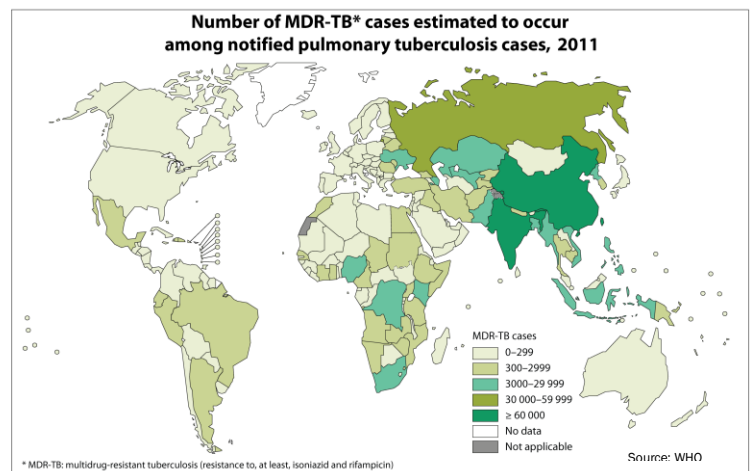




TB in China

Tuberculosis is a major public health challenge in China. In 2010 alone, China had 1 million new cases of TB, second only to India. China and India together account for 40% of the diagnosed cases of TB worldwide. While China has achieved significant reductions in TB illness and death over the past 30 years, the disease still continues to place a heavy burden on its people.

A surveillance study of drug-resistant TB in China shows an alarming trend: one in 10 cases of tuberculosis in China is multidrug-resistant, and 8% of those cases are extensively drug-resistant. This study also showed that primary transmission accounts for most cases, meaning that patients with MDR are infecting others with this deadlier form of the disease. Based on WHO estimates of global MDR, China has the highest annual number of cases of MDR in the world — a quarter of the cases worldwide. This underscores the urgency for new, more effective vaccines to prevent transmission and progression of the disease.



China: The Path Forward

Aeras is seeking collaborations across the continuum of TB vaccine research and development, from preclinical and clinical research to vaccine manufacturing. To effectively identify and take forward these opportunities, Aeras has begun the process to establish an office in Beijing. The Aeras China office, in close collaboration with global staff and partners, will drive the strategy to further engage and optimize China's role in TB vaccine development.

China's commitment to ending the TB epidemic for its own people could have implications across the globe. By leveraging this commitment, along with the resources, infrastructure and expertise of the public, private and academic sectors in China, Aeras looks forward to an engaged and active partnership with China to find the ultimate solution to this age-old threat: new, more effective TB vaccines.

Partnering for New TB Vaccine Development

Aeras recognizes the important contributions that China will make towards developing new TB vaccines. To date, Aeras has built a significant number of collaborations with a diverse array of organizations.

**BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation**

The Bill & Melinda Gates foundation's efforts in China include fighting HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis (TB), improving tobacco control, and investing in agricultural research. A small office opened in Beijing in 2007 under the sponsorship of the Ministry of health of the People's Republic of China to coordinate this work.



China National Biotec Group (CNBG) is a company limited by shares, the controlling shareholder of which is China's National Pharmaceutical Corporation (Sinopharm). CNBG has 10 subsidiaries and is the largest biotech corporation in China engaged in the research and development, manufacturing and marketing of biological products. Aeras is partnering with CNBG on the preclinical development of vaccine constructs aimed to determine the most optimal prime/boost regimen.



Formed in 2009, CanSino is a biotechnology company dedicated to vaccine research, development and commercialization aimed at addressing public health needs in China as well as globally. CanSino and Aeras are collaborating to design a program to test mucosal delivered Ad5Ag85A as a boost vaccine in adolescents and adults to enhance or prolong the protection provided by BCG. CanSino is located in Tianjin, China.



Wuhan University is located in Wuhan City and is one of the top ten universities in China. Our collaboration is focused on the development of an animal and immunology center of excellence for TB vaccine research. This center of excellence will incorporate the existing Animal Biosafety Level 3 Laboratory (A3 Lab) at Wuhan University, which is the largest A3 Lab in China and the first in the nation to be certified. With state-of-the-art facilities and an experienced and highly skilled staff, the A3 Lab has already been extensively utilized by the research community in China for TB vaccine-related studies. The A3 Lab has also been used for Aeras-supported research projects since 2008.



Fudan University is a leading educational center in China, and consistently rates as one of the top 5 universities in the Country. Fudan has a well-established research community with well-established links to the China CDC. Together, we will identify field sites and perform epidemiology studies for the development of GCP-standard TB vaccine clinical trials in China.

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About Aeras

Aeras is a nonprofit biotech advancing the development of tuberculosis vaccines for the world. In collaboration with global partners in Africa, Asia, North America and Europe, Aeras is currently supporting the clinical testing of six experimental vaccines as well as a robust portfolio of earlier stage candidates. Aeras receives funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK Department for International Development, and the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a range of other governments. Aeras is based in Rockville, Maryland; Cape Town, South Africa; and Beijing, China. www.aeras.org.