

DRAFT

3.2.4.1 Biology/Targets subgroup

Objectives:

The primary purpose of the Biology/Targets subgroup is to exchange and to distil information to improve decision making for target selection and treatment strategies of Mtb and to help build a global vision for TB drug development. By promoting the transparency of multiple organizations, the subgroup will provide centralized, relatively open-access website to drive innovation, create opportunities for global synergy, and to facilitate recommendations in a timely manner. This process will be driven by:

- Maintaining an active subgroup that meets regularly by having telephone conference calls and face to face meetings to define specific time-bound goals and action items
 - Facilitate data sharing and information gathering and regularly updating a member-accessible subgroup calendar
 - Generating a master list of Mtb targets and/or group projects (i.e. database of all known drug targets, including the status of research activities) and maintaining the succinct master list, including group projects that are no longer active (and why) as well as projects under priority consideration
 - Define parameters for selection of specific targets, propose targets from specific pathways learned from Mtb biology, define metrics for drug-ability of targets and prioritize targets that are most likely to shorten therapy, target persistent, latency, as well as MDR/XDR isolates, and work in synergy with drug candidates and existing drugs
- Identifying challenges and unmet needs in new targets and Mtb biology
 - Solicit ongoing feedback on specific biological/target that are not being adequately addressed including operational challenges
 - Promote understanding of Mtb and human immunologic and metabolic relationships to map out new strategies for Mtb drug therapeutics and to seek new ways of optimizing the contribution of the immune system.
 - Identifying resources and opportunities for funding to support progression of Mtb targets
- Providing a foundation in the overall WGND strategy and in the global Mtb community
 - Define resources available to facilitate target based drug discovery and improving compound penetration of Mtb for efficacy
 - Increase visibility and help drive global policy development
 - Provide clear direction and illustrate opportunities by drafting white papers, presentations and review articles to inspire interest and to accelerate drug discovery