South African TB Vaccine Initiative (SATVI)
Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine (IDM)
Werner & Beit Building
Health Sciences Faculty
Tel +27 (0) 21 406 6791
Fax +27 (0) 23 3465406
Kelvin.vollenhoven@uct.ac.za

27 November 2015

MEDIA RELEASE:

The Correlate of Risk Targeted Intervention Study (CORTIS):

STATUS: EMBARGO PLACED UNTIL MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2015

A Randomized, Partially-blinded, Clinical Trial of Isoniazid and Rifapentine (3HP) Therapy to Prevent Pulmonary Tuberculosis in High-risk Individuals Identified by a Transcriptomic Correlate of Risk

Scientists at the University of Cape Town, in partnership with the Center for Infectious Disease Research in Seattle, have recently completed a decade-long project to develop a biomarker test that predicts whether a person is at risk of developing TB.

The prognostic blood test, which is based on the human immune response, can predict whether a person will develop TB more than 12 months in advance.

South African investigators will now evaluate in a large clinical trial whether targeted preventive therapy for people with a positive biomarker test can stop them from developing TB.

This international collaboration is led by the South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI) at the University of Cape Town, in partnership with the Aurum Institute, the Stellenbosch University Immunology Research Group, the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA), the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (FHCRC).

The clinical trial, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will start in 2016 and run for 2 years.

If this trial is successful, mass campaigns using a ‘screen & treat’ strategy have potential for major impact on the global epidemic, by stopping TB before it becomes infectious and can be transmitted to others.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For Academic and clinical queries</th>
<th>For request for media interviews and media queries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Associate Professor Mark Hatherill  
Director: South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI)  
South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative  
Health Sciences Faculty  
University of Cape Town  
Tel 021-406 6791  
Email: a.september@uct.ac.za | Kelvin Vollenhoven  
Manager: Communications and Marketing  
South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative  
Health Sciences Faculty  
University of Cape Town  
Tel 021-406 6791/023-346 5400  
Cell 074 585 2858  
Email: kelvin.vollenhoven@uct.ac.za |