



OR DAY 2021

MSF Operational Centre Brussels
Operational Research Day

June 4 | 10.30AM CET
OCB Gathering



Agenda

Masters of Ceremonies: [Marc Biot](#), [Robin Vincent-Smith](#)

10:30 - OPENING REMARKS - [Marc Biot](#)

10:35 to 12:05 - PRESENTATIONS

10:35 Addressing stigma in people living with drug-resistant tuberculosis in India – a Photovoice study - [Taanya Mathur](#)

10:40 Challenging drug-resistant TB treatment journey for children, adolescents and their care-givers: a qualitative study - [Mrinalini Das](#)

11:00 How can you measure what you can't define? A qualitative study exploring community engagement at Médecins Sans Frontières - [Gabrielle Schittecatte](#)

11:20 Overcoming lockdowns through digitalizing health promotion - [Jakub Hein](#)

11:25 The Past, Present and Future of Safe Abortion Care in MSF OCB: a multi-centric sequential mixed-methods analysis, 2018 - 2020 - [Ann Van Haver](#)

11:45 Using Facebook to find patients who have disengaged from HIV services, and linking them back to care in Khayelitsha, South Africa - [Damian Hacking](#)

12:05 to 12:15 - PANEL DISCUSSIONS

12:15 to 12:30 - Q/A AND CLOSING REMARKS - [Sebastian Spencer](#)





Presenters

Taanya Mathur - Patient Support Activity Manager

Taanya Mathur is a qualified Psychologist & Psychotherapist, with over 7 years of rich experience in counseling patients of varying age groups & backgrounds and providing them with therapeutic relief. Taanya joined MSF in July 2017 as Activity Manager- Patient Support for MSF's DRTB/ HIV project in Mumbai. She provides technical support to Patient Support for strengthening treatment outcomes of patients infected with DRTB and HIV by identifying the barriers in treatment and addressing their Psycho-Social needs. Taanya is also engaged in Operational Research to explore TB patients' emotional and mental health needs and to push for efforts to improve care. As a part of this, she also presented in the Union Conference in 2018 to highlight the needs and the importance of patient centered care for TB patients.

Mrinalini Das - Deputy Medical Coordinator (Epidemiologist)

Mrinalini Das (Mili) is an epidemiologist and operational researcher. She has completed her PhD in Public Health. Her area of interest is paediatric and adolescent drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB). She has been involved in operational research activities for more than eight years in the fields of HIV, malaria and tuberculosis including new TB drugs. She has presented her work in various national (India) and international conferences. She has also contributed in multiple research publications for international peer-reviewed scientific journals. She is currently working with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)/ Doctors Without Borders India as a Deputy Medical Coordinator (Epidemiologist).



Presenters

Gabrielle Schittecatte - Spinco Project and Promotion Office

Gabrielle Schittecatte began her career working in sociology studying the social networks and social mobilization on climate change in Canada in the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples. She first started realizing the power of communities when working in Ecuador, Peru, and the Philippines, collaborating with communities and youth to identify challenges and solutions to social effects of climate change they faced. Her work on climate change and communities led her to the field of health and Médecins Sans Frontières. She has been with MSF over five years, working both for the International Office and as an HP Manager in the field.

Jakub Hein - Digital Health Promotion Unit Coordinator

Jakub Hein has been working with MSF on various digital positions for last 5 years. Initially focusing on digital communications, he branched into use of digital tools for health promotion in MSF missions. He piloted several digital HP campaigns in South Africa and Zimbabwe, growing the digital HP concept from a pilot into regional approach, and integrating it into medical activities in MSF missions in Southern Africa. In 2020, he led creation of Digital Health Promotion Unit under COVID-19 Task Force of MSF-B. Later, the DHP Unit was fully integrated into medical department, and continues to support roughly 20 countries where MSF implements DHP approach. Until today, digital HP campaigns have reached over 84 million people.



Presenters

Ann Van Haver - MIO Midwife

Ann Van Haver is a midwife, who started working with MSF in 2007. She has worked as a midwife and project medical referent in several projects in Africa and Asia, covering all aspects of Sexual and reproductive health care. In 2013, she became a mobile implementer for SRH activities, offering support to MSF projects regarding SRH strategy, training, improving quality of care and implementing new activities. Since 2016 she dedicated an important part of her time to the implementation of Safe abortion care in MSF projects through direct field support. In 2019, she enrolled in the SORT-IT course and started to conduct operational research related to Safe abortion care.

Damian Hacking - eHealth Activities Manager

Damian Hacking worked for MSF Southern Africa from 2014-2021, based at the Khayelitsha project. His work has focused on digital health interventions, including mobile data collection, digital patient support interventions, geographical information systems, and digital health promotion. This work has spanned a variety of areas, such as HIV and key populations, SGBV, rural and urban health services, migrant populations, DR-TB, and PrEP. He has a background in Health Economics.

