



News of the Month

January 2025

In this month you can expect



Editors Choice

HBV, HCV and HIV among inmates in Latin America and the Caribbean

[Read full Paper](#)



Global Health in 2024

A Year of Progress, Challenges, and Transformations

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Recent Publications

World Malaria Report 2024

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Global Career and Funding Opportunities

Numerous funding and career opportunities available this month for applicants

[Grant / Career Opportunities](#)



Upcoming Events



ECTMIH2025



Digital

Numerous events scheduled this month for health and research professionals

ECTMIH 2025 - January News

Highlights from the Community Skin Health Journal, 2024

See the full list of all upcoming Events

ECTMIH

Jump to Digital Content



Upcoming FESTMIH Initiatives

Quarterly Newsletter

We are thrilled to announce the second edition of the **FESTMIH Quarterly Newsletter**, set to be released at the end of March 2025. This edition continues to provide a platform for the global health community to share insights, projects, and ideas inspired by **UN International Days observed in Q2 2025**.

Reflections on the Previous Newsletter

The inaugural edition of the FESTMIH Quarterly Newsletter, published in Q4 2024, was a great success. It focused on themes from **UN International Days in Q1** and provided thought-provoking content that resonated across the global health community.

Highlights from the First Edition:

International Day of Neglected Tropical Diseases (January 30)

This article emphasized the critical need for collaborative action against NTDs. It highlighted the **WHO NTD Road Map 2021–2030** and showcased success stories of community-led initiatives, inspiring readers with examples of how education and advocacy can drive change in underserved areas.

International Day of Women and Girls in Science (February 11)

The article celebrated the contributions of women in STEM fields, sharing inspiring stories of trailblazing scientists and their journey to success. It also called for continued efforts to foster inclusivity and mentorship in science and research, encouraging readers to reflect on how they can support gender equity in their fields.

These stories not only informed but also inspired creativity and participation, sparking a strong sense of community engagement.

Themes for the Second Edition

In the upcoming newsletter, we invite contributions aligned with the following **UN International Days** in Q2 2025:

- **World Chagas Disease Day** (April 14)
- **World Immunization Week** (April 22–28)
- **World Malaria Day** (April 25)
- **World No Tobacco Day** (May 31)
- **World Blood Donor Day** (June 14)
- **World Day Against Child Labour** (June 12)

- **World Refugee Day** (June 20)
- **International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking** (June 26)

Contributors are encouraged to approach these themes creatively. Whether it's sharing research, case studies, or advocacy projects, we welcome diverse perspectives and innovative ideas. **Submissions on other UN International Days observed in Q2 are also welcome**, providing contributors with the flexibility to explore a wide range of topics.

Call for Contributions

FESTMIH invites **working groups, researchers, and professionals** to submit their articles and ideas by **February 28, 2025**. If you're looking for inspiration, the **previous newsletter** serves as an excellent resource, showcasing impactful initiatives and creative storytelling. You can download it [here](#).

Why Participate?

The newsletter is a valuable platform to:

- **Share your work:** Showcase your projects and ideas to a global audience.
- **Collaborate:** Connect with peers and organizations working on similar topics.
- **Raise awareness:** Highlight pressing global health issues and your efforts to address them.

Get Involved

We are excited to see your contributions and ideas, which will help make the second edition as impactful and engaging as the first. For submission guidelines or further inquiries, please contact us at this [email](#). Let's build on the success of the previous newsletter and continue driving innovation and collaboration within the global health community!

UN's List

FESTMIH Webinar

**Infectious Diseases in Visiting Friends and Relatives (VFRs) -
*Where Migration, Public Health, and Travel Medicine Intersect***

Date: 19. February 2025 at 6:00 pm



Francesca Norman



Francesco Castelli



Günter Fröschl

This session, chaired by Miriam Navarro (Spain) and Michele Spinicci (Italy), explores the intersection of infectious diseases and travel medicine among individuals visiting friends and relatives abroad (VFRs).

The program includes:

- **Introduction (10 minutes)**
- **Lectures (20 minutes each):**
 - *People Visiting Friends and Relatives: Aspects in Pre-Travel Medicine* by Günter Fröschl (Germany)
 - *Travel-Related Infections Among VFRs* by Francesco Castelli (Italy)
 - *VFRs and Arbovirolosis: Challenges in Europe* by Francesca Norman (Spain)

The session concludes with a **20-minute discussion**, providing an opportunity for dialogue on key public health challenges and strategies to improve care and prevention for VFR populations.

Please note that there is no charge for this course. CME credits have been applied for.

[Register here](#)

Editors Choice

HBV, HCV and HIV among inmates in Latin America and the Caribbean:

A systematic review and meta-analysis

A comprehensive **systematic review and meta-analysis**, published in *Tropical Medicine & International Health*, examines the prevalence of **Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)**, **Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)**, and **Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)** among inmates in **Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)**. This landmark study highlights the severe health challenges faced by incarcerated populations, offering critical insights for public health policy and interventions.

Key Findings

- **79 studies** analyzed data from over **230,000 inmates**, making this one of the most detailed studies of its kind.
- The study revealed that **HBV, HCV, and HIV are widespread among inmates in LAC**, reflecting significant public health concerns.
- **Risk factors** for infection included:
 - **Previous incarceration**, which increases exposure to unsafe conditions.
 - **Unsafe sexual practices** and lack of access to condoms.
 - **Drug use**, particularly through shared needles.
 - **Extended prison stays**, increasing exposure to transmission risks.

Regional Challenges

- Prisons in **LAC are characterized by overcrowding**, inadequate healthcare, and high-risk behaviors, creating an environment where infections spread rapidly.
- **Brazil**, which accounts for over **60% of the studies**, reported some of the highest infection rates, underscoring the urgency for interventions in countries with large incarcerated populations.
- **Women inmates**, although a smaller proportion of the population, also face high rates of HIV and other infections, necessitating gender-specific health policies.

Health Implications

The study underscores the need for urgent interventions to address health inequities in correctional facilities:

1. **Routine Testing:** Regular screening for HBV, HCV, and HIV is vital to early detection and containment.
2. **Treatment Access:** Providing antiviral therapies for those infected can prevent complications and reduce transmission.
3. **Prevention Programs:**
 - **HBV vaccination** to reduce new cases.
 - Distribution of **condoms** and **harm reduction tools**, such as clean needles.
4. **Education and Counseling:** Empower inmates with knowledge about prevention and self-care.

Call to Action

This review is a **call for public health integration in prison systems**, urging policymakers and health professionals to:

- **Prioritize healthcare in prisons** as part of national public health strategies.
- Address systemic barriers, such as funding gaps and stigma, that hinder effective healthcare delivery.
- Recognize the role of **prison health in broader community health**, as many inmates return to their communities post-incarceration.

Why It Matters

The findings reflect broader global health disparities:

- **Incarcerated populations are disproportionately affected by infectious diseases**, often due to social and structural neglect.
- Interventions in prisons can have **far-reaching impacts** on public health, reducing community transmission and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations.

[Full Article](#)

Global Health in 2024.



A Year of Progress, Challenges, and Transformations

The World Health Organization (WHO) marked 2024 as a pivotal year in global health. From significant strides in disease elimination to tackling the increasing burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), the year encapsulated both breakthroughs and persistent challenges. As the global community looks forward to a healthier and more equitable future, the milestones of 2024 offer a foundation for continued action.

1. Disease Elimination: A Global Victory

Eliminating diseases not only improves health outcomes but also enhances socioeconomic conditions. In 2024, several nations achieved remarkable milestones in this endeavor:

- **Seven Countries:** Brazil, Chad, India, Jordan, Pakistan, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam eliminated neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) such as trachoma, lymphatic filariasis, and human African trypanosomiasis.
- **Malaria Eradication:** Egypt was declared malaria-free, while Cabo Verde joined the ranks of malaria-free nations.
- **Maternal and Neonatal Health:** Guinea eradicated maternal and neonatal tetanus, and Belize, Jamaica, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines eliminated mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis.
- **Immunization Efforts:** The Americas were reverified as measles-free, and new vaccines for malaria, meningitis, and HPV were introduced in 17 countries, underscoring the importance of immunization programs.

These achievements highlight the critical role of sustained partnerships, robust health systems, and targeted public health interventions.

2. The Growing Burden of Noncommunicable Diseases

NCDs, including heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and respiratory conditions, remain the leading cause of death globally. Key developments in 2024 include:

- **Tobacco Use Reduction:** The WHO Global Report on Trends in Tobacco Use 2000–2030 revealed a decline in global tobacco users, from 1 in 3 in 2000 to 1 in 5 in 2022. However, alarming rates of tobacco use among adolescents signal the need for stronger policies.
- **Physical Inactivity:** Nearly 1.8 billion adults face health risks due to insufficient physical activity, demanding innovative and inclusive approaches to promote healthier lifestyles.
- **Diabetes and Obesity:** A sharp rise in obesity has pushed the global diabetic population to over 800 million, reflecting the urgency of addressing diet and lifestyle factors.
- **Substance Use:** Alcohol and drug-related deaths remain a pressing issue, with 3.2 million fatalities annually. WHO called for improved prevention, treatment, and policy frameworks.

The Fourth High-level UN Meeting on NCDs, scheduled for 2025, aims to accelerate the global response to these challenges and align health systems with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3. Climate and Health: The Fight Against Antimicrobial Resistance and

Climate Change

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and climate change emerged as central themes in 2024:

- **AMR:** A global declaration sought to reduce deaths from drug-resistant bacteria by 10% by 2030, emphasizing the need for innovation and equitable access to antibiotics.
- **Climate Resilience:** A WHO resolution highlighted the profound health risks posed by climate change, urging countries to integrate health considerations into climate policies.

These initiatives reflect a growing recognition of the interconnectedness of environmental, human, and animal health under the One Health framework.

4. Strengthening Global Health Security

Global health security advanced through two major frameworks:

1. **International Health Regulations (IHR) Amendments:** New definitions and mechanisms aim to improve pandemic preparedness and international collaboration.
2. **Proposed Pandemic Agreement:** Member States extended negotiations on this critical instrument to address future pandemics effectively.

In addition, WHO responded to multiple emergencies, from the ongoing mpox outbreak to crises in Gaza and Sudan, showcasing the need for robust emergency response mechanisms.

5. Addressing Misinformation: A New Frontier

In an era of rampant misinformation, WHO intensified efforts to combat health-related falsehoods. Public trust in science and evidence-based policies is essential for health interventions to succeed. WHO called for coordinated action from governments, health agencies, and the private sector to counteract the damaging effects of fake news.

6. Universal Health Coverage and Equity

WHO's **Transformation Agenda**, aligned with the Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW14), focused on empowering country offices and strengthening health systems. Key actions included:

- Enhancing operational efficiency and partnerships.
- Supporting Member States in achieving universal health coverage (UHC).
- Addressing health inequities, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

7. Celebrating 50 Years of Expanded Immunization

Since its launch in 1974, the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) has saved an estimated 154 million lives. In 2024, 84% of infants globally received essential vaccines, highlighting immunization as the most impactful health intervention.

[More Information](#)

Recent Publications

World Malaria Report 2024: Addressing the Global Burden of Malaria



The **World Malaria Report 2024**, published by the WHO, emphasizes the urgent need for reinvigorated global efforts to tackle the rising burden of malaria. In 2023, an estimated **263 million cases** of malaria occurred globally, reflecting an increase of 11 million cases from the previous year. The incidence rate rose to 60.4 cases per 1,000 at-risk population, with the **WHO African Region** bearing the brunt of the disease burden, accounting for 94% of global cases. Key contributors include Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Mozambique.

Key Highlights:

- **Top Five Burden Countries:** Nigeria (26% of global cases), followed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (13%), Uganda (5%), Ethiopia (4%), and Mozambique (4%).
- **Deaths:** Malaria caused 597,000 deaths globally in 2023, showing a steady decrease from previous years, although challenges persist in meeting reduction milestones.
- **Progress and Challenges:** The WHO's "Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016–2030" sets ambitious targets for reduction in cases and mortality, yet many regions remain off track due to barriers like inequity, conflict, and climate variability.

The report underscores the need for tailored interventions, enhanced funding, and equitable access to prevention, treatment, and care. For detailed insights and data trends, refer to the full report.

[Full Report](#)

Global Career and Funding Opportunities

The VALIDATE Network - Vaccine development for complex intracellular neglected pathogens



The **VALIDATE Network** has officially launched the **Round 5 VALIDATE Fellowships**, a program aimed at advancing vaccine development for neglected intracellular pathogens like *Mycobacteria*, *Leishmania*, and *Burkholderia pseudomallei*. These pathogens are responsible for significant global morbidity and mortality, particularly in LMICs.

Key Details

- **Objective:** Support two years of independent research for LMIC-based associate members to:
 - Produce pilot data.
 - Build experience for future funding opportunities.
 - Lay the foundation for leadership roles in research.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Applicants must be VALIDATE associate members based at LMIC institutes.
 - Individuals who have not previously received a VALIDATE Fellowship.

Research Focus

Projects should align with VALIDATE's mission to accelerate vaccine development. This includes research across biological, physical, social sciences, and humanities, emphasizing scientific excellence and innovation.

Support for LMIC Applicants

VALIDATE offers tailored assistance to LMIC applicants:

- **Mentorship:** Grant writing mentors available for guidance. Register by **7 February 2025**.
- **Language Support:** Translation services offered if English is not the applicant's first language.
- **Resources:** Templates, guidance documents, and FAQs are accessible on VALIDATE's website.

Timeline

- **Call Opens:** 18 December 2024
- **Q&A Seminar:** 5 February 2025, 1400 GMT
- **Mentorship Registration Deadline:** 7 February 2025
- **Application Deadline:** 11 April 2025, 1600 BST
- **Fellowships Start:** June/July 2025

Application Process

Applications are reviewed by the Network Management Board, with short-listed candidates invited for interviews in May/June 2025. Successful applicants will present their project plans at the **2025 VALIDATE Annual Meeting**, with travel costs covered.

Why Apply?

This fellowship provides a platform for early-career researchers to:

- Conduct high-impact research in vaccine development.
- Build a competitive academic profile.
- Access mentoring and networking opportunities within a prestigious global network.

For more information and access to application resources, visit the VALIDATE website or **email**

[More Information](#)

Leading Scholarship 2025: Join the One Young World Summit in Munich



Are you a young leader committed to creating a sustainable future? Apply for the **Leading Scholarship 2025** to attend the **One Young World Summit** in **Munich, Germany** (November 3–6, 2025).

Scholarship Benefits

- Full access to the Summit.
- Hotel accommodation (November 2–6).
- Catering during the Summit.
- Travel expenses to and from Munich.

Note: Visa application fees and related costs are the applicant's responsibility.

Eligibility

- **Age:** 18–30 (exceptions for impactful leaders over 30).
- Proven leadership and innovation driving positive change.
- Focus on critical local or global issues.

Priority is given to underrepresented countries and first-time attendees.

Application Deadline

July 7, 2025

Apply Now and take your place among global changemakers!

Apply Now

Call for Applications: O'Shaughnessy Fellowships and Grants 2025

Are you a visionary ready to make a difference? The **O'Shaughnessy Fellowships 2025** offer a \$100,000 grant and unparalleled support to help you bring your bold ideas to life.

Why Apply?

- **Generous Funding:** \$100,000 equity-free grant for one year.
- **Expanded Grants Program:** Additional \$10,000 grants for 20 individuals.
- **Global Network:** Access to mentors, investors, and collaborators.

Who Can Apply?

Whether you're a researcher, entrepreneur, or creative thinker, the program is open to anyone with a groundbreaking idea, including:

- Innovators in quantum computing, language preservation, disability advocacy, and more.
- Visionaries in fields like technology, arts, social impact, and science.

What's New for 2025?

- **Broader Reach:** Welcoming applicants worldwide to foster diversity.
- **Enhanced Support:** More resources to fuel your innovation.

How to Apply

Visit the **application page** for details and submit your idea today.

Apply Now

WHO Foundation: Global Impact Investment Catalyst III Program

The **Climate and Mental Health Award** invites researchers to advance understanding of how heat impacts mental health conditions like anxiety, depression, and psychosis, focusing on the world's most vulnerable populations. This initiative supports projects identifying climate-resilient or mental health interventions with real-world potential.

Key Details

- **Funding Amount:** £1–3 million per project.
- **Duration:** 3–5 years.
- **Eligibility:** Researchers from mental health and climate science disciplines, based globally (except mainland China).
- **Application Deadline:** 21 January 2025.

Why Apply?

- Explore **causal mechanisms** between heat and mental health.
- Develop **translational solutions** for climate resilience and mental health interventions.
- Foster **collaboration** between diverse disciplines, including lived experience experts.

Eligibility Requirements

Teams must:

- Include **mental health and climate science experts**.
- Be **transdisciplinary** and incorporate perspectives from diverse stakeholders.
- Engage with and represent **vulnerable communities** impacted by heat and mental health challenges.

Lead applicants must:

- Dedicate at least 20% of their time to the project.
- Be based at an eligible organisation and hold a secure contract for the award's duration.

Key Focus Areas

- **Mechanisms:** Study biological, psychological, or social pathways linking heat to mental health.
- **Communities:** Focus on the most heat- and mental health-impacted groups.
- **Translation:** Propose solutions applicable in real-world contexts, such as policies or interventions.

Application Timeline

- **Scope Check Deadline:** 18 December 2024
- **Application Deadline:** 21 January 2025
- **Interviews:** 28–30 May 2025
- **Funding Decision:** June 2025

Apply Now and contribute to critical research at the intersection of climate and mental health!

[Visit Website](#)

ZiF "Research in Groups" Funding Call 2025

Universität Bielefeld

Research in
Groups



The **Center for Interdisciplinary Research (ZiF)** at Bielefeld University invites scholars from all disciplines worldwide to apply for its **"Research in Groups"** program. This unique opportunity supports

collaborative research projects conducted at ZiF, providing ideal working conditions for international teams.

Funding Formats

Visiting Groups

- **Duration:** 1–3 months.
- **Funding:** Up to €50,000 for travel, accommodation, workshops, and conferences.
- **Purpose:** Explore new research topics, finalize interdisciplinary publications, or conduct small projects.

Resident Groups

- **Duration:** 4–6 months.
- **Funding:** Up to €400,000, covering travel, accommodation, workshops, conferences, and personnel expenses.
- **Purpose:** Conduct extensive, collaborative research requiring intensive engagement.
- **Additional Opportunities:**
 - *Elinor Ostrom Fellowships:* For partners of Resident Group fellows to pursue independent research.
 - *Norbert Elias Fellowships:* Further support for Resident Group members.

Long-Term Groups

- **Duration:** Multiple visits over up to three years, totaling 10 months.
- **Funding:** Up to €200,000 for travel, accommodation, workshops, and conferences.
- **Purpose:** Support coherent, long-term interdisciplinary projects.

Key Deadlines

- **Next Call Deadline:** 24 April 2025
- **Expected Next Deadline:** 25 November 2025

Why Apply?

- Collaborate with international colleagues in a supportive and interdisciplinary environment.
- Access funding tailored to your project's scope and duration.
- Enjoy dedicated facilities and resources at ZiF, fostering impactful research outcomes.

For more information and application details, contact Dr. Daniela Noll-Opitz or Dr. Nadine Suttmöller at this [email](#) or visit the ZiF website.

Start shaping your research vision in an interdisciplinary setting at ZiF!

[Website](#)

Soulsby One Health Fellowships 2025

The **Soulsby One Health Fellowships** support early-career researchers working in the field of "One Health" by funding discrete, impactful projects. These fellowships aim to identify future leaders in the field and encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration to address human, animal, and environmental health challenges.

Key Details

- **Funding Amount:** £5,000–£12,000 (itemized budgets required).
- **Eligibility:**
 - Early-career researchers within six years post-graduation or currently pursuing a postgraduate qualification in a field relevant to One Health.
 - Open to disciplines beyond veterinary and medical sciences, including environmental sciences, social sciences, economics, and food security.
 - Must have an affiliated institution and a collaborating center, ideally in different countries.
- **Project Duration:** Must be completed within 12 months.
- **Application Deadline:** 31 January 2025.

What Can Be Funded?

- Travel and subsistence for project delivery.
- Essential costs such as lab supplies, translation fees, insurance, and visas.

- Proposals must clearly define the project as a standalone or part of a larger research initiative, demonstrating added value from Soulsby funding.

Why Apply?

- Build **One Health competencies** through cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural collaboration.
- Strengthen professional networks and foster knowledge sharing between countries.
- Showcase leadership potential in the field of One Health.

How to Apply

1. **Download the Application Form** from the Soulsby Foundation website.
2. Complete the form, including:
 - A detailed project description.
 - A clear budget breakdown.
 - Letters of collaboration and affiliation.
3. Submit the application along with two reference letters to this email.

Applications missing references by the deadline will not be considered.

Learn More and Apply to make a global impact in One Health research!

[Website](#)



Essentials of Global Health Practice, Five-Day Summer Programme – 2025

Are you a health professional eager to make a meaningful impact in global health?

Join the **Essentials of Global Health Practice - 2025 Summer School**, a dynamic five-day programme designed to develop your expertise, build practical skills, and empower you to advance your career while mastering key global health competencies.

Hosted by the **Irish Global Health Network** at the Centre for Global Health at Trinity College Dublin, this immersive programme offers hands-on training to navigate the complexities of global health practice, from addressing humanitarian crises to implementing evidence-based solutions for challenges like planetary health and global mental health.

Why Attend?

- **Immersive Learning:** Real-world case studies and interactive sessions led by experienced professionals in global health, academia, and NGOs.
- **Practical Skills:** Build expertise in leadership, project planning, budget management, cross-cultural communication, and collaboration.
- **Comprehensive Topics:** Dive deep into global mental health, One Health, governance, human rights, and health programme management.
- **Career Boost:** Tailored for health professionals passionate about global health, this programme equips you to excel in resource-limited settings, humanitarian responses, and international development projects.

Scholarship Opportunities

Two tuition scholarships are available:

1. **For Students from Lower-Middle-Income Countries**
2. **For Students from High-Income Countries**

- **Application Deadline:** March 21, 2025
- **Scholarship Announcement:** Early April 2025

Registration Fees

- **Early Bird Fee:** €820 (until April 15, 2025)
- **Standard Fee:** €950 (places allocated on a first-come, first-served basis)

Installment plans are available for general admission tickets.

How to Apply

- Apply for scholarships or register for the programme at **Event Page**.
- For questions, contact **this email**.

Build your skills, expand your network, and gain the confidence to lead and innovate in global health. Don't miss this transformative opportunity to advance your career and contribute to meaningful change in global health practice!

Website

Upcoming Events



Clinical Group Webinar: NTD Programs - Successes, Challenges and Future Perspectives

Join us on **January 22, 2025, at 5:30 PM CET** for an insightful webinar highlighting **Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) programs**, organized as a collaboration between the **German Society for Tropical Medicine (DTG)**, **FESTMIH**, and the **Clinical Group of ASTMH**. This event is timed to align with **World NTD Day** and will explore:

- **Achievements and challenges in NTD control.**
- Focus on **schistosomiasis** and **yaws**, with insights into eradication efforts.
- Discussion of **future strategies for NTD control and elimination.**

Featured Speakers

Dr. Camila Gonzales-Beiras, PhD, MSc

- Postdoctoral Researcher, Fundació Lluita contra les Infeccions, Spain
- Expert in **yaws eradication campaigns** and large-scale clinical trials, including landmark studies published in the NEJM.

Dr. Francesco Rio, MD, MPH, DTM&H

- Lecturer, University of Milan & Heidelberg University
- Former WHO Team Leader in **communications, advocacy, and capacity building** for NTDs, with over two decades of global health experience.

Dr. Pauline Mwinzi, PhD

- Technical Officer, WHO Regional Office for Africa
- Renowned for her leadership in **schistosomiasis research and program implementation** across Africa.

Why Attend?

- Gain insights into global NTD research and elimination efforts.
- Learn from world-renowned experts with extensive field and research experience.

- Connect with a network of professionals committed to tackling NTDs.

Registration Details

- **Open to all:** Registration is free, but required.
- Sign up via the **Registration Link** to reserve your spot.

FESTMIH



NTD Day: World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day Conference

Event Date and Location:

30 January 2025, **Auditorium Riccardo Borghero** and **Piazza dell'Economia**, Verona, Italy.

Event Overview:

This event, organized by the Department of Infectious and Tropical Diseases and Microbiology (DITM) at IRCCS Sacro Cuore Don Calabria in Negrar, Verona, celebrates **World NTD Day**. It emphasizes the global burden of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), their link to poverty, and their effects on mortality, morbidity, and social stigma. The conference also highlights the international efforts that have significantly reduced the prevalence of many NTDs and their near elimination in several regions. However, with challenges like climate change and migration creating new transmission hotspots, continuous monitoring and global cooperation remain essential.

Key Focus Areas:

- Global epidemiology and public health strategies for NTDs.
- Climate change's impact on the geographic spread of NTDs, including examples like the recent local transmission of dengue in Italy.
- Updates on the latest WHO guidelines and milestones toward the 2030 NTD elimination goals.

Conference Program Highlights:

Session 1: Global Health Perspectives (Zeno Bisoffi)

- WHO targets for NTDs by 2030 (Denise Mupfasoni)
- Public health strategies for Schistosomiasis (Russel Stothard)
- Focus on Female Genital Schistosomiasis (Amaya Bustinduy)

Session 2: Control and Treatment of NTDs

- Updates on Strongyloidiasis guidelines (Dora Buonfrate)
- Vaccination strategies for NTDs (Maria Elena Bottazzi)
- Pharmaceutical interventions (Laura Rinaldi)

Session 3: Epidemiology of NTDs in Italy

- Presentations on diseases such as Chagas, echinococcosis, neurocysticercosis, leprosy, and leishmaniasis by Italian and international experts.

Special Features:

- A **photo exhibition** titled *Forgotten Health: Images to Remember NTDs* will run throughout the event, offering an evocative look into the realities of NTDs.

Target Audience:

Healthcare professionals, researchers, public health officials, and students specializing in infectious diseases, tropical medicine, and public health.

Participation Details:

- Registration: Online Registration Link.
- Registration Fees:
 - Full fee: €50.00
 - Discounted fee for trainees: €30.00
- Credits: Accredited for ECM credits across multiple medical and health disciplines.

[More Information](#)



IGHNx: Global Health Reimagined

Date: Thursday, 13 February 2025

Location: The Printworks, Dublin Castle

Event Overview

The **IGHNx: Global Health Reimagined** conference is returning for its second installment following an overwhelmingly positive reception in 2023. Co-hosted by the **Irish Global Health Network (IGHN)** and the **HSE Global Health Programme**, this event will transform how we think about global health, inspiring creativity, promoting innovation, and driving activism.

The conference will feature **short TED-style talks**, **artistic performances**, and the vibrant **Global Health Village**. This fusion of science and art aims to humanize global health issues and provoke fresh perspectives.

Event Highlights

TED-style Talks

Thought-provoking 13-minute presentations on global health topics designed to challenge conventional thinking and inspire innovative approaches.

The Arts in Global Health

Music, poetry, storytelling, and comedy will complement the talks, demonstrating the power of the arts to make global health topics more relatable and impactful.

Global Health Village

A dynamic space featuring booths from NGOs, higher education institutions, and other organizations. This is the hub for networking, knowledge sharing, and potential collaborations.

Speakers

Dr. Agis D. Tsouros

Global expert in health policy and sustainable development. Former Director for Policy and Governance at WHO Europe.

Dorly O'Sullivan

GH volunteer with extensive experience supporting Syrian refugees in Jordan.

Easkey Britton

Marine social scientist and activist, exploring the connection between water environments and human well-being.

Dr. Uzma Siddiqui

Medical expert and PhD candidate focusing on gender-based violence and allyship.

Talha AlAli

Palestinian psychotherapist, hip-hop artist, and human rights defender.

Teresa Keane

Mental Health Ireland officer and creator of mental health-focused podcasts.

Isabelle Blum

Autism advocate and psychology student driven to improve accessibility for neurodivergent individuals.

Why Attend?

- **Inspiration:** Gain new insights into global health topics through creative and expert-led sessions.
- **Collaboration:** Network with professionals from NGOs, academia, and public health sectors in the **Global Health Village**.

- **Diverse Perspectives:** Hear from speakers with backgrounds in healthcare, activism, social science, and the arts.

Registration and Participation

- **Registration:** Open now [Register Here](#).
- **Global Health Village Booths:** Showcase your organization's work and connect with attendees. Book Your Stall.

IGHNx

ECTMIH 2025

ECTMIH-News January



Happy New Year!

As we step into 2025, we're thrilled to share the latest updates on **ECTMIH 2025** with you. Preparations are in full swing, and we have some exciting announcements to kick off the year!

Funding

- We are currently in the **final stages of our application for the EU4Health programme**, with the aim of securing funding for **ECTMIH 2025 in Hamburg**.
- If selected, this funding would also provide a foundation to support **ECTMIH 2027**, as the programme remains active until that year.
- We're pleased to announce that **we've found a couple more sponsors!** You can find their details on our homepage if you're interested in learning more.

Call for Abstracts is Open

- The **Call for Abstracts is still open** and will remain so until **15th February 2025**.
- Researchers, practitioners, and students are invited to **share their work and engage with the global tropical medicine and international health community**.
- Find detailed instructions and **submit your abstracts here**.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We look forward to your contributions and to welcoming you to an extraordinary global event.

Warm regards,

Prof. Jürgen May,

Prof. Marylyn Addo,

Prof. Cornelia Betsch,

Prof. Michael Ramharter

Digital



Highlights from the Community Skin Health Journal, 2024

The **Community Skin Health Journal (CSH)** remains a cornerstone resource for healthcare professionals in underserved regions, addressing dermatological challenges through education, advocacy, and innovation. Below are key highlights from the latest issue.

Key Topics and Contributions

1. GLODERM Initiative: Empowering Global Skin Health

- **Overview:** GLODERM, the International Alliance for Global Health Dermatology, is advancing dermatological education and advocacy worldwide.
- **Achievements:**
 - **Educational Webinars:** Over 30 sessions, including the 2024 Albinism Awareness Week series.
 - **Mentorship Programme:** Supported 17 mentees across 14 countries since 2022, fostering outreach and tackling stigma surrounding skin diseases.
 - **Podcast Launch:** *Stories of Our Skin* debuted in 2024, expanding dermatological awareness.

2. Diagnostic Insights into Skin Ulcers (Part I)

- **Focus:** Identifying non-infectious skin ulcers with clinical clues.
- **Key Ulcer Types:**
 - **Venous Ulcers:** Chronic, irregularly shaped, associated with venous insufficiency.
 - **Arterial Ulcers:** Well-demarcated, painful, often linked to arterial disease.
 - **Diabetic Ulcers:** Found on pressure points, slow to heal, and typically painless due to neuropathy.
- **Learning Points:** Accurate diagnosis requires assessing geographic history, medical background, and clinical characteristics.

3. Innovative Wound Care: The ATD Technique

- **Approach:** The **Available Technology Dressing (ATD)** method leverages locally available materials for effective wound management.
 - **Results:** Reduced pain, faster healing, and significant cost savings in tropical and resource-limited settings.
 - **Materials:** Plastic food bags, absorbent cloth, and protective ointments like zinc oxide.

4. Nutrition for Wound Healing

- **Significance:** Proper nutrition is critical for wound recovery, especially in low-resource settings.
- **Recommendations:**
 - **Macronutrients:** High-protein diets with affordable sources like beans, fish, and chicken.
 - **Micronutrients:** Citrus fruits for Vitamin C, zinc-rich foods, and anti-inflammatory spices like turmeric.
 - **Hydration:** Emphasizing water-rich foods in areas lacking clean drinking water.

5. Case Studies

- **Cutaneous Genital Schistosomiasis:** A rare case of a six-year-old Tanzanian girl highlights the importance of clinical and histological diagnosis in endemic areas.

6. Free WHO Training on Migrant Health

- **Courses Offered:**
 - Competency standards for migrant health services.
 - Focus on skin conditions in migration contexts.
 - Certificates provided upon completion via OpenWHO.

Content Disclaimer

Important Notice: Some content in the **Community Skin Health Journal** contains detailed images and descriptions of severe skin conditions for educational purposes.

- **Viewer Discretion Advised:** These materials may be distressing to some readers.
- **Purpose:** To enhance understanding and improve care in dermatology, especially in underserved areas.

Access the Journal

- **Languages:** Available in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Simplified Chinese.

- **Digital Access:** Download the **CSH App** on Android and iOS.
- **Hard Copies:** Contact **this email** to subscribe.

The **Community Skin Health Journal** continues to empower healthcare workers globally with essential dermatological knowledge, innovative solutions, and a commitment to equitable care.

Website

Dear FESTMIH Readers and Contributors,

As we welcome the new year, we extend our warmest wishes to you all for a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2025. We hope this year brings fresh opportunities, inspiring collaborations, and impactful progress in global health and research.

The **"News of the Month" newsletter** continues to be a cornerstone of our efforts to connect, inform, and inspire the FESTMIH community. Published on the **15th of every month**, it remains your trusted source for the latest updates, opportunities, and achievements in the field. Your contributions and insights have been invaluable in making this platform a collective voice for advancing global health.

As we step into another year, we invite you to keep the momentum going by sharing your stories, projects, and innovations with us. Submissions for each edition are due by the **10th of the month**, and we encourage contributions that reflect the diverse expertise and perspectives of our community.

Let's make 2025 a year of growth, discovery, and impact. Together, we can strengthen our global network and continue fostering collaboration to address the most pressing challenges in tropical medicine and international health.

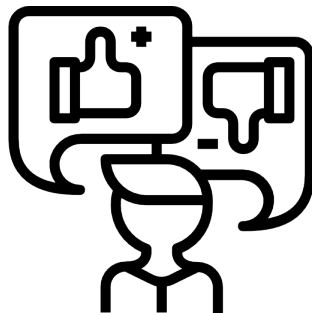
Would you like to contribute to the News of the Month or get in touch?

We'd love to hear from you! Please send us an **email** with your submissions or inquiries.

Here's to a successful and inspiring year ahead!

Warm regards,

The FESTMIH Team.

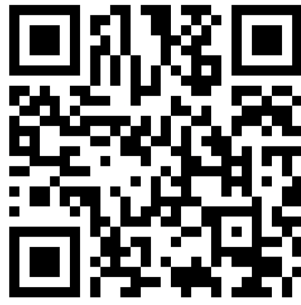


With the 'News of the Month' we try to communicate relevant information in the field of FESTMIH and also cover interdisciplinary topics. We would like to know how the News of the Month has been received and if there is **anything we can improve**.

Feedback is anonymous, so no personal details will be included.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the FESTMIH secretariat.

Give us Feedback



FESTMIH

<https://www.festmih.eu/>

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