vaccine Cluster**

EU Framework Programme 5 Integrated Project

2004 – 2013

**TBVAC**

EU FP 6 /FP7 TBVAC/**NEWTBVAC**

Integrated Projects

2000

Present



**TBVI**

TuBerculosis Vaccine Initiative

2007 EU R&D Commission

Supports creation of a separate entity

**TuBerculosis Vaccine Initiative (TBVI)**

**PDT:** Product Development Team

**CDT:** Clinical Development Team



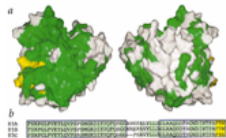
**Jelle Thole**

# SUBUNIT VACCINES → BOOSTING BCG:

## VIRAL VECTOR / NEW ADJUVANTS

**Ag85, ESAT6, Others Antigens** (immunodominant in humans and mice.....)

**Ag 85 A/B/C**

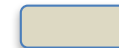


**ESAT6**



**72F GSK**

**Ag85B + Esat6  
TB10.4**



**H1 / H4**

**H1 + Rv2660c**



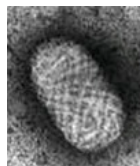
**H56**

## VIRAL VECTOR

**Oxford MVA85A**

**Crucell Ad 35**

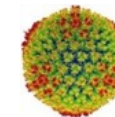
**Mac Master Univ**



**Modified vaccinia Ankara Expressing Ag85A**

**Adenovirus 35 Ag85A, Ag85B, TB10.4**

**Ad5Ag85A**



**Phase 2b Efficacy**

**Phase 2**

**Phase 1**

## ADJUVANTS

**GSK M72/ AS01E**

**SSI H1 + IC31**

**SSI H1 + CAF01**

**SSI H4**

**SSI H56**

**ID93 IDRI**

**Fusion Rv1196/Rv0125**

**Ag85B + Esat6**

**Ag85B + Esat6**

**Ag85B + TB10.4**

**H1 + Rv2660c**

**Rv1813, Rv2608, Rv3619 & Rv3620**

**SO2**

**IC31**

**CAF01**

**IC31**

**IC31**

**GLA-SE**

**Phase 2**

**Phase 2**

**Phase 1**

**Phase 2**

**Phase 2**

**Phase 1**

Lancet. 2013 Mar 23;381(9871):1021-8.

## Safety and efficacy of MVA85A, a new tuberculosis vaccine, in infants previously vaccinated with BCG: a randomised, placebo-controlled phase 2b trial



*Michele D Tameris\**, Mark Hatherill\*, Bernard S Landry, Thomas J Scriba, Margaret Ann Snowden, Stephen Lockhart, Jacqueline E Shea, J Bruce McClain, Gregory D Hussey, Willem A Hanekom, Hassan Mahomed†, Helen McShane†, and the MVA85A 020 Trial Study Team



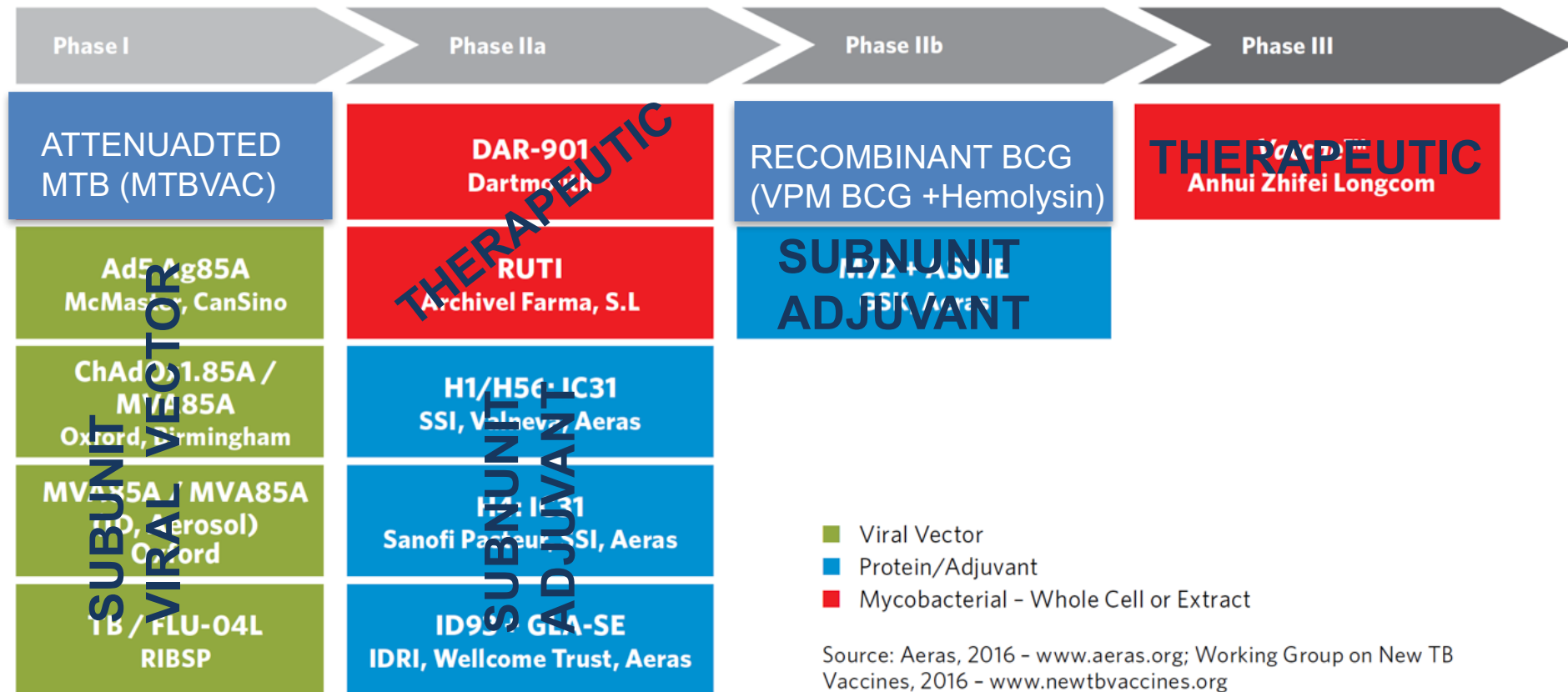
**Methods:** double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled **phase 2b trial**, we enrolled healthy infants (aged 4–6 months) without HIV infection who **had previously received BCG vaccination**. Followed up infants every 3 months for up to 37 months.

**Findings:** Enrolled **2797 infants** (1399 allocated MVA85A and 1398 allocated placebo). **32 (2%)** of **1399 MVA85A** recipients meet primary efficacy point **tuberculosis** as did **39 (3%)** of 1395 controls (**BCG**).

**Interpretation:** absence of MVA85A efficacy against tuberculosis or *M. tuberculosis* infection infants need exploration.



# TUBERCULOSIS VACCINES IN CLINICAL TRIALS



# NATURAL HISTORY OF TUBERCULOSIS

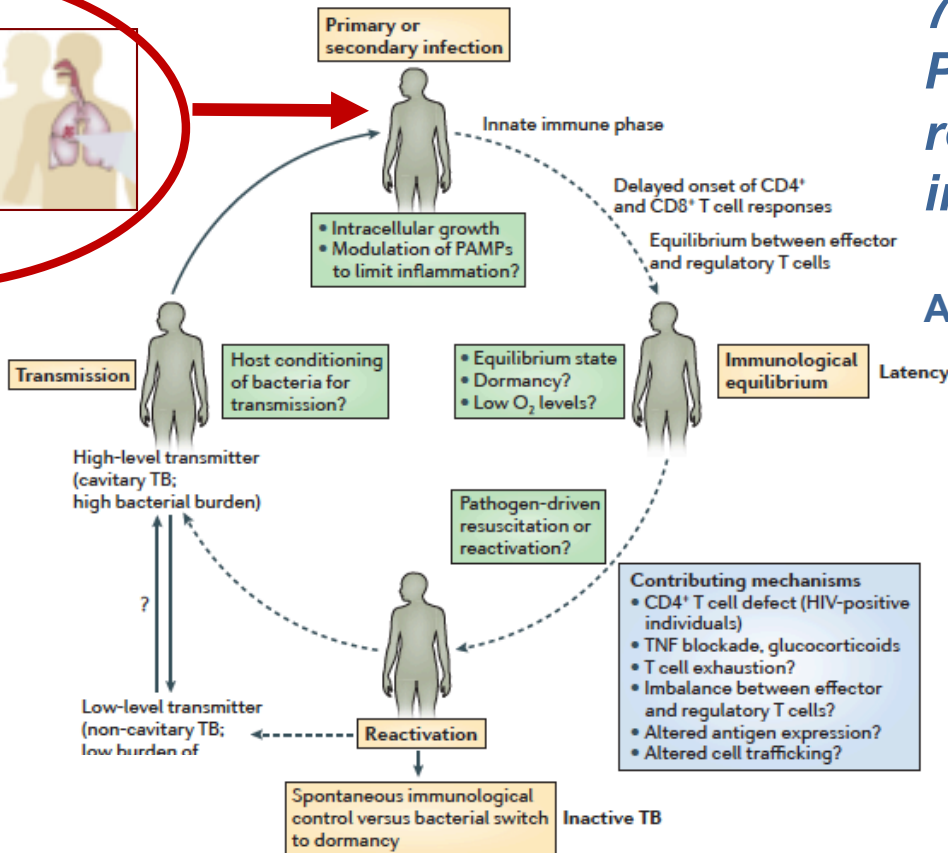
95%  
MTB strains  
Human  
origin



TB DISEASE

HUMAN  
RESERVOIR

MORTALITY 50%  
WITHOUT TREATMENT



*“Individuals with LTBI had 79% lower risk of Progressive TB after reinfection than uninfected individual”*

Andrews et al CI D 2012



TB  
INFECTION

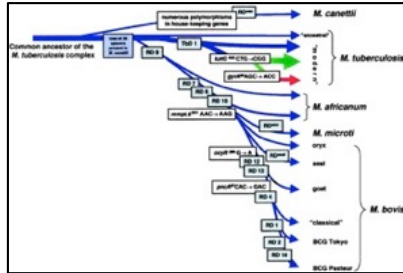
only 5-10%  
will develop  
TB disease

THE STAGES IN THE IMMUNOLOGICAL LIFE CYCLE OF TB

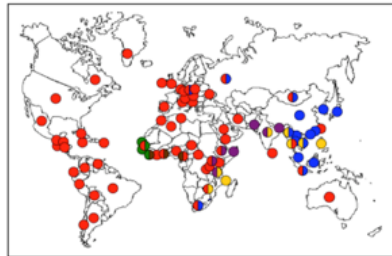


# RATIONALE FOR DEVELOPING MTBVAC

*Fulfilling Pasteur's postulates for attenuated vaccines. Learning from BCG*



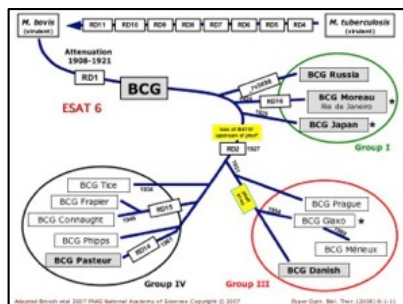
1.- ATTENUATE A PATHOGEN FROM HUMAN ORIGIN



2.- WE SELECTED A WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTED *M. tuberculosis* CLINICAL ISOLATE



3.- WHICH GENE(S) TO INACTIVATE?



4.- AVOID LABORATORY SUBCULTURE



# GENEVA CONSENSUS CRITERIA: CONSTRUCTION OF MTBVAC

## TWO STABLE INDEPENDENT MUTATIONS NO ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE MARKERS





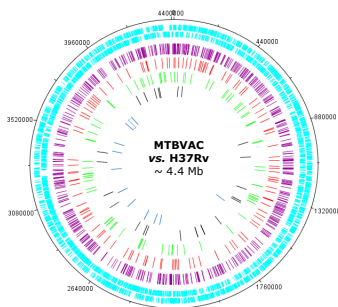
Vaccine

Volume 23, Issue 29, 31 May 2005, Pages 3753-3761



### New live mycobacterial vaccines: the Geneva consensus on essential steps towards clinical development ☆

Arun T. Kamath <sup>a</sup>, Uli Fruth <sup>b</sup>, Michael J. Brennan <sup>c</sup>, Roland Dobbelaer <sup>d</sup>, Peter Hubrechts <sup>e</sup>, Mei Mei Ho <sup>f</sup>, Ronald E. Mayner <sup>g</sup>, Jelle Thole <sup>h</sup>, K. Barry Walker <sup>i</sup>, Margaret Liu <sup>j</sup>, Paul-Henri Lambert <sup>a</sup>  



### MTBVAC



*phoP*

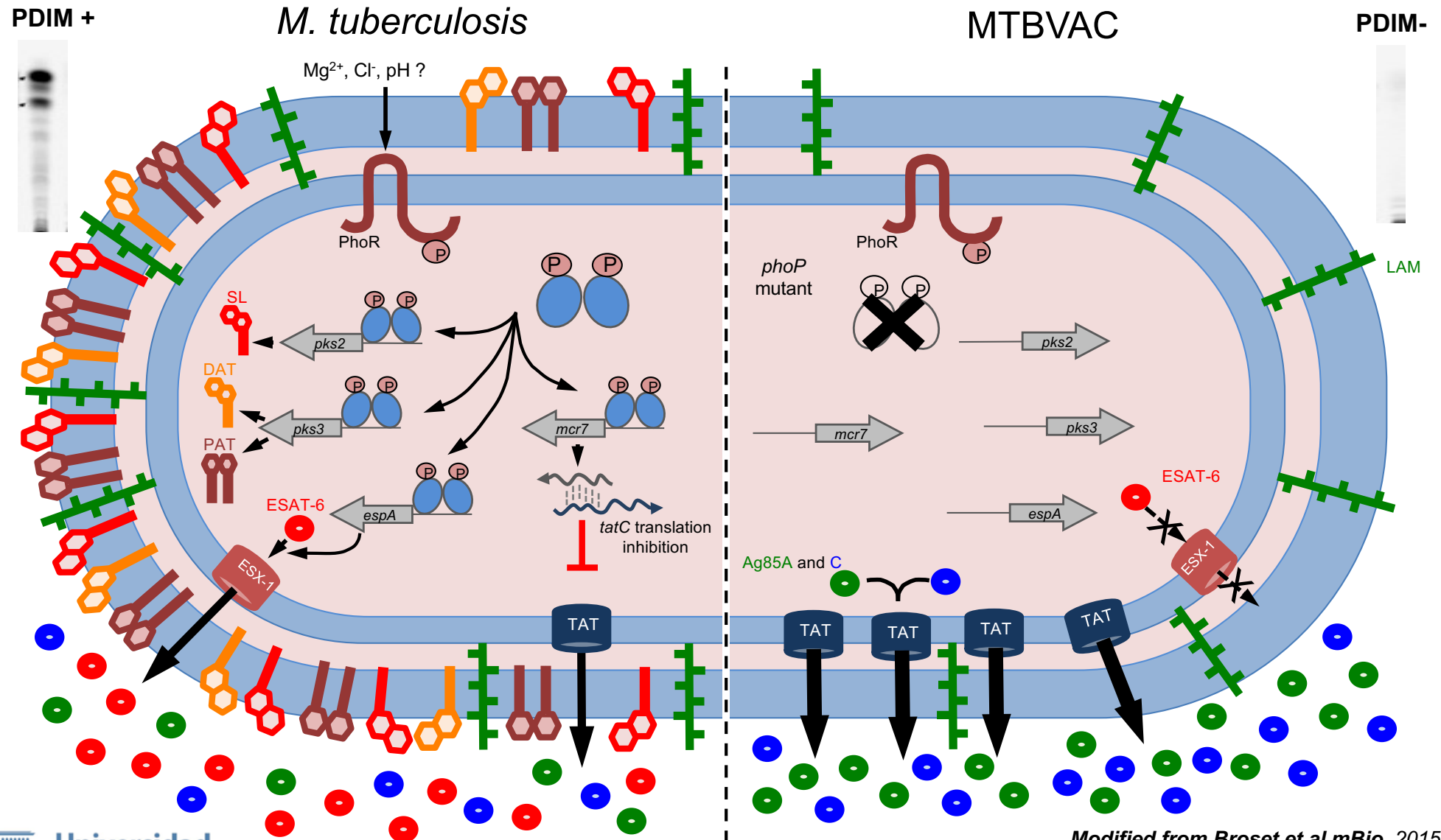
*fadD26*



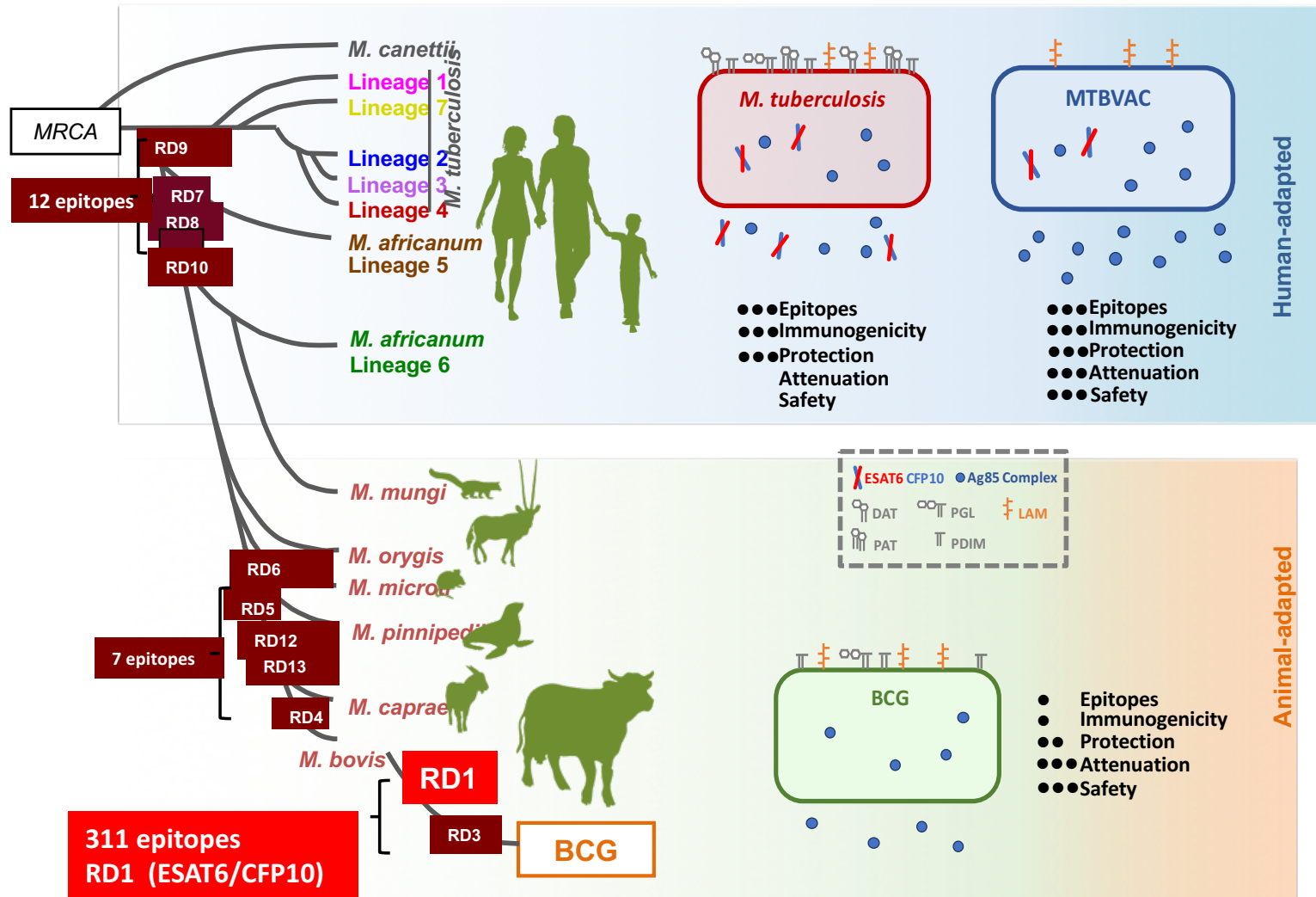
Universidad  
Zaragoza

BIOFABRI

**CONSEQUENCE OF *fadD26* DELETION: loss of virulence factor PDIM**  
**CONSEQUENCE OF *phoP* DELETION: loss of SL, PAT, DAT; impaired ESAT6 SECRETION (*espACD*) and increased secretion of MTB antigens (TAT-C regulation)**



# MTBVAC, 519 MORE EPITOPES THAN BCG WHICH REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 48%

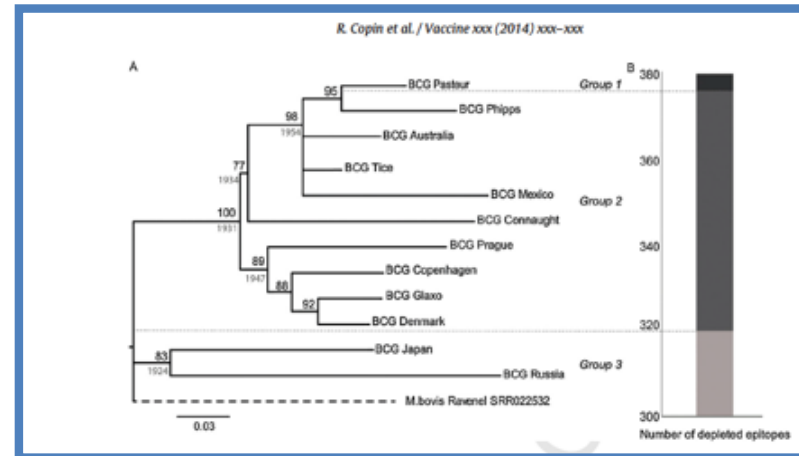


MTBVAC →  
1603 epitopes



BCG →  
1084 epitopes

# BCG Genome: Diminishing of human T-Cell epitopes, which are conserved in MTBVAC



Compared 1.530 human T cell epitopes in BCG with MTBC  
**23% OF THE KNOWN T CELL EPITOPES ARE ABSENT IN BCG (358/1530)**

**Table 1**  
 Classification and characteristics of *M. tuberculosis* T cell antigens absent from BCG strains.

**RD1 region contains most of the epitopes (307/1603 close to the 20%):  
 ESAT6 (98), CFP10 (86) & PPE68 (65)  
 present in MTBVAC and absent in BCG**

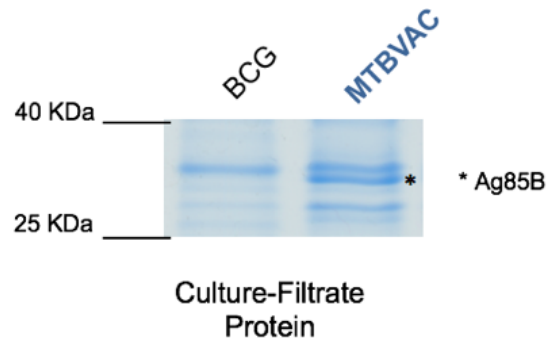
Gonzalo et al unpublished

Rv1986c	hpt64	Immunogenic protein M. tuberculosis	Cell wall and Cell processes	RD2	24
Rv1985c	rv1985c	Probable transcriptional regulatory protein	Regulatory proteins	RD2	23
Rv3878	espj	Hypothetical protein	Cell wall and Cell processes	RD1	17
Rv2653c	rv2653c	phiRv2 prophage protein	Insertion seqs and phages	RD11	12
Rv2654c	rv2654c	phiRv2 prophage protein	Insertion seqs and phages	RD11	6
Rv1979c	rv1979c	Possible conserved permease	Cell wall and Cell processes	RD2	6
Rv1769	rv1769	Hypothetical protein	Conserved hypotheticals	RD14	4

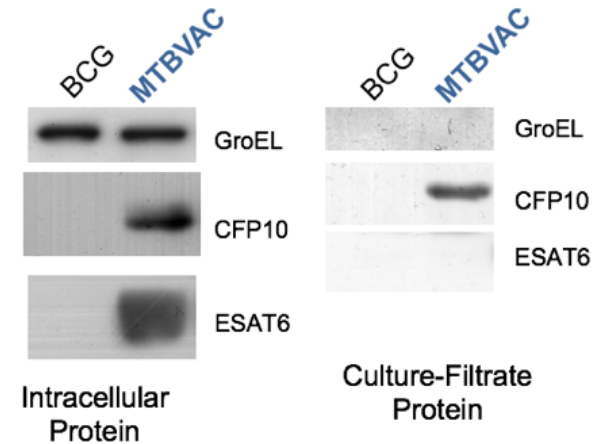
# Improved protection of MTBVAC as compared to BCG is associated with T-cell mediated response to CFP10/ESAT6

**Ag85B:** BCG a polymorphism unstable protein

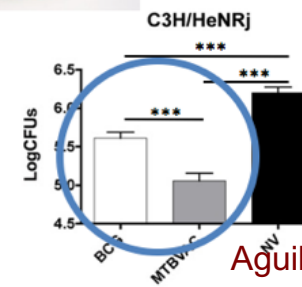
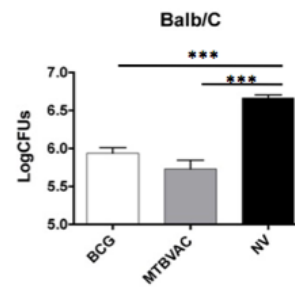
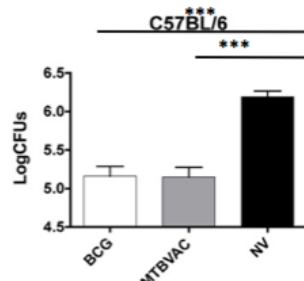
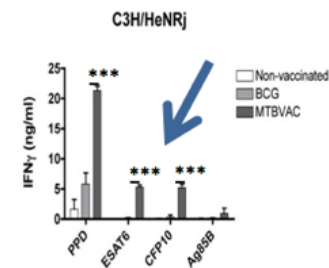
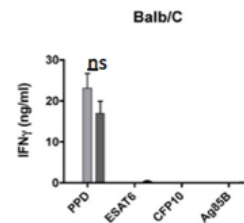
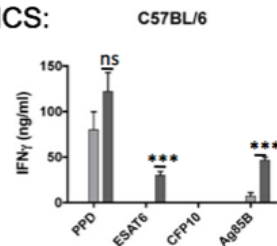
(Copin *et al.* 2014)




**ESAT6/CFP10 present in RD1**




**HOST GENETICS:**



Aguilo *et al* July 2017 Nat Comm

 ***M. tuberculosis***  
**Genetic tools**  
(col Brigitte Gicquel)

1992-2000  
EU FP3/FP4

  
INSTITUT PASTEUR

## ATTENUATION, PROTECTION & IMMUNOGENICITY



## PRECLINICAL & PROOF-OF-CONCEPT STUDIES (2001-2012)

**BIOFABRI**

## GMP DEVELOPMENT OF FREEZE-DRIED MTBVAC (2008-2011)

Original lab strain  
MTBVAC (P0) 2008

Master Seed Lot  
(MSL)

Working Seed Lot  
(WSL)

Final Lot  
(at least 2 clinical lots)



Release of Final  
Product 2011

**PDT: Product Development Team (TBVI)**





# Regulatory requirements for live TB vaccines to enter Phase I trials, in particular those based on attenuated *M. tuberculosis*



ELSEVIER


## Vaccine

Volume 28, Issue 11, 8 March 2010, Pages 2259-2270



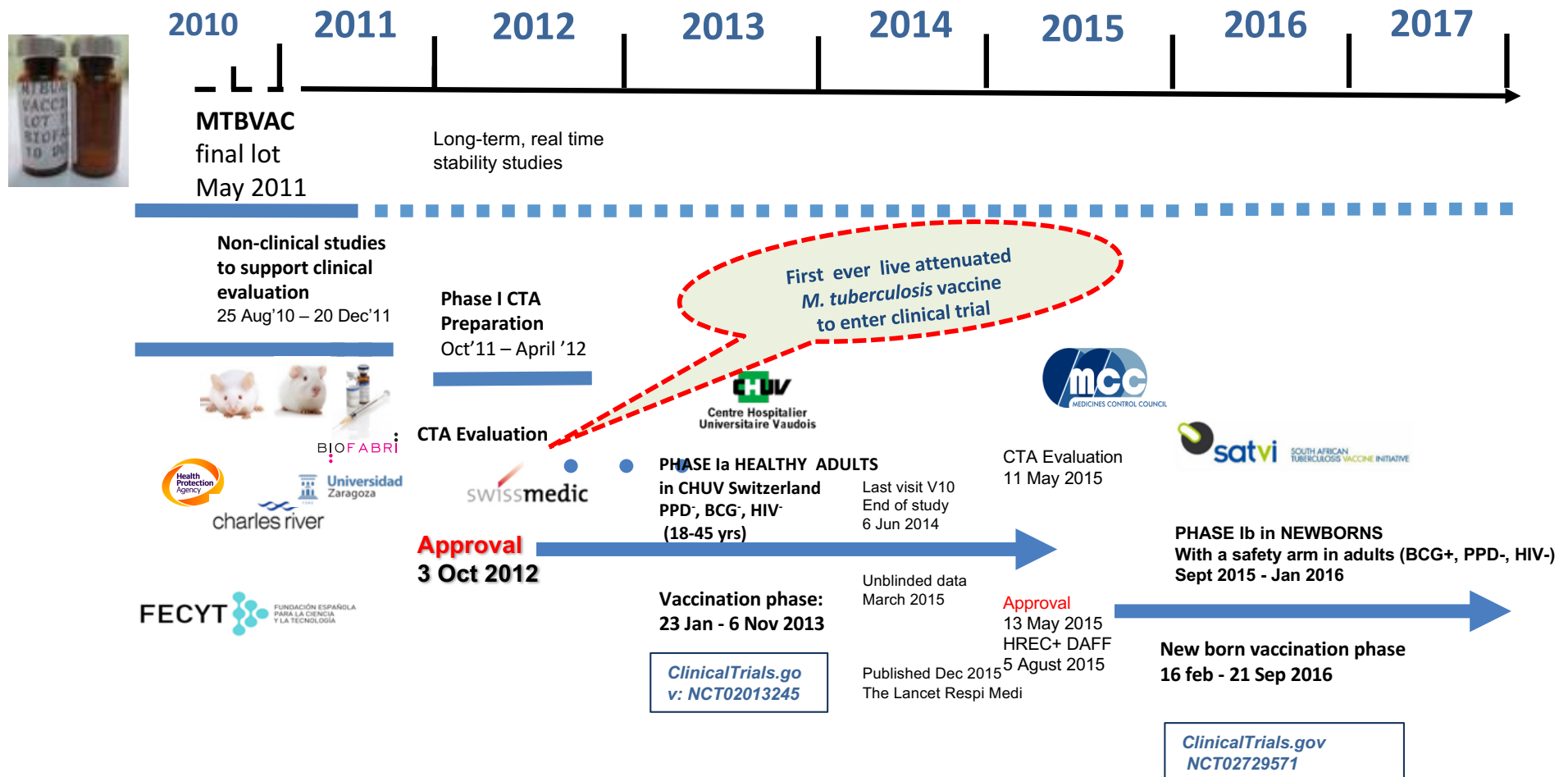
Conference report

### The second Geneva Consensus: Recommendations for novel live TB vaccines ☆

K.B. Walker  , M.J. Brennan, M.M. Ho, J. Eskola, G. Thiry, J. Sadoff, R. Dobbelaer, L. Grode, M.A. Liu <sup>a, b</sup>, U. Fruth, P.H. Lambert

**Criteria for further clinical development from Phase I through to Phase III**

# CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT MTBVAC



# MTBVAC PHASE 1a ADULTS: TRIAL CONCLUSIONS

Phase 1a

## PRIMARY ENDPOINT: SAFETY

ROBUST SAFETY & REACTOGENICITY PROFILE SIMILAR TO BCG

## SECONDARY ENDPOINTS: IMMUNOGENICITY

### Whole Blood Assay: MTBVAC/ BCG stimulation

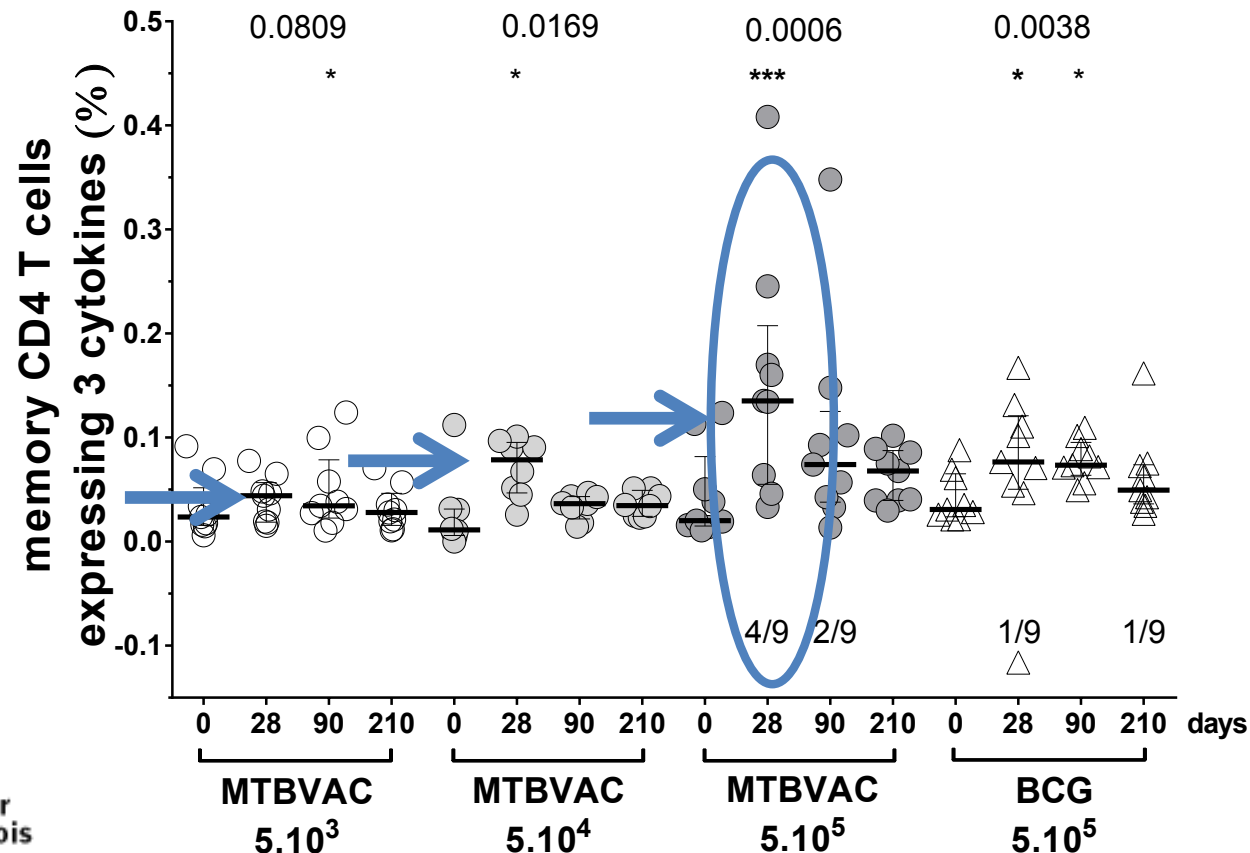
MTBVAC demonstrated promising immunogenic properties with **dose-response dependent induction of polyfunctional CD4 T-cells** expressing at least one cytokine (IFN $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup>, TNF $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup>, IL-2<sup>+</sup>).

**Comparing MTBVAC 5x10<sup>5</sup> group and BCG**, a **greater induction of 3 cytokines<sup>+</sup>** and higher number of responders were observed after MTBVAC vaccination with a **peak at D28**.

**ELISPOT ASSAY ESAT-6/CFP-10** Negative 7 months after MTBVAC immunization.

# WBA 3 CYTOKINES (IFN $\gamma$ , IL2, TNF $\alpha$ ) POLYFUNCTIONAL CD4+ T CELL

## live MTBVAC-specific respons



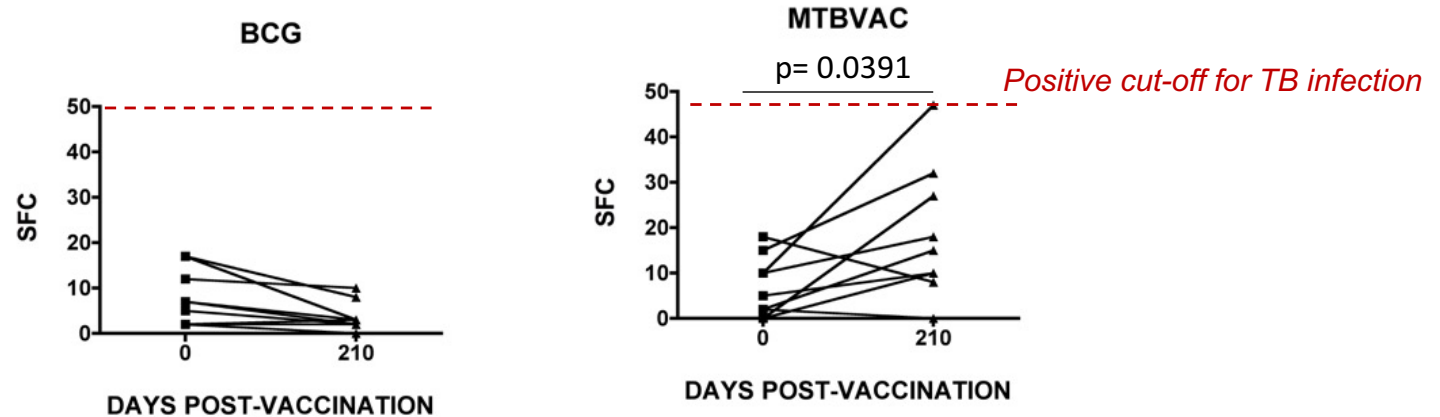
Higher number of responders peak at D28 in MTBVAC 5x10<sup>5</sup> group

Dose-response induction of polyfunctional CD4 T-cells expressing at least one cytokine (IFN $\gamma$ <sup>+</sup>, TNF $\alpha$ <sup>+</sup>, IL-2<sup>+</sup>).

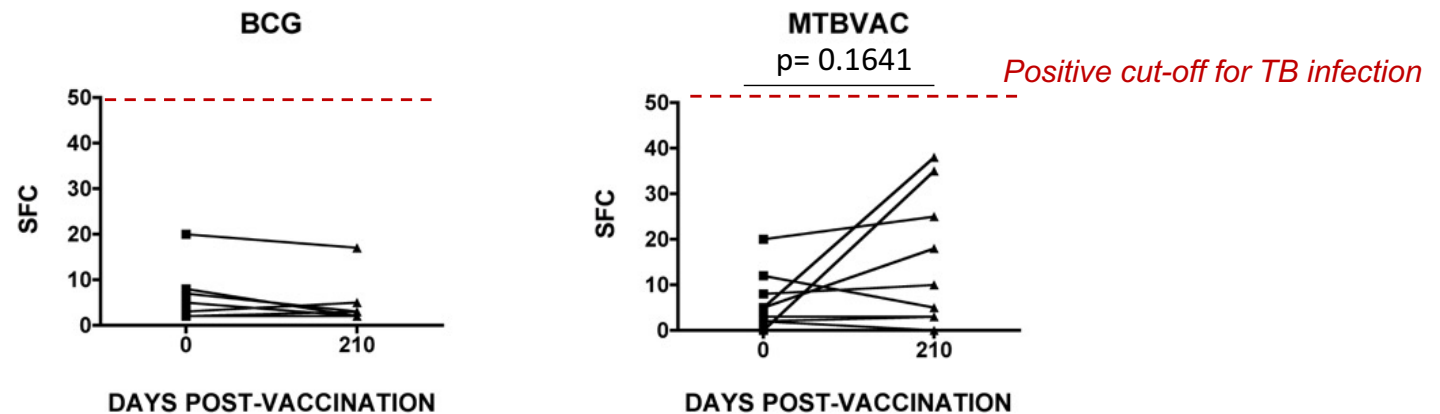
# CFP10 and ESAT6 -specific responses in MTBVAC-vaccinated humans

## MTBVAC Phase 1a Clinical Trial

### CFP10 Elispot



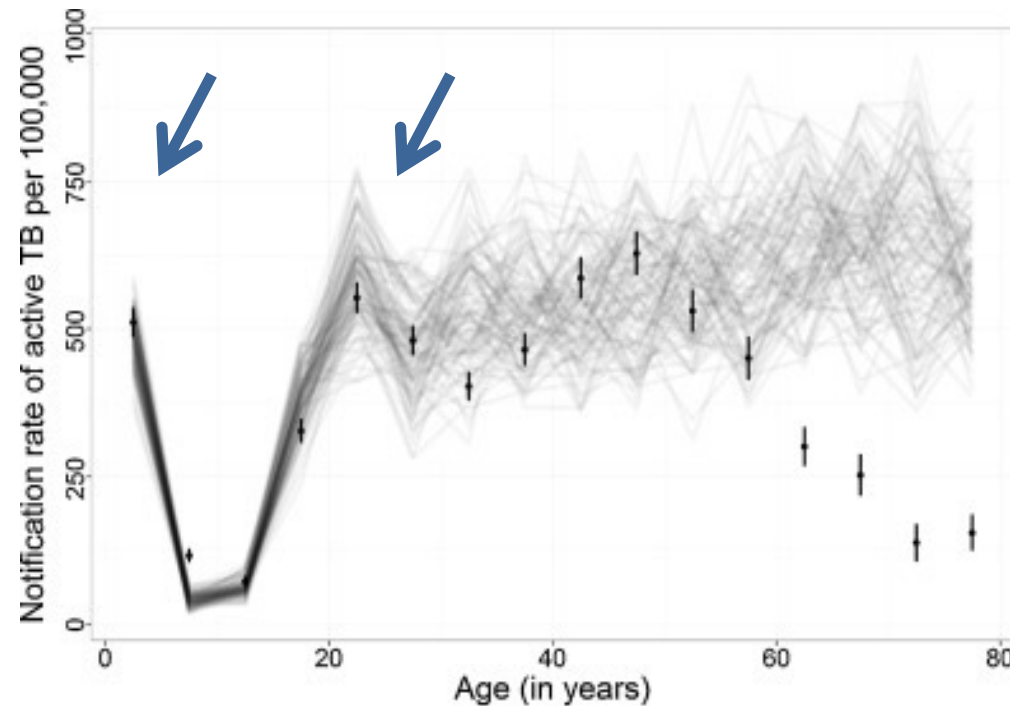
### ESAT6 Elispot



# TB notification rates by age in the HIV-negative in Cape Town

Worcester, 2-3 % TB cases in infants BCG vaccinated (Tameris et al Lancet 2013)

Infants/ Adolescents / Adults



**Tuberculosis in Cape Town: An age-structured transmission model**

Blaser *et al* **Epidemics**, 2016, 14: 54–61



# Rationale for developing MTBVAC in neonates as priming immunisation against TB

---

- **TB incidence remains highest among young children from endemic regions**
  - > 1% in BCG vaccinated children younger than 2-3 years.
- **Neonates represent the only naive age group unsensitized to BCG, MTB or enviromental mycobacteria**
  - Avoid potential “masking” and/or “blocking” effects on vaccine-induced protection or vaccine take
    - (Mangtani *et al* CID 2013, Barreto *et al* Vaccine 2014).
- **MTBVAC, a live-attenuated MTB vaccine with the closest antigenic profile to MTB and as safe as BCG in line with the WHO consensus on live attenuated TB vaccines**



# R&D MTBVAC

---

**Primary objective: Develop MTBVAC as a vaccine for newborns as BCG replacement**

Secondary objective: Explore MTBVAC as vaccine in adolescents and adults have received previous BCG vaccination, with and without LTBI

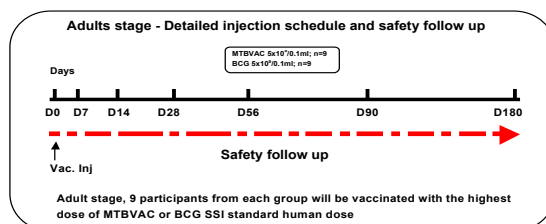
# Phase 1b Dose-escalation Safety and Immunogenicity Study to Compare MTBVAC to BCG in Newborns in a TB endemic region

Phase 1b

BIOFABRI

## SAFETY ARM IN ADULTS WITH HIGHEST DOSE MTBVAC PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED WITH BCG

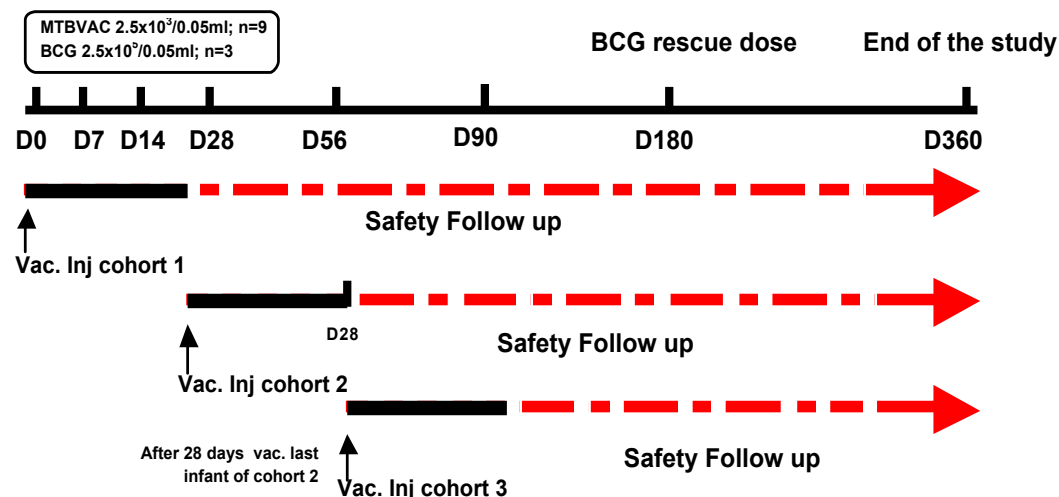
Sept 2015



PI Dr. Michele Tameris

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02729571

## Infant stage - Global injection schedule and safety follow up



DSMB GO/NO  
GO TO NEWBORNS  
Sept 2015- January 2016



Newborn vaccination phase  
16 feb - 21 Sep 2016-  
ONE YEAR FOLLOW SEPT 2017

## Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB).

Prof. Paul-Henri Lambert, UNIGE, CH (Chair)  
Dr. Hassan Mahomed, Cape Town, SA  
Dr. François Spertini, U Lausanne, CH  
Dr. Brian Eley, University Cape Town, SA



Medical Adviser : Dr. Federico Martinon



# MTBVAC Dose-Defining Safety and Immunogenicity Study in Newborns in a TB endemic region

Phase 2a



## VACCINATION AT BIRTH (NEONATES):

**Dose-Defining Safety and Immunogenicity Study and Capacity Building to Support Vaccine Efficacy Trials in TB-Endemic Regions of Sub-Saharan Africa.**  
**PI Michel Tameris**

## DOSE SELECTION Safety, Reactogenicity and Immunogenicity



## PARTICIPANTS

**Biofabri / Spain / Coordinator Ingrid Murillo**

**TuBerculosis Vaccine Initiative (TBVI) / Netherlands**

**Universidad de Zaragoza / Spain**

**University of Cape Town (UCT) / South Africa**

**Centre de Recherche Biomedicale e Espoir Pour La Santé (BRC-EPLS)/ Senegal**

**Institut Pasteur de Madagascar (IPM)/ Madagascar**



# MTBVAC Adolescents / Adults

Phase 2a

CDMRP  
2017



## Re-VACCINATION IN ADOLESCENTS / ADULTS

Randomized, Double-blind, Active-controlled, Safety, Immunogenicity, and Dose-escalation Study in **Adults with and without Latent Tuberculosis Infection in South Africa.**

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT02933281

Coordinator Ann Ginsberg



PI Mark Hatherill



## PARTICIPANTS:

Biofabri / Spain

TuBerculosis Vaccine Initiative (TBVI)

University of CapeTown (UCT)

Universidad de Zaragoza





# A New TUBERCULOSIS VACCINE:

## LIVE VACCINES

(Huge experience  
in the production, distribution  
and use of BCG)

**Safer / Better  
than BCG**





**CNRS Toulouse (FR)**

Christophe Guilhot  
Wladimir Malaga

**Hea**

Ann Haworth  
Simon Clark

**Universidad Autónoma de México (MX)**

Rogelio Hernandez Pando

**Univerity Sidney (AU)**

James Triccas  
Warwick Britton



INSTITUT PASTEUR

**Institut Pasteur Paris (FR)**

Roland Brosch



Universidad  
Zaragoza

**TBVI (NL)**

Jelle Thole

**Mc Gill University (CA)**

Marcel Behr  
Serge Mostowy

**EPFL (CH)**

Stewart Cole

**Biomedical Primate  
Research Center (NL)**

Frank Verreck

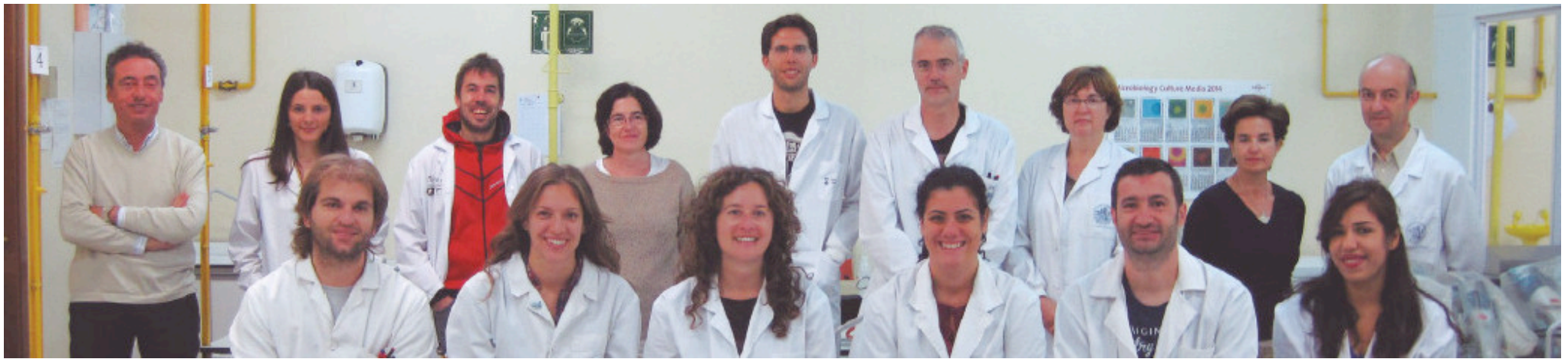
**Unitat de Tuberculosi  
Experimental HUGTP (ES)**

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Olga Gil  
Cristina Vilaplana  
Vicente Ausina

**Universidad Autónoma  
de Madrid (ES)**

María Jesús García  
Carmen Menéndez





Esther Pérez

Clara Aguilar

Ignacio Aguiló

**José Antonio Aínsa\***

Esther Broset

Carmen Arnal

Alberto Cebollada

Ana Belén Gómez

Jesús Gonzalo

Begoña Gracia

Daniel Ibarz Bosque

**M<sup>a</sup> José Iglesias Gozalo\***

Carmen Lafoz

Carlos Lampreave

Ainhoa Lucia

Elena Mata

Dessi Marinova

Isabel Ota\*

Irene Pérez

Ana Pico

**Sofía Samper\***

Luis Solans

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Raquel Tarancón

## **Microbiología Clínica**

M<sup>a</sup> José Revillo Pinilla

Asunción Vitoria



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### **Grupo de Apoptosis, Inmunidad y Cancer**

Alberto Anel

Julian Pardo

### **Centro de Encefalopatías y Enfermedades Emergentes**

Marta Monzón

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\* IP coordinadores de línea

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Dr. Micha Roumiantzeff  
Dr. Barry Walker  
Dr. Mei Mei Ho  
Dr. Eddy Rommel



### TBVI CDT

#### Dr Jelle Thole

Dr Bernard Fritzell  
Dr. François Spertini  
Dr. Luc Hessel  
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Dr. Eugenia Puentes  
Dr. Alberto Parra  
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