

# The University of Texas at Tyler School of Medicine Inaugural Symposium on Mycobacteria

**April 17-18, 2026**

This educational activity will provide information on advanced treatments and management of pulmonary disease caused by *M. tuberculosis* and nontuberculosis mycobacteria (NTM). It is designed for physicians as well as nurses and other allied healthcare professionals.

Lectures will be followed by the opportunity for questions and answers.

## Continuing Education Credit

### Continuing Medical Education

The University of Texas at Tyler Health Science Center is accredited by the Texas Medical Association to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Texas at Tyler Health Science Center designates this live activity for a maximum of **6.0 AMA PRA Category 1 credits**.™ Participants should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## Registration & Conference Location

### UT Tyler Health Science Center President's Event Center

11937 U.S. Hwy. 271  
Tyler, TX, 75708

**Registration Fee: \$150.00**



[uttylerntmsymposium.totalcamps.com](http://uttylerntmsymposium.totalcamps.com)

### For more information, contact:

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*Symposium Co-Chair*  
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**UTTyler** SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE

# Symposium Schedule

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

**5 - 6 p.m.**

*Registration*

**6 - 6:30 p.m.**

**To Treat or Observe: A Clinician's Perspective on NTM Pulmonary Disease**

Speaker: Mladjen Veselinovic, MD

**6:30 - 7 p.m.**

**NTM Health Policy & Patient Advocate**

Speaker: Amy Leitman, JD

**7 - 8:45 p.m.**

**Hors d'oeuvres & Dinner**

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

**7 - 8 a.m.**

*Registration & Breakfast*

**8:00 - 8:15 a.m.**

**Welcome & Introductions**

Speaker: Julie V. Philley, MD

**8:15 - 8:30 a.m.**

**Richard J. Wallace Lectureship Presentation**

Speaker: Barbara Brown-Elliott, MS

**8:30 - 9 a.m.**

**Richard J. Wallace Lectureship: Management of Pulmonary *Mycobacterium abscessus***

Speaker: Rocio Hurtado, MD

**Session One: Clinical Trials & Management**

**9 - 9:30 a.m.**

**Sequencing MAC: Species Importance in the Home Environment and Through Treatment**

Speaker: Scott Heysell, MD

**9:30 - 10:00 a.m.**

**Identifying Core Outcome Domains: A *Mycobacterium avium* complex Core**

Outcomes Research Study

Speaker: Cara Varley, MD

**10 - 10:30 a.m.**

*Break*

**Session Two: Translational Therapeutic Strategies**

**10:30 - 11 a.m.**

**Preclinical and Clinical Development of New TB and NTM Treatments: It Takes Two to Tango**

Speaker: Tawanda Gumbo, MD

**11 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Dual Beta-lactam Therapeutic Strategies for NTM**

Speaker: Khalid Dousa, MD

**11:30 a.m. - Noon**

**NTM Animal Models**

Speaker: Gyanu Lamichhane, PhD

**Noon - 1 p.m.**

*Lunch & Networking*

**Session Three: Immunology & Vaccines**

**1 - 1:30 p.m.**

**Immunologic Impact Factors for NTM Infection**

Speaker: Christa Zerbe, MD

**1:30 - 2 p.m.**

**Mucosal Immune Priming and Sex-Dependent Protection in Tuberculosis Vaccination**

Speaker: Marcela Henao-Tamayo, MD

**2 - 2:30 p.m.**

*Break*

**Session Four: Epidemiology, Outcomes & Surgery**

**2:30 - 3 p.m.**

**UT Tyler NTM Clinical Trial Updates**

Speakers: Megan Devine, MD, & Devanshi Mehta, MD

**3 - 3:30 p.m.**

**Therapeutic Strategies for MDR-TB**

Speakers: Lisa Armitige, MD, PhD, & Barbara Seaworth, MD

**3:30 - 4 p.m.**

**Surgical Management of Mycobacterial Lung Infections**

Speaker: James Caccitolo, MD

**4 - 4:15 p.m.**

**Closing Remarks**

# Symposium Speakers

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**Lisa Armitige, MD, PhD**

*Assistant Medical Director, Heartland National TB Center*  
*Professor of Medicine*  
UT Tyler School of Medicine  
Tyler, TX

**James Caccitolo, MD**

*Chief & Medical Directory Cardiothoracic Surgery*  
CHRISTUS Health Trinity Clinic  
Tyler, TX

**Megan Devine, MD**

*Associate Professor of Medicine*  
UT Tyler School of Medicine  
Tyler, TX

**Khalid Dousa, MD**

*Assistant Professor of Medicine*  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland, OH

**Barbara Brown-Elliott, MS**

*Professor of Cellular & Molecular Biology*  
UT Tyler School of Medicine  
Tyler, TX

**Tawanda Gumbo, MD**

*President & CEO*  
Phase Advance  
Dallas, TX

**Scott K. Heysell, MD**

*Professor, International Medicine*  
University of Virginia Health  
Charlottesville, VA

**Marcela Henao-Tamayo, MD MSc, PhD**

*Associate Professor, Mycobacterial Immunology*  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, CO

**Rocio Hurtado, MD**

*Director, MGH Mycobacterial Center*  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Boston, MA

**Gyanu Lamichhane, PhD**

*Associate Professor, Infectious Diseases*  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Baltimore, MD

**Amy Leitman, JD**

*President, NTM Info & Research*  
Palmetto Bay, FL

**Devanshi Mehta, MD**

*Assistant Professor of Medicine*  
UT Tyler School of Medicine  
Tyler, TX

**Julie V. Philley, MD**

*President*  
The University of Texas at Tyler  
Tyler, TX

**Barbara Seaworth, MD**

*Co-Medical Director, Heartland National TB Center*  
*Professor of Medicine*  
UT Tyler School of Medicine  
Tyler, TX

**Cara Varley, MD, MPH**

*Assistant Professor of Medicine of Infectious Diseases*  
OHSU-Portland State University  
Portland, OR

**Mladjen Veselinovic, MD**

*Assistant Professor of Medicine*  
UT Tyler School of Medicine  
Tyler, TX

**Christa Zerbe, MD**

*Senior Clinician*  
*Clinical Immunology & Microbiology*  
National Institute of Health  
Bethesda, MD