

## Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL) Research Meeting

## 皮膚リーシュマニア症 (CL) 研究会議

Agenda / アジェンダ		本誌頁 (Summary/要約和訳)
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Fumiko Hirabayashi</b> (Board member, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan/School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University) 平林史子 (Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan理事/長崎大学大学院熱帯医学・グローバルヘルス研究科)	148
	<b>Kaori Nakatani</b> (Head of Office, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan) 中谷 香 (Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan事務局代表)	
<b>Opening Remarks</b> 開会の辞	<b>Kiyoshi Kita</b> (Professor & Dean, School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University, Japan) 北 潔 (長崎大学大学院熱帯医学・グローバルヘルス研究科 教授・研究科長)	
<b>Cutaneous Leishmaniasis: Current situation and DNDi's approach</b> 皮膚リーシュマニア症：現状とDNDiのアプローチ	<b>Byron Arana</b> (Head of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> )	150 (156)
<b>Preclinical development of CpG D35 for combined treatment of cutaneous leishmaniasis</b> 皮膚リーシュマニア症を対象としたCpG-D35併用療法の前臨床開発	<b>Ken J. Ishii</b> (Professor, Division of Vaccine Science, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The Institute of Medical Science, the University of Tokyo, Japan) 石井 健 (東京大学医科学研究所 感染免疫部門ワクチン科学分野 教授)	158 (167)
<b>Process development, yield improvement, purification process</b> ※講演録掲載なし	<b>Toru Okamatsu</b> (Ajinomoto Bio-Pharma Services Osaka (Gene Design, Inc.), Japan) 岡松 亨 (味の素バイオファーマサービス ジーンデザイン 事業開発部長代理)	
<b>Prospects for new treatments for leishmaniasis</b> リーシュマニア症の新しい治療薬の展望	<b>Charles Mowbray</b> (Discovery Director, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> )	168 (175)
<b>CL Treatment Strategy: The vision and pathway to access</b> 皮膚リーシュマニア症 (CL) 治療戦略：アクセスへのビジョンと道筋	<b>Olawale Ajose</b> (NTD Head of Access, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> )	177 (181)
<b>A live attenuated markerless prophylactic vaccine for leishmaniasis using CRISPR gene editing</b> CRISPR-Cas9を用いた遺伝子編集弱毒生リーシュマニア予防ワクチン (薬剤耐性マーカーフリー) の創出と評価	<b>Shinjiro Hamano</b> (Professor, Vice Dean, Department of Parasitology, Institute of Tropical Medicine (NEKKEN), Nagasaki University, Japan) 濱野真二郎 (長崎大学熱帯医学研究所・寄生虫学分野 教授, 副所長)	182 (186)
<b>Q&amp;A</b> 質疑応答		187
<b>Closing Remarks</b> 結語	<b>Haruki Yamada</b> (Chair, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan) 山田 陽城 (Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan理事長)	190

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# Webinar: Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL)

## 皮膚リーシュマニア症 (CL) ウェビナー

Agenda / アジェンダ		本誌頁 (Summary/要約和訳)
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Fumiko Hirabayashi</b> (School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University/Board member, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan) 平林史子 (長崎大学大学院熱帯医学・グローバルヘルス研究科 / Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan 理事)	191
<b>Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in conflict situations</b> 紛争状況における皮膚リーシュマニア症	<b>Koert Ritmeijer</b> (Coordinator, Neglected Tropical Diseases, Médecins Sans Frontières –Operational Centre Amsterdam, the Netherlands)	192 (199)
<b>Cutaneous leishmaniasis and mental health: Exploring psychosocial impact and CL-associated stigma (the ECLIPSE programme)</b> 皮膚リーシュマニア症とメンタルヘルス：心理社会的影響とCLに関連した偏見の調査 (ECLIPSEプログラム)	<b>Lisa Dikomitis, Helen Price, et al.</b> (Institute for Global Health, Keele University, the United Kingdom, on behalf of the ECLIPSE team)	201 (208)
<b>Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL) in women and children</b> CLと母子保健	<b>Issam Bennis</b> (Fez Regional Directorate of Ministry of Health, Morocco)	210 (215)
<b>Cutaneous Leishmaniasis: Current treatments and gaps</b> 皮膚リーシュマニア症治療薬のギャップ	<b>Byron Arana</b> (Head of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis, Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> )	217 (223)
<b>Current approaches to the development of a vaccine against CL</b> CLに対するワクチン開発への最新アプローチ	<b>Yasuyuki Goto</b> (Associate Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Japan) 後藤康之 (東京大学大学院農学生命科学研究科 准教授)	225 (232)
<b>Q&amp;A</b> 質疑応答	<b>Clara van Gulik</b> (Médecins Sans Frontières) ファンヒューリック クララ (国境なき医師団) <b>Fumiko Hirabayashi</b> (School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University/Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan) 平林史子 (長崎大学大学院熱帯医学・グローバルヘルス研究科 / Drugs for Neglected Diseases <i>initiative</i> (DNDi) Japan 理事)	233
<b>Closing Remarks</b> 結語	<b>Kiyoshi Kita</b> (Professor & Dean, School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University, Japan) 北 潔 (長崎大学大学院熱帯医学・グローバルヘルス研究科 教授・研究科長)	

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## Speakers Profiles

(in the order of presentations; information at the time of meeting)

### Part 1 Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL) Research Meeting

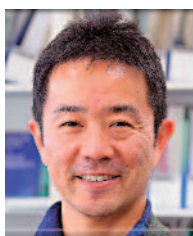


#### **Dr. Byron Arana, Head of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis, DNDi**

Dr Byron Arana joined DNDi in November 2012. He has over twenty years' experience working on clinical trials and epidemiological studies, mainly in cutaneous leishmaniasis, oncocerciasis, diarrheal and respiratory diseases.

Since 2008, Dr Arana has been managing the clinical trials on visceral leishmaniasis that TDR-WHO is being supporting in the Indian Subcontinent and participating in the development and implementation of strategies in support of the Indian subcontinent's visceral leishmaniasis elimination program.

From 2000 to 2008, Dr Arana served as Co-Director of the Center for Health Studies, at Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Guatemala and managing the first cooperative agreement between the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala and the Centers for Diseases Control, Atlanta, to support the conduction of multidisciplinary field and laboratory research on tropical disease in the Central America region. He received his medical training at the Universidad San Carlos of Guatemala (1983) and his doctoral degree on Tropical Medicine from the University of Liverpool, UK (1998).



#### **Prof. Ken Ishii, the University of Tokyo**

Dr. Ken Ishii is currently Director for International Research and Development Center for Mucosal Vaccines, and Professor of Vaccine Science Division at Institute of Medical Science, University of Tokyo. Until 2018, he was Director of Center for Vaccine and Adjuvant Research at National Institute of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition. Prof. Ishii obtained M.D. and a Ph.D. from the School of Medicine, Yokohama City University, Kanagawa, Japan. He is further qualified with his years of experience in vaccine research supported by numerous books and over 200 periodical publications and 20,000 citations since 1998 including 7 years as a IND reviewer at US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), two years as Managing Director at Japan

Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), and over 20 years as an immunologist and vaccinologist.



#### **Mr. Toru Okamatsu, Ajinomoto Bio-Pharma Services Osaka (Gene Design, Inc.)**

Toru has worked for Ajinomoto Co., Inc. for 13 years. After gaining experience as Medicinal Chemist, Process Development of AJIPHASE®\* and CMC affairs, he has been responsible for Business Development and GMP Project Management in Ajinomoto Bio-Pharma Services Osaka for the past three years.

From a CMC perspective, he is currently supporting customers' oligonucleotide program with his team from pre-clinical to clinical phase. He hosted some webinars for oligonucleotide CMC and regulatory issues. Toru holds a M.S. in Kyushu University Graduate School of Science with organic chemistry.

\*AJIPHASE® is liquid phase oligonucleotide and peptide synthesis technology developed by Ajinomoto Co., Inc.



### **Dr. Charles Mowbray, Discovery Director, DNDi**

Dr Mowbray joined DNDi in August 2011 with responsibility for lead optimization in drug discovery projects.

Prior to joining DNDi, Dr Mowbray spent 19 years at Pfizer Worldwide Research and Development where he was most recently a Research Fellow in Worldwide Medicinal Chemistry at the Sandwich Laboratories, UK. During this time he developed experience as a medicinal chemist, project leader and people manager. He has delivered projects across many disease areas, target classes and medicinal chemistry strategies and from target selection through to clinical candidate delivery. Two of these molecules have completed Phase IIb clinical studies. Dr

Mowbray was awarded his PhD by the University of Exeter and completed postdoctoral fellowships at the University of British Columbia and the University of Nottingham.



### **Mr. Olawale Ajose, NTD Head of Access, DNDi**

Olawale Ajose joined DNDi as Neglected Tropical Diseases Head of Access in October 2019. In his role, Olawale oversees the design and execution of access strategies across the different neglected tropical diseases in DNDi's portfolio.

Prior to joining DNDi, Olawale served as Technical Officer at Unitaid where he was responsible for identifying investment opportunities and developing market-based strategies to expand access to lifesaving medicines and diagnostics used to manage HIV and HIV-coinfections. In his role, he negotiated agreements to bring cheaper and more optimal products into low and middle-income markets and worked with partners to mobilize funding to scale up these products. Olawale

also worked as the Global Deputy Director for the Maternal and Newborn Initiative at the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) – an organization that uses business-oriented approaches to solve public health challenges around the world. Olawale holds a bachelor's degree in cell biology and genetics, and a Master of Public Health from the University of Warwick.



### **Prof. Shinjiro Hamano, Nagasaki University**

Various kinds of parasites infect humans for long periods of time without killing them, giving rise to tremendous afflictions, social and/or economic loss. Prof. Hamano would like to develop deep insight into parasitic diseases and the surrounding factors from various points of view through both field and laboratory studies. The goal of his group is to contribute to new knowledge and to provide an enthusiastic environment for the training of the future generation of investigators.

His group has been researching parasitic diseases in Mbita and Kwale, Kenya, in cooperation with Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and Maseno University. In 2021, they started a new project on schistosomiasis with the support by the MEXT Grant-in-Aid for Scientific

Research (A). They are also trying to develop ideal diagnostic methods for schistosomiasis and leishmaniasis with the support by the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT).

They also study host defense mechanisms against *Leishmania* spp. and *Trypanosoma cruzi*, and in the process, have elucidated the function of the IL-12 cytokine family such as IL-27/WSX-1 during infection. They have been developing the live attenuated vaccines to leishmaniasis and trypanosomiasis by editing genes using CRISPR-Cas9 system with the support by the GHIT since 2015 and 2019, respectively. In addition, they developed animal models of intestinal amoebiasis together with University of Virginia, and now are devoting themselves to the study on molecular basis of pathogenicity of *E. histolytica* and host defense mechanisms to it.

## Speakers Profiles

(in the order of presentations; information at the time of meeting)

### Part 2 Webinar: Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL)



**Dr. Koert Ritmeijer, MSc, MPH, Ph.D**  
**Coordinator Neglected Tropical Diseases,**  
**Médecins Sans Frontières –Operational Centre Amsterdam (MSF-OCA)**  
**Scientific Advisory Committee member, DNDi**

Koert Ritmeijer is a medical and public health scientist, and has been working with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) since 1989. He is currently coordinator Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in MSF Operational Centre Amsterdam, and inter-MSF lead on NTDs. He has a Master of Science in Nutrition and Health (Wageningen University), a Master of Public Health (Royal Tropical Institute Amsterdam), and in 2006 he obtained a Ph.D in Medical Sciences at the University of Amsterdam with field studies on visceral leishmaniasis control in East Africa. Since the mid-90's he is responsible for coordination and technical support to the MSF-OCA leishmaniasis programmes in East Africa and South Asia, including response to several large leishmaniasis epidemics, often in extremely resource-poor and war-affected situations.

Over the past 25 years Koert has led on numerous operational and clinical field research projects with the aim to improve diagnosis, treatment, and control of leishmaniasis under resource-limited field conditions. A lot of his research has focused on improving survival outcomes of HIV co-infected visceral leishmaniasis patients in East Africa. Research outcomes have resulted in direct benefits for patients, and have influenced national and international policies and research agendas.

He has published more than 70 scientific papers, and in 2010 he was awarded the Eijkman Medal, the Netherlands award for tropical medicine research. Koert is member of the WHO Expert Committee on Leishmaniasis, and member of various Scientific Advisory Committees.



**Prof. Lisa Dikomitis, Ph.D**  
**Professor of Anthropology and Sociology of Health, Keele University**

Professor Lisa Dikomitis works at the School of Medicine, Keele University (UK), where she leads the Institute for Global Health. She is a Belgian-Cypriot anthropologist currently working on global health projects in Brazil, Ethiopia, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Her other research areas are forced migration and effects of conflict, non-communicable diseases (with a focus on mental health) and primary care research. She holds degrees in Anthropology and Sociology, Education and Art History.

Professor Dikomitis received her PhD in Comparative Sciences of Cultures, based on an anthropological study among Cypriot refugees, in March 2010. She started her academic career with a postdoctoral lectureship at Ghent University in Belgium (2010-12), then moved to the UK where she first worked as Research Fellow at the Hull York Medical School (2012-14) before taking up a permanent position as Lecturer in the School of Social Sciences at the University of Hull (2014-16). She joined Keele's School of Medicine as Senior Lecturer in July 2016 and was promoted to Professor in January 2020. She will join the Kent and Medway Medical School (UK) in January 2022 as Professor of Medical Anthropology and Social Sciences. Please visit: [www.lisadikomitis.com](http://www.lisadikomitis.com)



**Dr. Helen Price, Ph.D**

**Reader (Associate Professor) in Parasitology, Keele University**

Dr. Helen Price is an Associate Professor (Reader) in Parasitology in the Centre for Applied Entomology and Parasitology (CAEP) at Keele University, UK. She has over 20 years of experience working on the kinetoplastid parasites *Leishmania* spp. and *Trypanosoma brucei*.

Dr. Price was awarded a PhD in 1997 following research at Bangor University on a vaccine candidate for the human parasite *Schistosoma mansoni*. In her first research position, she studied novel genes involved in chromosome translocations in B-cell malignancies at the Institute of Cancer Research, Surrey. She returned to the field of parasitology in 2000 to join the research

group of Debbie Smith at Imperial College London and from 2004 at the University of York, studying the cell biology of the protozoan parasites *Leishmania major* and *Trypanosoma brucei*. She performed key molecular studies to validate the enzyme N-myristoyltransferase (NMT) as a drug target in kinetoplastids. She relocated to Keele as Lecturer in September 2013 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2020.

Dr. Price's lab-based research focuses on understanding the cell biology of the protozoan parasites *Leishmania* and *Trypanosoma brucei* and exploiting this knowledge towards the development of new therapeutics. She has received funding from the MRC, Newton Fund, Wellcome Trust and the Royal Society. Her current projects include investigation of the roles of the BBSome protein complex in *L. mexicana* and drug discovery for the veterinary parasite *T. evansi*.

Since 2019 Dr. Price has been co-leading ECLIPSE with Professor Lisa Dikomititis at Keele University. This is a four-year £4.6M global health programme funded by the UK's National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), which aims to reduce stigma and improve the patient journey for people living with cutaneous leishmaniasis in Brazil, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka.

Dr. Price is the Honorary Communications Secretary for the British Society of Parasitology and a Deputy Editor for PLoS NTDs.



## Speakers Profiles

(in the order of presentations; information at the time of meeting)

### Part 2 Webinar: Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL)



#### **Dr. Issam Bennis, MD, Ph.D**

**Biomedical Sciences., Leishmaniasis Control Programs Researcher,  
Fez Regional Directorate of Ministry of Health**

- Medical doctor from the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy in Rabat Morocco.
- Specialization in Public Health at the National Institute of Health Administration. Rabat Morocco.
- Epidemiology and Control of Tropical Diseases Qualification, with a focus on cutaneous leishmaniasis allowing to get a PhD in Biomedical sciences between 2014 and 2018 from the Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp and University of Antwerp Belgium.
- Worked from 2003 to 2013 with the Moroccan Ministry of Health (MoH) as medical doctor and as manager of public health organizations (Health District, primary health facilities and Hospitals).
- Leishmaniasis Moroccan Program Researcher and lecturer at the National School of Public Health in Rabat, Morocco between 2013 and 2020.
- Currently, Research manager and head of the care provision and quality organisation unit at the Fez Regional Directorate of Health
- Moroccan Ministry of Health
- Birthday 1976 in Morocco.

**Research gate profile** : [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Issam\\_Bennis](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Issam_Bennis)

**Email address**: [issambennis@gmail.com](mailto:issambennis@gmail.com)



#### **Dr. Byron Arana, MD, Ph.D**

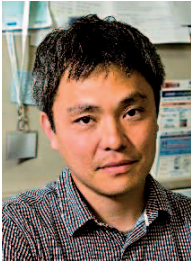
**Head of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis, DNDi**

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He received his medical training at the Universidad San Carlos of Guatemala (1983) and his doctoral degree on Tropical Medicine from the University of Liverpool, UK (1998)



**Dr. Yasuyuki Goto, Ph.D**  
**Associate Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences,**  
**The University of Tokyo Japan**

Yasuyuki Goto is Associate Professor at Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the University of Tokyo (UTokyo).

Prior to UTokyo, he did postdoctoral research at Infectious Disease Research Institute in Seattle, then joined National Research Center for Protozoan Diseases, Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine as Project Assistant Professor.

Throughout his research life, Dr. Goto has been working on immunology, pathology and molecular biology of parasitic diseases, especially leishmaniasis, to understand the host-parasite relationship and develop methods to effectively control such diseases. With expertise in antigen discovery, vaccine development and animal model development, his current effort focuses on identification of molecules derived from both hosts and pathogens determining the outcome of host-parasite interaction.

Dr. Goto obtained his Bachelor, Master and Ph.D. degrees at UTokyo.



## Organizers Profiles

### Meetings on Cutaneous Leishmaniasis



**Prof. Haruki Yamada, Chair, DNDi Japan**

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Prof. Haruki Yamada, Ph.D. is Chair of the Board, DNDi Japan as well as Prof. Emeritus, Kitasato Univ. He is currently also Chief Director of Kitasato Research Center for Environmental Science, and Visiting Prof. of Tokyo Univ of Pharmacy and Life Sciences. He worked for 31 years in the Kitasato Institute under his mentor Prof. Satoshi Ōmura (2015 Nobel laureate in Physiology and Medicine) as Directors of Research Division at Oriental Medicine Research Centre and WHO

Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine in the Kitasato Institute, and Prof. and Director at Kitasato Institute for Life Sciences and Dean of Graduate School of Infection Control Sciences in Kitasato Univ. He also involved in DNDi as the Scientific Advisory Committee Member for 7 years when DNDi was founded in 2003.



**Prof. Kiyoshi Kita, Professor & Dean, School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University**

CL Research Meeting

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Prof. Kiyoshi Kita, Ph.D. was a professor (1998-2016) at The University of Tokyo and is Dean of Nagasaki University, School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health (2015~).

He was educated at Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Tokyo, and graduated in 1980. He moved to Department of Parasitology, Juntendo University, School of Medicine (1983). Then, promoted to associate professor of Department of Parasitology, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo (1991-1998).

Prof. Kita has been studying bacterial and mitochondrial respiratory chains from the viewpoint of oxygen homeostasis and found that mitochondrial fumarate reductase plays an important role in the parasitic adaptation and cancer cells. Furthermore, he developed several promising anti-helminthics, trypanocidal and anti-COVID-19 drugs. He has been dispatched by JICA as a team leader of medical cooperation project to Paraguay (1984-1985). Thus, his research has contributed not only to basic biology but also directly to human health. He was President of the Society (2003-2006) and was President of Japanese Biochemical Society (2009 - 2011). He was awarded the 17th Award of Duke of Edinburgh by The Japan Academy in 2020.



**Fumiko Hirabayashi, Board member, DNDi Japan/  
School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University**

CL Research Meeting

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Ms. Fumiko Hirabayashi joined DNDi in 2004 and led its operations in the country as DNDi's Japan Representative, with responsibility for building research collaborations and platforms for the development of new drugs against neglected diseases. She is a board member of DNDi Japan and Senior Advisor of DNDi since 2016. Currently, she is also an affiliated researcher of the School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nagasaki University. Before joining DNDi, she worked for Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in the field and served as the Japan Coordinator of MSF's Access to Essential Medicines Campaign when she supported the establishment of DNDi. Initially, she spent 8 years with Roussel Uclaf and Kaken Pharmaceutical in Tokyo, and also worked in South-East Asia including Hong Kong, Thailand and Malaysia. Ms. Hirabayashi graduated in pharmaceutical science from Hoshi University.



**Kaori Nakatani, Head of DNDi Japan Office**

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Kaori Nakatani joined DNDi in January 2020 as Head of Japan Liaison Office. Kaori started her career in a non-profit organization, managing development programmes in East Africa. Since then and for the last 20 years, Kaori worked for UNAIDS, UNDP, and JICA, focusing on public health and universal coverage. Kaori has gathered an extensive knowledge of strategic health programmes. She established and maintained strong partnerships with government, civil society, and the private sector in Japan, as well as in Thailand, Myanmar, Indonesia, Zambia, and Jamaica. Kaori holds a Bachelor of International Politics and Economics from Nishogakusha University and Master's degree from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



**Dr Clara van Gulik, paediatrician, Médecins Sans Frontières International**

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Dr Clara van Gulik works at Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)/Doctors Without Borders International office. As of September, she will be the Deputy International Medical Coordinator at MSF. Until recently she has been the paediatrician and author-coordinator for MSF international medical guidelines, and medical advisor to MSF Japan. She has worked with MSF since 2005 in various field contexts and at headquarters in medical, coordination, advocacy and representative roles, and as an expert in paediatric HIV and TB. She has written/co-authored or contributed to numerous MSF clinical guidelines and contributed to WHO guidelines on paediatric HIV, TB and nutrition. Dr van Gulik holds an Master's in International Law from the School of Oriental and African Studies, a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and graduated in Medicine and Surgery from Imperial College, University of London.