



# Molecular tools for diagnosing drug resistance: Where have we got to?

Timothy M Walker

Oxford University Clinical Research Unit,  
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Funded by Wellcome

# No disclosures

# Xpert XDR – already outdated?

WHO recommended use of MTB/RIF  
Xpert in December 2010



If RIF-resistant,  
assume INH-resistant  
and therefore 'MDR'

If INH-resistant but not  
RIF-resistant, this will go  
undetected



Any mutation = Resistant

Table A2.4. Gene targets, codon regions and nucleotide sequences that determine presence of variants associated with drug resistance in the Xpert MTB/XDR test

Drug	Gene target	Codon regions	Nucleotide
<b>Isoniazid</b>	<i>inhA</i> promoter	Not applicable	-1 to -32 intergenic region
	<i>katG</i>	311–319	939–957
	<i>fabG1</i>	199–210	597–630
	<i>oxyR-ahpC</i> intergenic region	Not applicable	-5 to -50 intergenic region (or -47 to -92) <sup>a</sup>
<b>Ethionamide</b>	<i>inhA</i> promoter	Not applicable	-1 to -32 intergenic region
<b>Fluoroquinolones</b>	<i>gyrA</i>	87–95	261–285
	<i>gyrB</i>	531–544 (or 493–505) <sup>a</sup>	1596–1632
<b>Amikacin, kanamycin, capreomycin</b>	<i>rrs</i>	Not applicable	1396–1417
<b>Amikacin, kanamycin</b>	<i>eis</i> promoter	Not applicable	-6 to -42 intergenic region

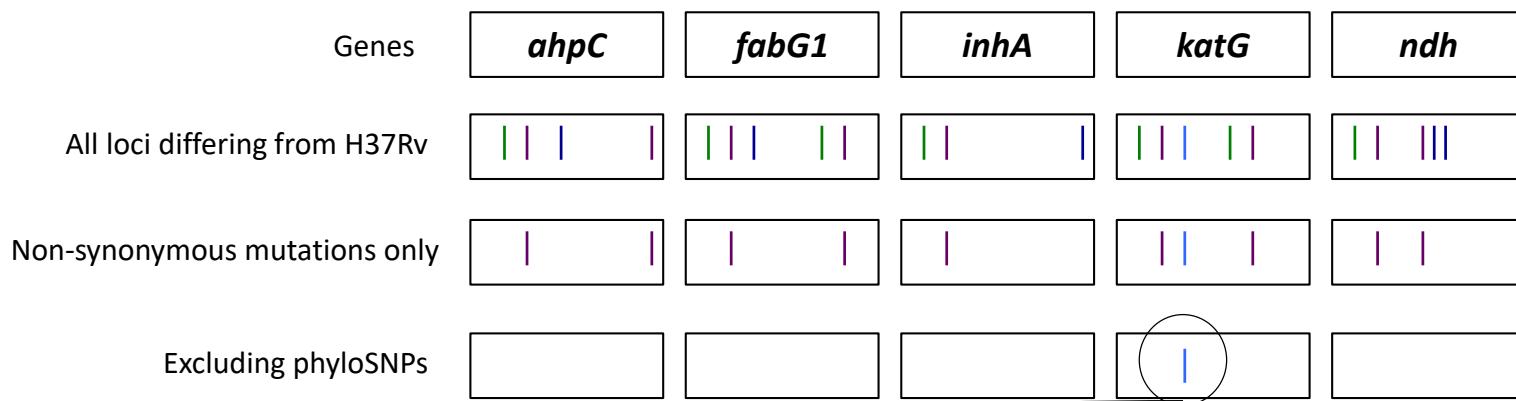
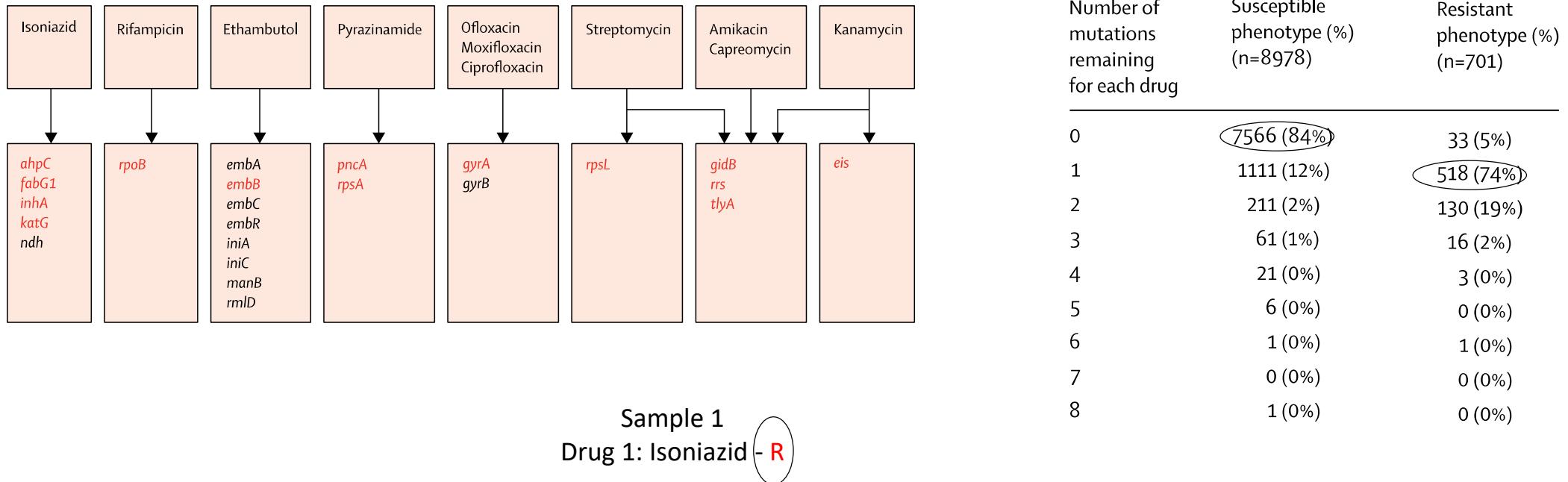
World Health Organization

## Sequencing based diagnostics

Platform/technology + knowledgebase/catalogue



# Sequencing-based diagnostics - knowledgebase



Conclusion: SNP | is classified as “resistance-determinant” for isoniazid in sample 1

# Prediction of Susceptibility to First-Line Tuberculosis Drugs by DNA Sequencing

The CRyPTIC Consortium and the 100,000 Genomes Project



WGS

**Table 2. Prediction of Phenotypes of Resistance or Susceptibility to Individual Drugs.\***

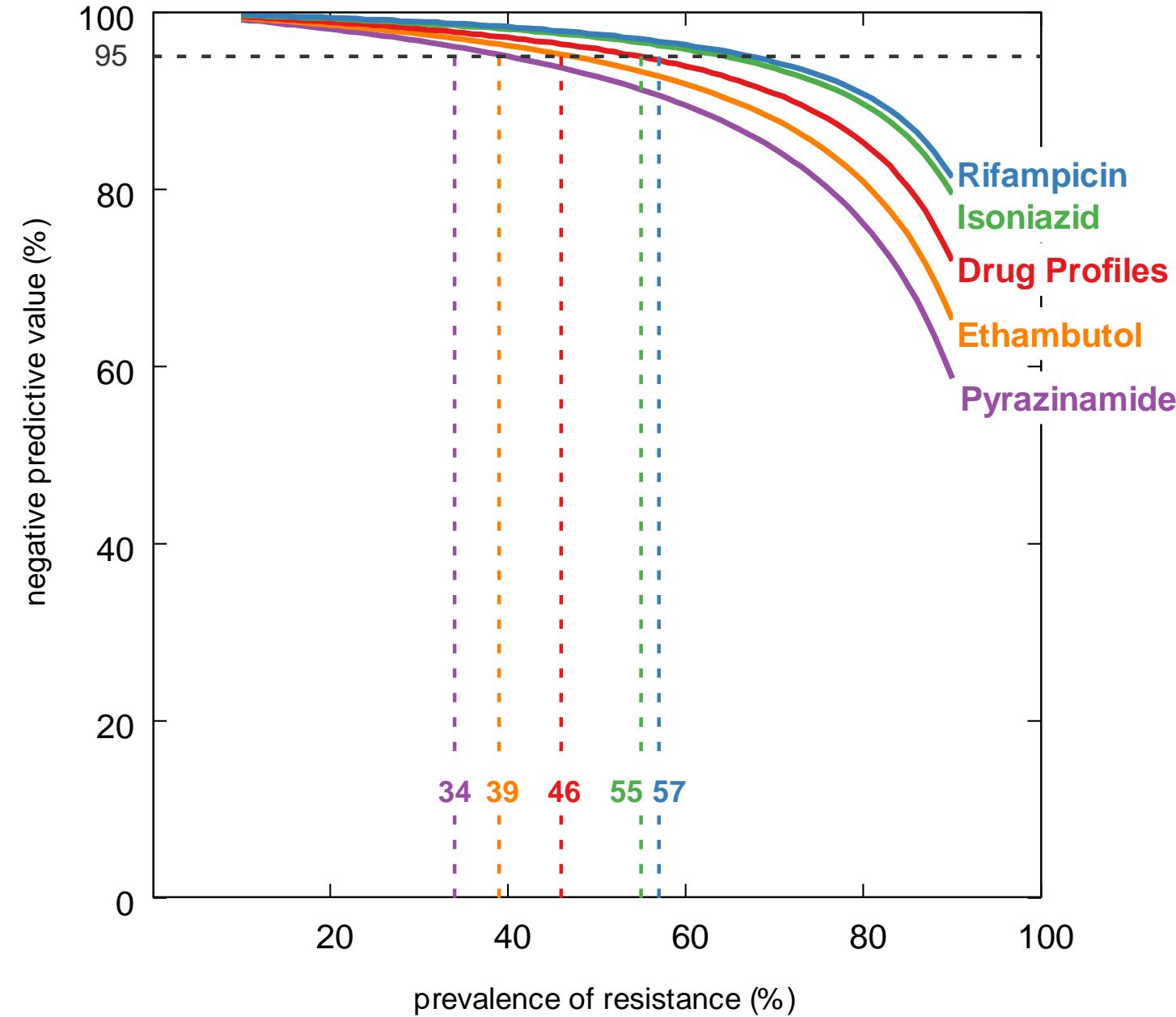
Analysis and Drug	Resistant Phenotype				Susceptible Phenotype				Sensitivity (95% CI)	Specificity (95% CI)	PPV (95% CI)	NPV (95% CI)	Sensitivity, All†	Specificity, All†	NGP	RP		
	R	S	U	F	Total	R	S	U	F	Total								
<i>number of isolates</i>												<i>percent</i>						
<b>WGS, all isolates</b>																		
Isoniazid	3067	90	93	44	3294	65	6313	215	117	6710	97.1 (96.5–97.7)	99.0 (98.7–99.2)	97.9 (97.4–98.4)	98.6 (98.3–98.9)	93.1	94.1	4.7	32.9
Rifampin	2743	69	7	84	2903	85	6763	232	147	7227	97.5 (96.9–98.1)	98.8 (98.5–99.0)	97.0 (96.3–97.6)	99.0 (98.7–99.2)	94.5	93.6	4.6	28.7
Ethambutol	1410	81	94	55	1640	468	6835	781	70	8154	94.6 (93.3–95.7)	93.6 (93.0–94.1)	75.1 (73.0–77.0)	98.8 (98.5–99.1)	86.0	83.8	10.2	16.7
Pyrazinamide	863	82	117	77	1139	204	6146	197	108	6655	91.3 (89.3–93.0)	96.8 (96.3–97.2)	80.9 (78.4–83.2)	98.7 (98.4–99.0)	75.8	92.4	6.4	14.6

NEJM 2018

Ternary (R – S – U) vs. binary (R-S) predictions



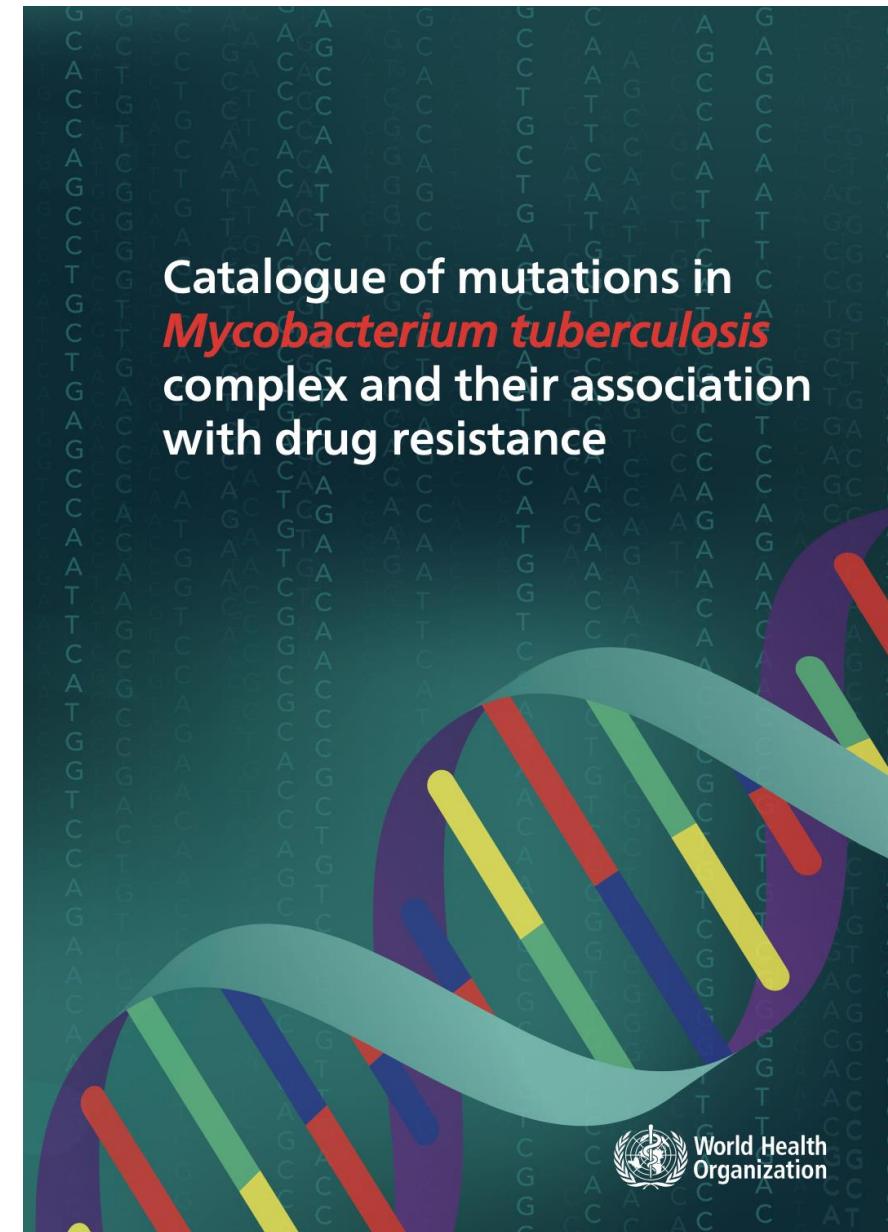
Predicting entire profiles



2021

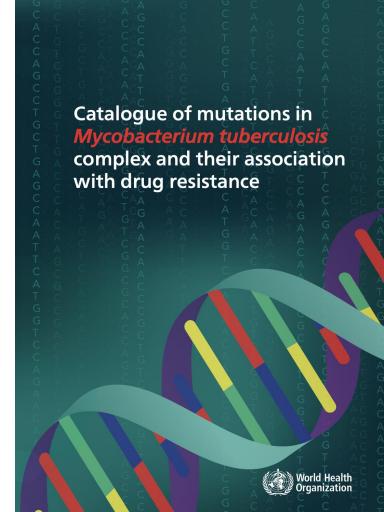
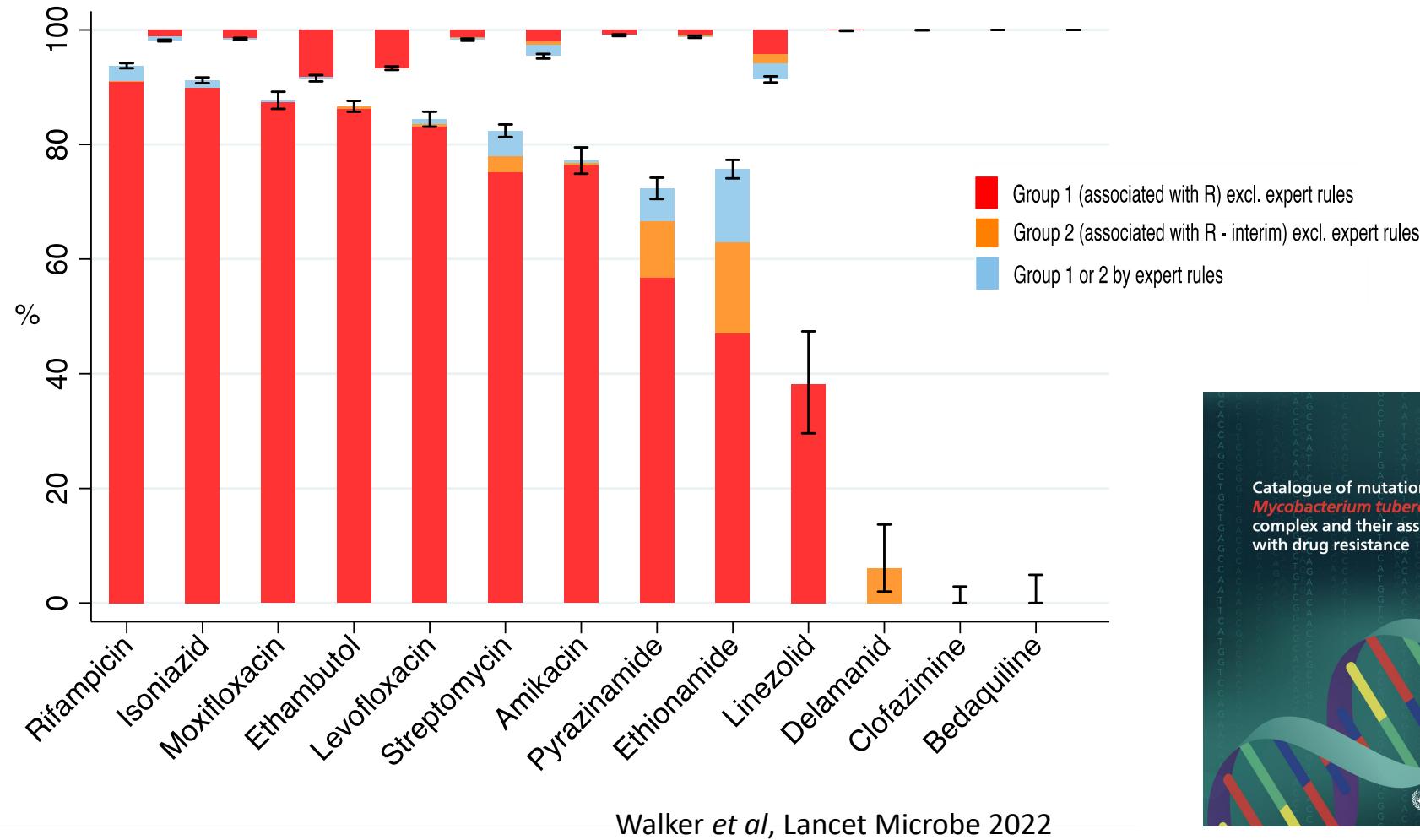


~38,000 genomes from 40 countries



## Different from other catalogues

- Expert rules
- Very conservative approach



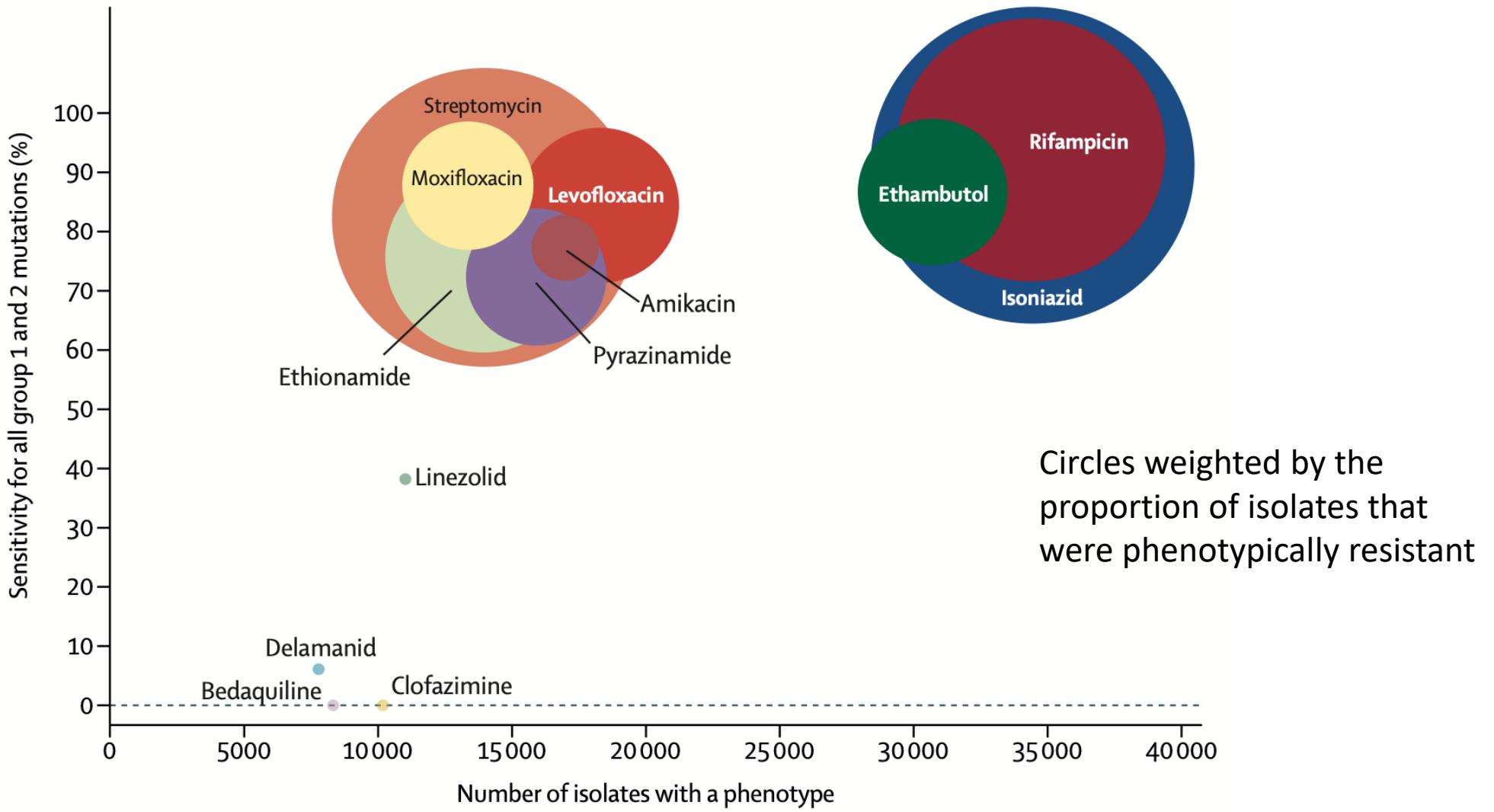
# Performance of catalogue vs. evidence for individual mutations

drug	gene	mutation	characterisation	R	S	support
INH	katG	katG_S315T	R	2824	40	2182
INH	fabG	fabG_C-15T	R	587	47	187
INH	fabG	fabG_L203L	R	136	28	52

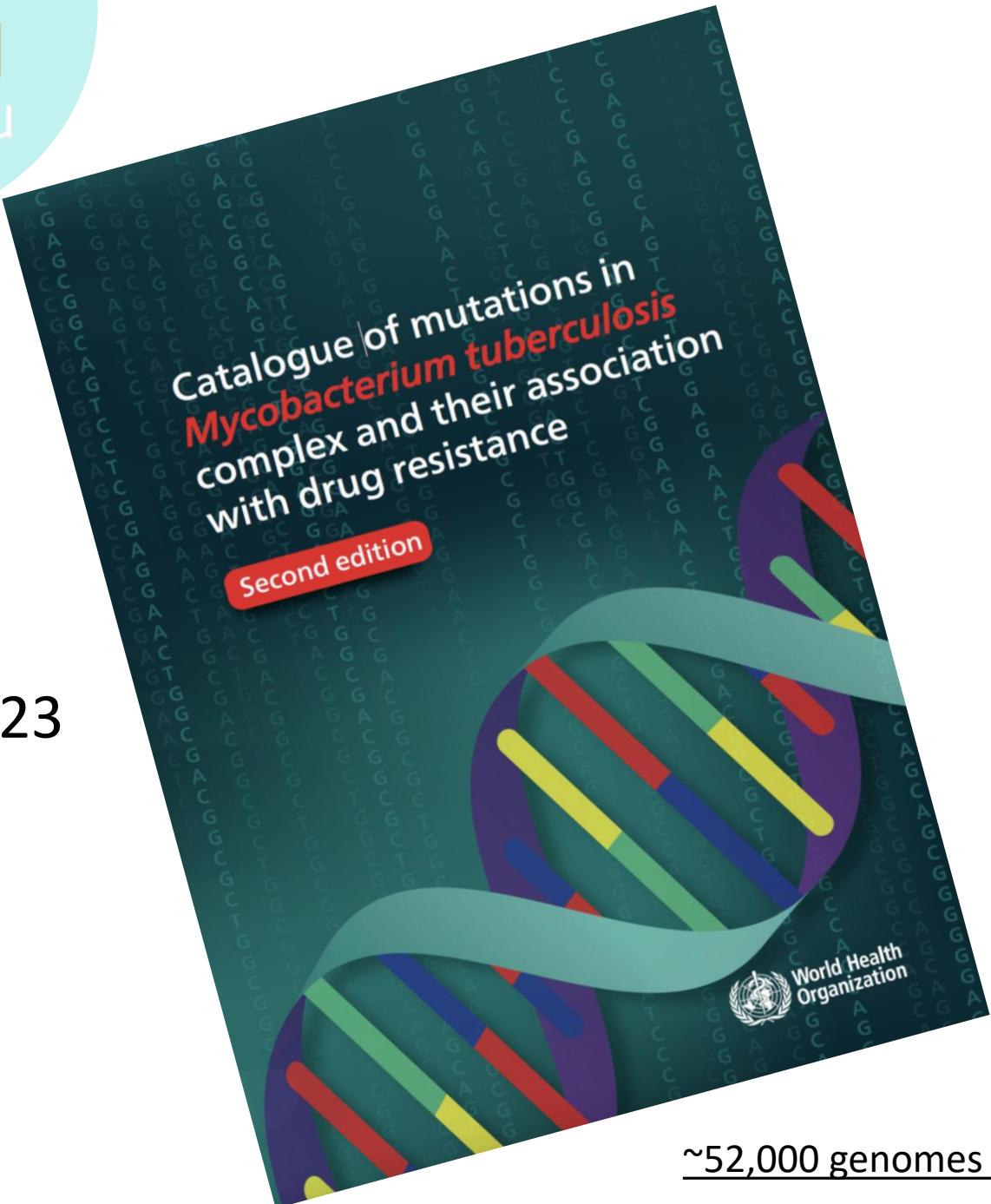
- Rare mutations – collectively enriched for resistance

INH	katG	katG_V1A	R	4	0	3
INH	katG	katG_V423I	R	4	5	1
INH	inhA	inhA_C-100A	R	3	1	1
INH	inhA	inhA_T2A	R	3	8	1
INH	katG	katG_A109V	R	3	0	3
INH	katG	katG_E3G	R	3	0	1
INH	katG	katG_G491S	R	3	0	3
INH	katG	katG_L141F	R	3	1	1
INH	katG	katG_N493K	R	3	0	2
INH	katG	katG_P232S	R	3	0	1
INH	katG	katG_R484H	R	3	0	3
INH	katG	katG_W161R	R	3	0	3
INH	katG	katG_W191G	R	3	0	1

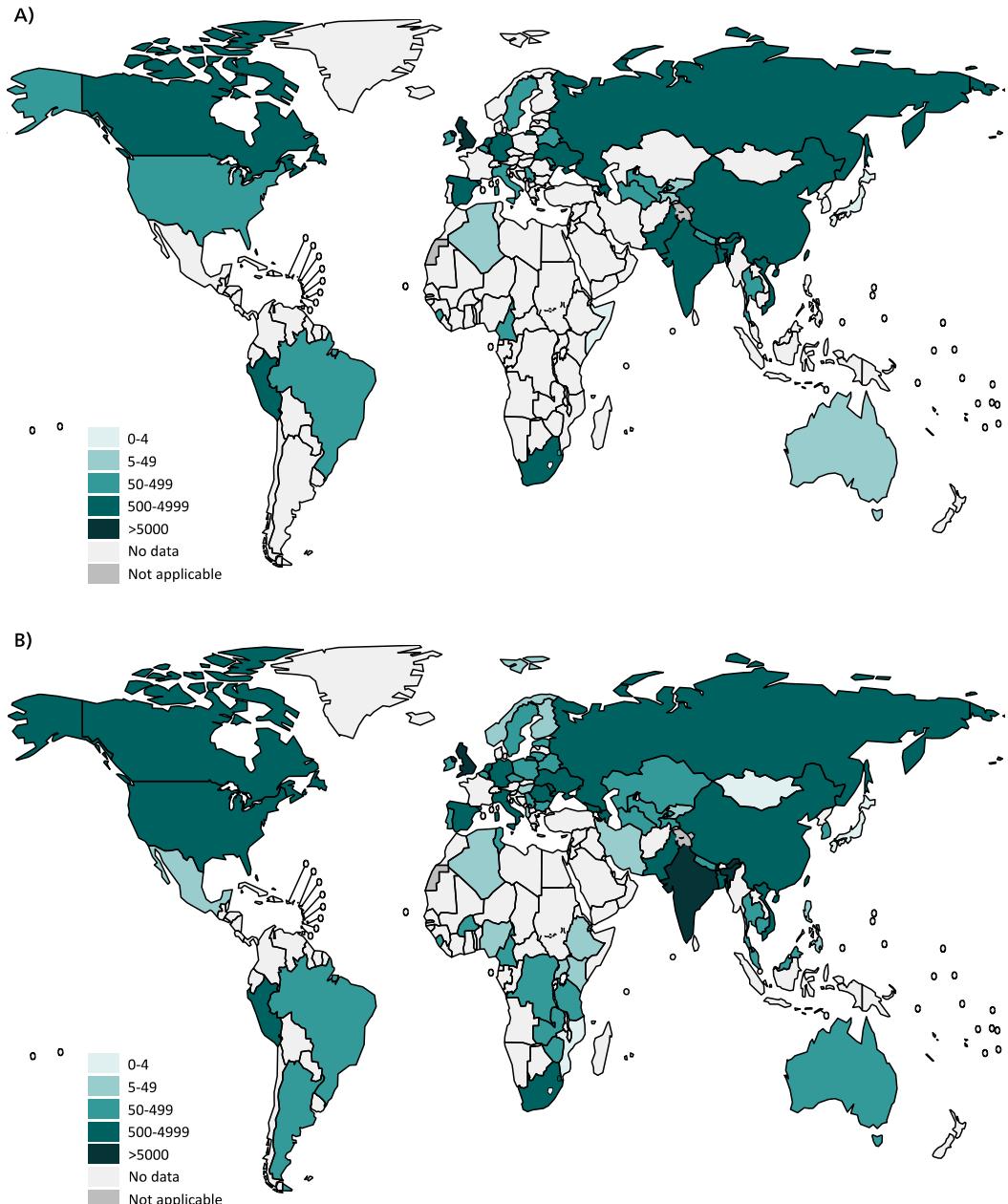
- Presence of some mistakes can be accommodated
- Overall performance of a catalogue can be improved by their inclusion



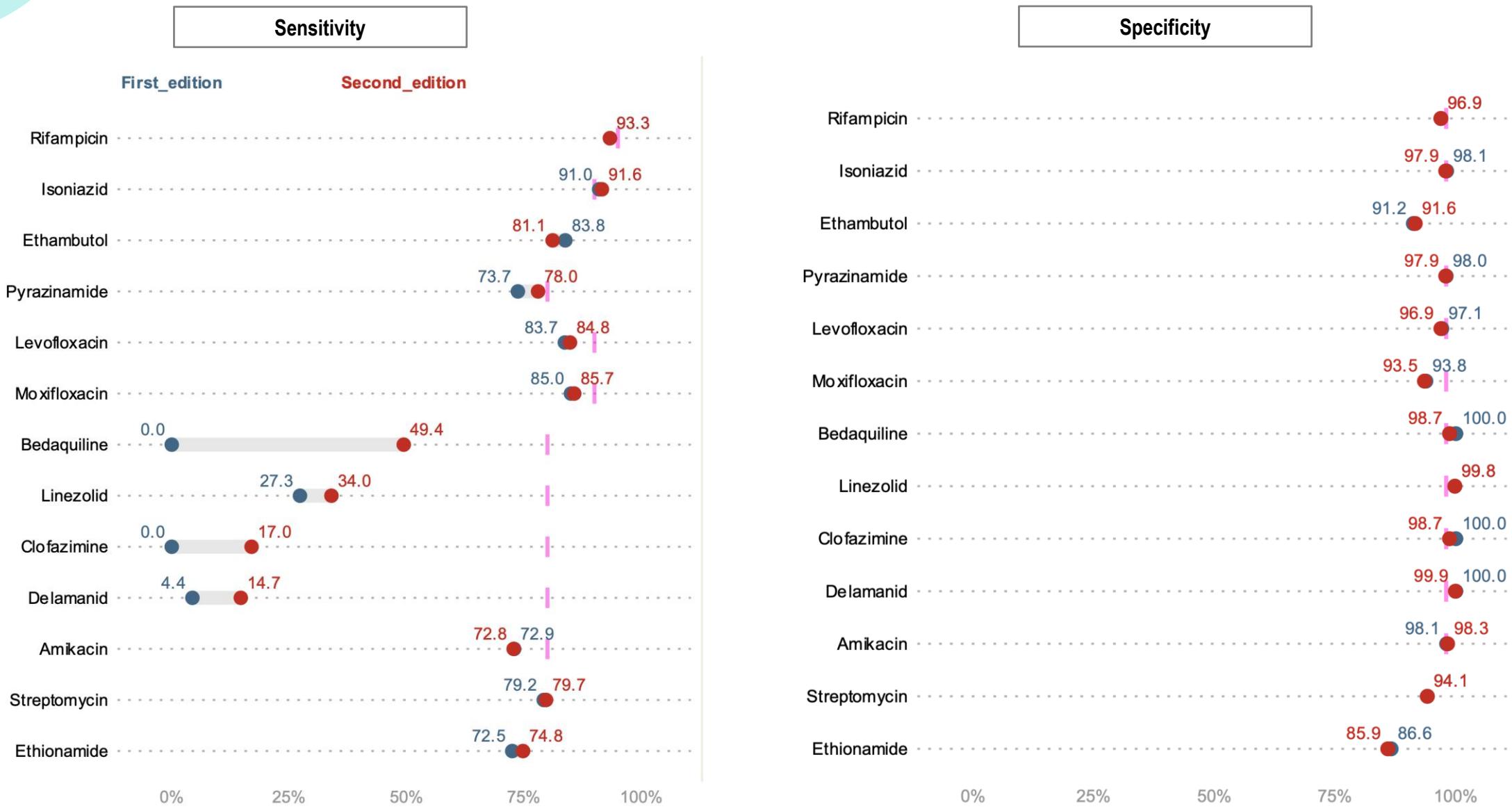
2023



~52,000 genomes from 67 countries



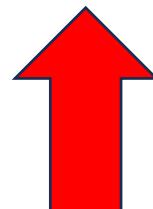
## WHO catalogue V1 vs. V2 – yield from am extra 14,000 genomes



## **WHO catalogue V1 vs. V2 – yield from an extra 14,000 genomes**

# Bedaquiline

Drug	Variant	Supporting dataset										Additional grading	Final confidence
		Initial confidence	grading	Supporting dataset	Criteria applied	Additional grading	grading	Final confidence					
BOC_R0073_LF	MUT_Present_pheno_S	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_LGHS	MUT_Absent_pheno_S	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	MUT_Present_pheno_R	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	MUT_Absent_pheno_R	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Sensitivity	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Specificity	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	PPV	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	PPV SOLO	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	PPV SOLO_ub	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	PPV SOLO_ib	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	OR SOLO	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Initial confidence	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	grading	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Supporting dataset	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Criteria applied	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Additional grading	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Final confidence	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Notes	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR
BOC_R0073_PlAsPts	Changes vs prev. ver.	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	E	E	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR	AssessR



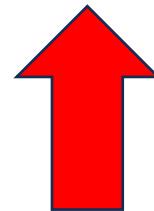
**Table 12.** Abridged variant classification for BDQ

**Changes vs prev. ver.**

## WHO catalogue V1 vs. V2 – yield from an extra 14,000 genomes

### Linezolid

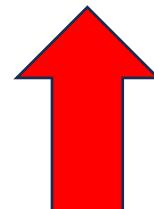
Drug	Variant
	MUT_Present_pheno_S
	MUT_Absent_pheno_S
	MUT_Present_pheno_R
	MUT_Absent_pheno_R
	Sensitivity
	Specificity
	PPV
	PPV_SOLO
	PPV_SOLO_UP
	PPV_SOLO_LP
	OR_SOLO
	Supporting dataset
	Notes
	Changes vs prev. ver.



## WHO catalogue V1 vs. V2 – yield from an extra 14,000 genomes

### Delamanid

Drug	Variant	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	PPV SOLO	PPV SOLO ub	PPV ISOLATED	OR SOLO	Supporting dataset	Notes
	MUT_Present_pheno_S									
	MUT_Absent_pheno_S									
	MUT_Present_pheno_R									
	MUT_Absent_pheno_R									
	Sensitivity									
	Specificity									
	PPV									
	PPV SOLO									
	PPV SOLO ub									
	PPV ISOLATED									
	OR SOLO									
	Supporting dataset									
	Notes									
	changes vs prev. ver.									



### Diarylquinolones (ATP synthetase inhibitors)

- **Bedaquiline**
- TBAJ-587 / TBAJ-876

### Nitroimidazoles (DprE2 inhibitors, cell wall synthesis)

- Delamanid
- Pretomanid

### Oxazolidinones (protein synthesis, acting on 50S ribosomal subunit)

- **Linezolid**
- Sutezolid
- Delpazolid

### Benzothiazinones (DprE1 inhibitors, cell wall synthesis)

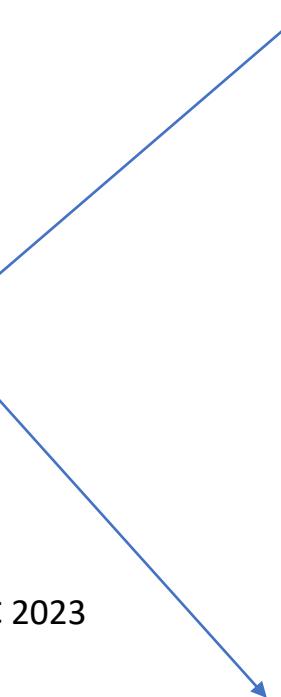
- BTZ-043
- OPC-167832 (Quabodepistat)
- PBTZ169
- TBA-7371

### Oxaboroles (Leucyl t-RNA synthetase inhibitors)

- GSK3036656 (Ganfeborole)

Rv0678

see Almeida, AAC 2023



### Diarylquinolones (ATP synthetase inhibitors)

- **Bedaquiline**
- TBAJ-587 / TBAJ-876

### Nitroimidazoles (DprE2 inhibitors, cell wall synthesis)

- Delamanid
- Pretomanid

### Oxazolidinones (protein synthesis, acting on 50S ribosomal subunit)

- **Linezolid**
- Sutezolid
- Delpazolid

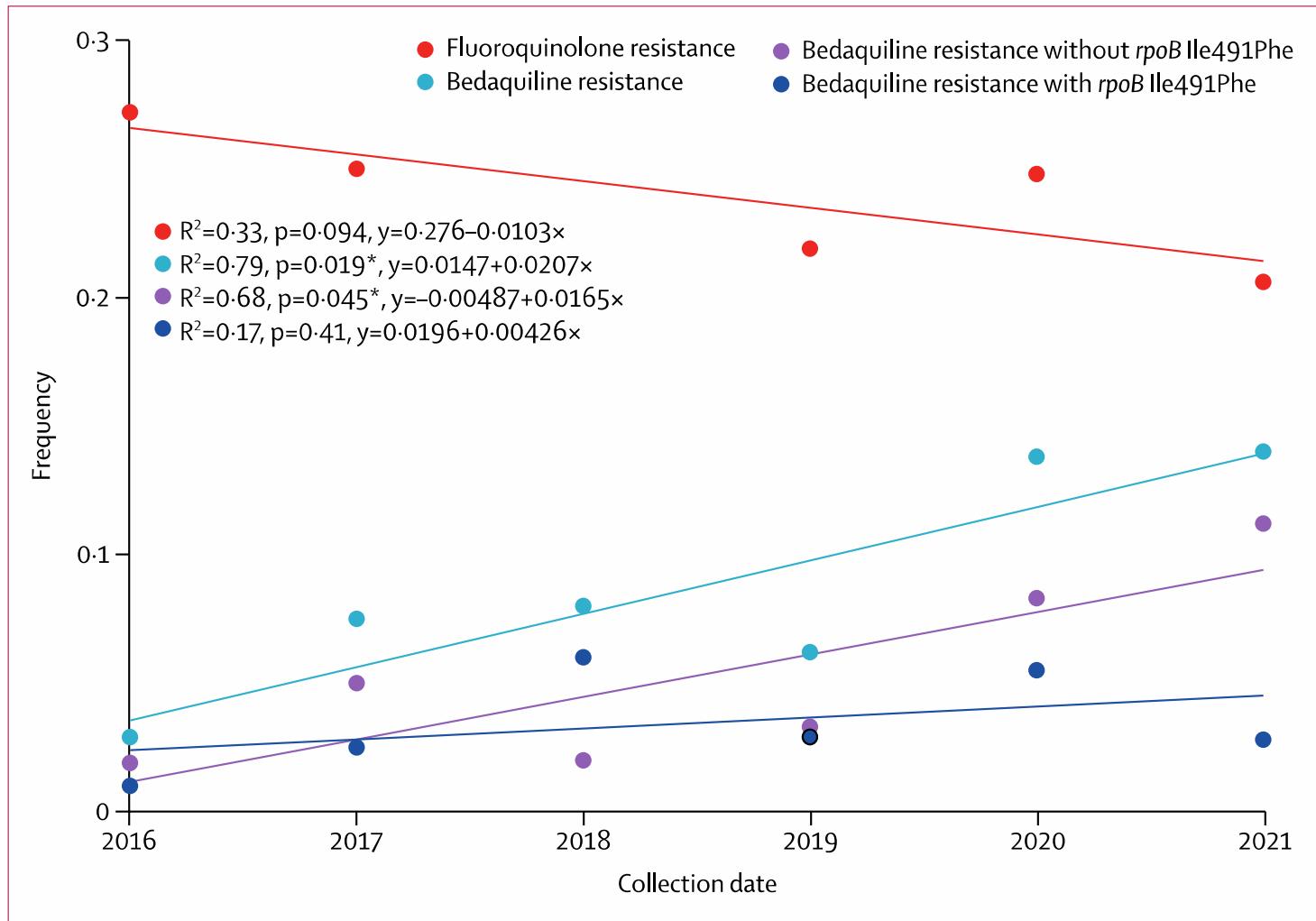
### Benzothiazinones (DprE1 inhibitors, cell wall synthesis)

- BTZ-043
- OPC-167832 (Quabodepistat)
- PBTZ169
- TBA-7371

### Oxaboroles (Leucyl t-RNA synthetase inhibitors)

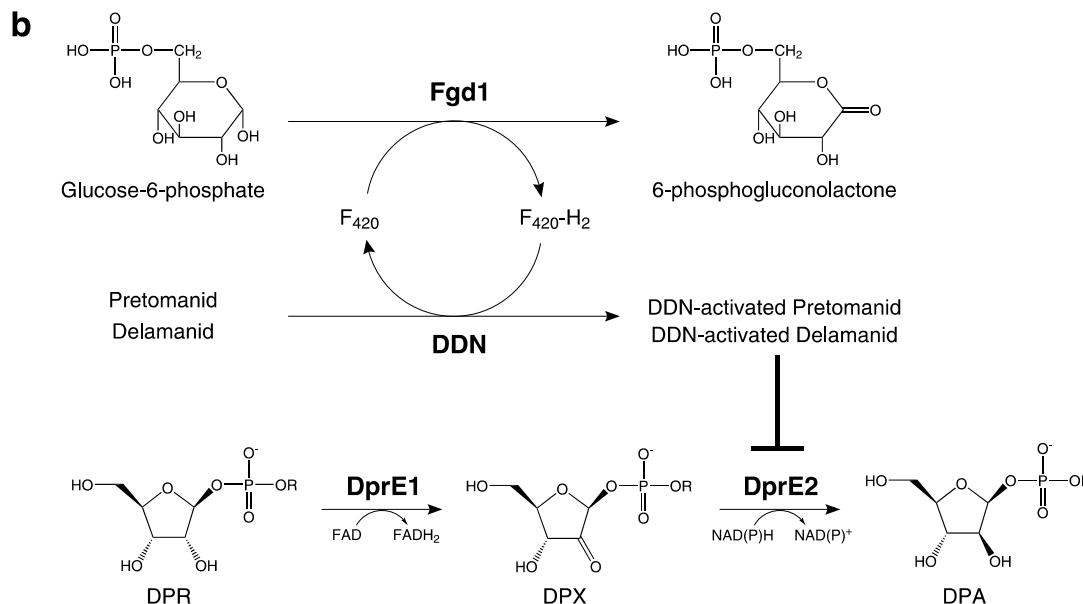
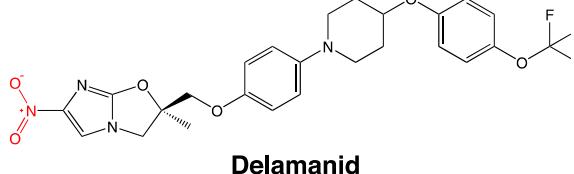
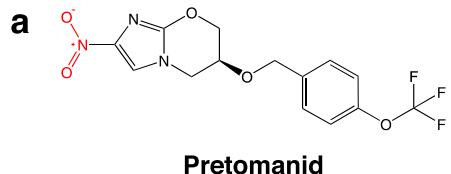
- GSK3036656 (Ganfeborole)

## Rapidly emerging bedaquiline resistance - Mozambique

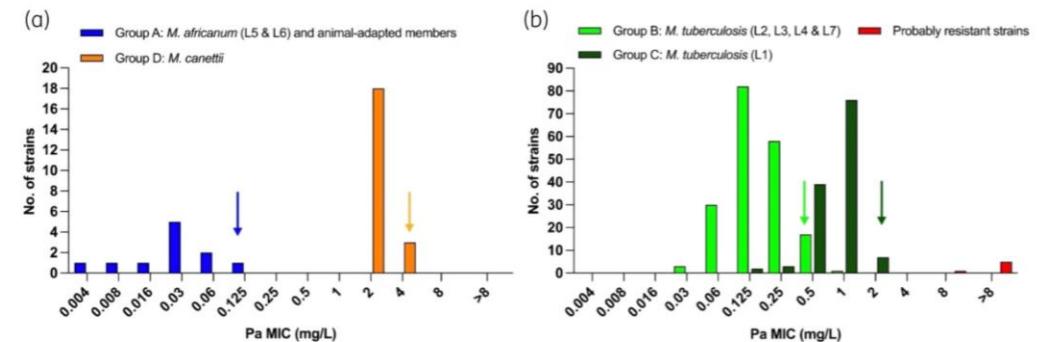


Non-essential genes  
and a long  $t_{1/2}$ , a  
perfect storm for *de  
novo* resistance?

## Resistance to other 'new' drugs?



Abrahams *et al*  
Nature Communications, June 2023



Bateson *et al*, *J Antimicrob Chemother* 2022

**Delamanid:**

*ddn* W88\* (premature stop codon)

sub-lineage 2 (TGG->TAG)

sub-lineage 4 (TGG->TGA); otherwise susceptible

Potential cross-resistance from LoF mutations in  
*ddn*, *fbiA*, *fbiB*, *fbiC*, *fgd1*, *Rv2983*

# New regimens in trials

## PAN-TB

Dlm **Bdq OPC** Szd

Pa **Bdq OPC** Szd

## endTB

Bdq Lzd Mfx Pza

**Bdq Lzd Cfz** Pza Lfx

Bdq Dlm Lfx Lzd Pza

Dlm Cfz Lfx Lzd Pza

Dlm Cfz Mfx Pza

## PARADIGM4TB

GSK656 Bdq Dlm Mxf

**BTZ043 Bdq** Dlm Mxf

GSK656 Bdq Dlm Pza

**BTZ043 Bdq** Dlm Pza

GSK656 Bdq Dlm Lzd

**BTZ043 Bdq** Dlm Lzd

GSK656 Bdq Pa Mxf

**BTZ043 Bdq** Pa Mxf

**BTZ043 Bdq** Mxf Pza

GSK656 **BTZ043 Bdq** Dlm

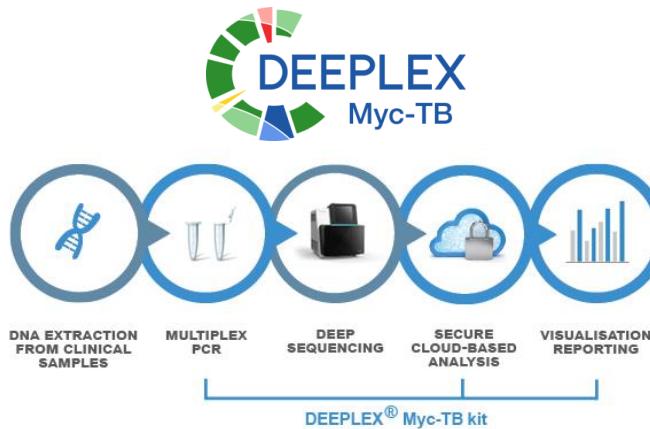
Bdq Dlm Mxf

OPC-167832 = Quabodepistat

GSK656 = Ganfeborole

# WHO review of diagnostic accuracy of tNGS:

Market ready products with end-to-end workflows




**Oxford Nanopore announces positive evaluation of new method for rapid drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB) profiling**

Wed 23rd March 2022

*On World Tuberculosis Day, Oxford Nanopore, in collaboration with Quadram Institute Bioscience (QIB), announces that it has developed a new rapid workflow shown in a Phase I study to identify DR-TB which, when validated, could help clinicians tackle the disease globally in the future.*

Tackling drug-resistant TB



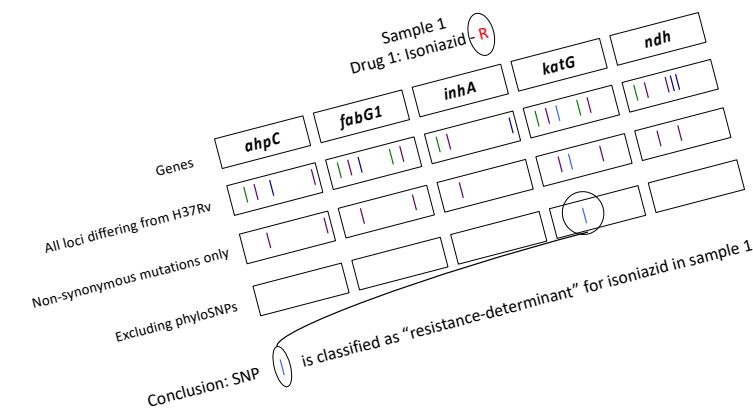
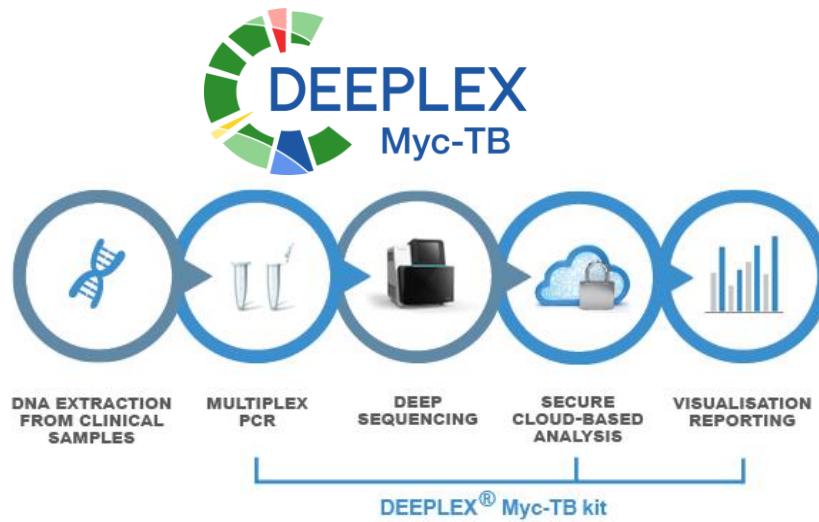
**TBseq Ultra–结核/非结核  
分枝杆菌鉴定+耐药基因检测**

TBseq-国内首个基于高通量测序,专门针对分枝杆菌鉴定&耐药的基因检测产品

本报告由圣庭医疗——美国病理学家学会(CAP)认证的  
高通量测序(NGS)临床检测实验室出具

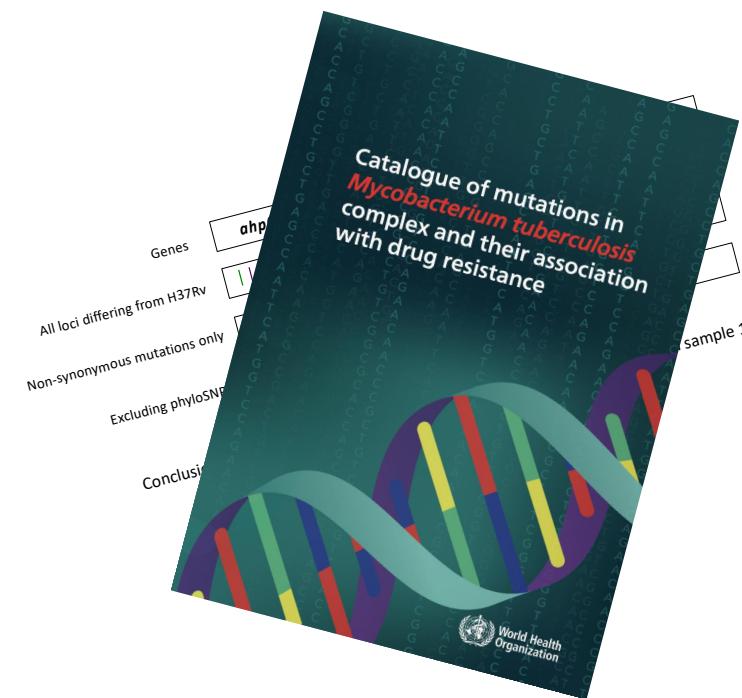
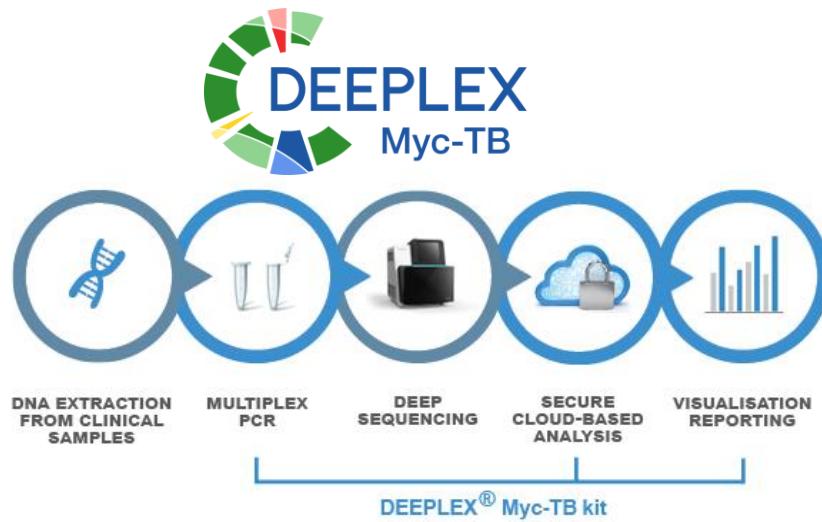
# WHO review of diagnostic accuracy of tNGS:

Market ready products with end-to-end workflows



# WHO review of diagnostic accuracy of tNGS:

Market ready products with end-to-end workflows



## PICO 1

Should tNGS as the initial test be used to diagnose drug resistance in patients with bacteriologically confirmed pulmonary TB disease?

	Sensitivity	Specificity	Negative predictive value	Positive predictive value	Indeterminate rate
Rifampicin_composite	93.1 (87.0 - 99.2)	96.2 (88.6 - 100)	84.8 (78.4 - 91.1)	99.0 (96.5 - 100)	12.0 (10.5-13.6)
Isoniazid	95.8 (92.8 - 98.7)	97.0 (95.1 - 98.9)	90.9 (87.7 - 94.0)	98.9 (98.2 - 99.6)	14.6 (13.0 - 16.2)
Levofloxacin	94.2 (88.4 - 99.9)	96.2 (93.4 - 98.9)	96.8 (95.7 - 97.9)	93.2 (88.5 - 97.9)	9.2 (7.8 - 10.7)
Moxifloxacin	95.6 (92.4 - 98.7)	96.3 (93.2 - 99.5)	97.4 (96.2 - 98.7)	94.4 (90.6 - 98.3)	9.3 (7.9 - 10.9)
Pyrazinamide_composite	88.4 (85.2 - 91.7)	98.5 (97.1 - 100)	87.7 (80.6 - 94.9)	98.7 (97.5 - 99.9)	17.6 (14.6 - 20.8)
Ethambutol_composite	95.8 (94.0 - 97.6)	99.3 (98.2 - 100)	93.4 (89.3 - 97.4)	99.5 (98.8 - 100)	16.3 (13.6 - 19.2)

## PICO 2

Should tNGS as the initial test be used to diagnose drug resistance in patients with bacteriologically confirmed rifampicin-resistant pulmonary TB disease?

	Sensitivity	Specificity	Negative predictive value	Positive predictive value	Indeterminate rate
Isoniazid	96.5 (93.8 - 99.2)	95.8 (91.8 - 99.8)	75.7 (67.1 - 84.4)	99.6 (99.1 - 100)	14.6 (13.0 - 16.2)
Levofloxacin	95.8 (90.4 - 100)	96.0 (93.1 - 98.9)	97.5 (96.2 - 98.8)	94.2 (89.6 - 98.9)	9.2 (7.8 - 10.7)
Moxifloxacin	96.5 (93.6 - 99.5)	95.2 (91 - 99.4)	97.4 (95.6 - 99.2)	94.7 (90.9 - 98.6)	9.3 (7.9 - 10.9)
Pyrazinamide_composite	90.0 (86.8 - 93.2)	98.6 (96.8 - 100)	84.6 (75.2 - 94.0)	99.3 (98.4 - 100)	17.6 (14.6 - 20.8)
Bedaquiline	67.9 (42.6 - 93.2)	97.0 (94.3 - 99.7)	99.4 (98.6 - 100)	62.2 (46.5 - 77.8)	16.7 (13.7 - 20.1)
Linezolid	68.9 (38.7 - 99.1)	99.8 (99.6 - 100)	99.8 (99.4 - 100)	93.0 (84.0 - 100)	15.1 (13.1 - 17.3)
Clofazimine	70.4 (34.6 - 100)	96.3 (93.2 - 99.3)	99.2 (98.1 - 100)	44.2 (12.4 - 75.9)	11.6 (9.5 - 14.0)
Amikacin	87.4 (74.5 - 100)	99.0 (98.4 - 99.6)	98.0 (96.0 - 100)	82.0 (57.0 - 100)	17.8 (15.6 - 20.2)
Ethambutol_composite	96.7 (95.0 - 98.4)	98.4 (96.1 - 100)	88.8 (81.2 - 96.3)	100 (99.0 - 100)	20.6 (17.3 - 24.2)
Streptomycin	98.1 (96.1 - 100)	75.0 (59.5 - 90.5)	90.8 (82.0 - 99.7)	94.8 (92.8 - 96.8)	18.8 (16.1 - 21.8)

## Use of targeted next-generation sequencing to detect drug-resistant tuberculosis

Rapid communication, July 2023

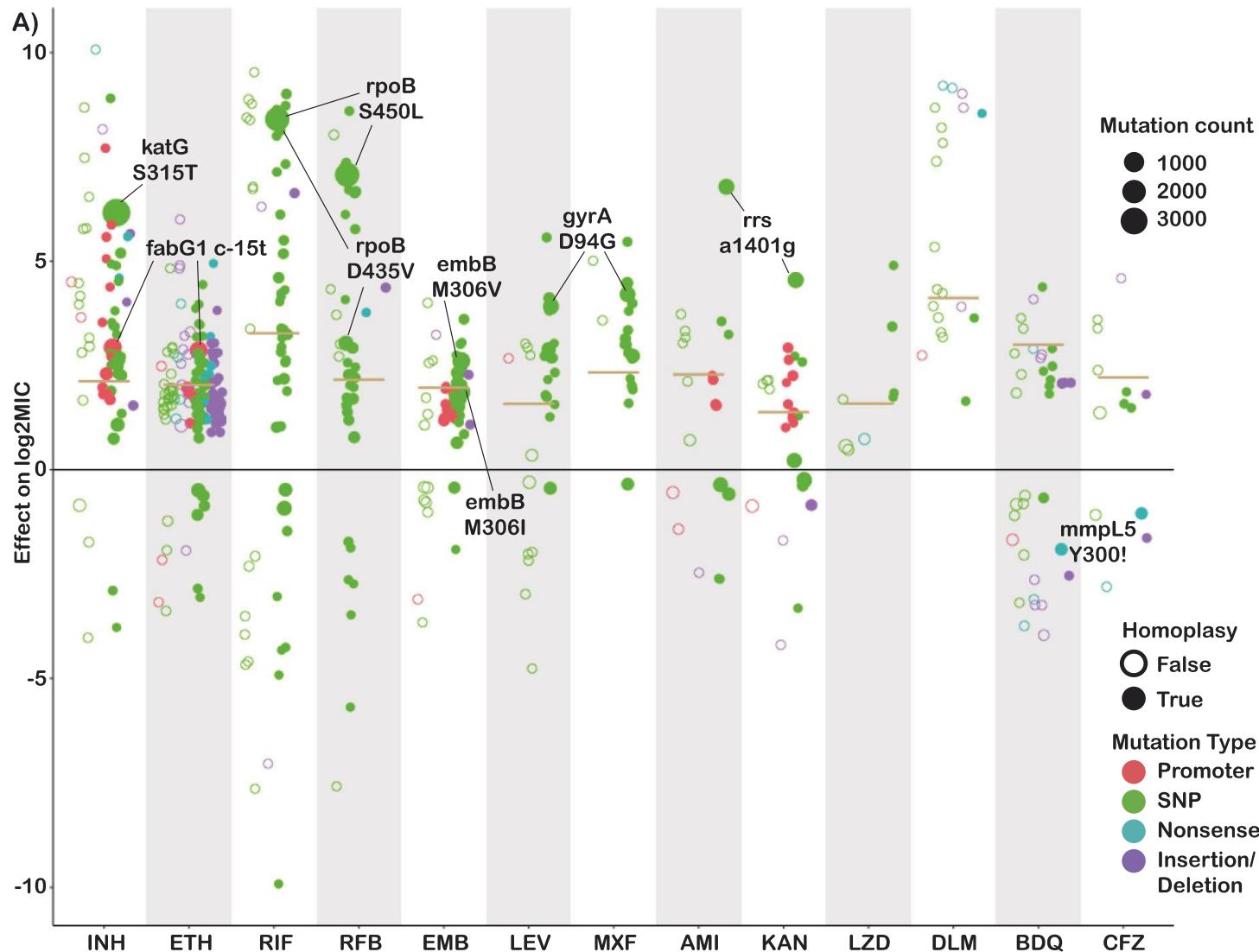
“In people with bacteriologically confirmed **pulmonary TB disease**, targeted next-generation sequencing technologies **may be used** on respiratory samples to diagnose resistance to rifampicin, isoniazid, fluoroquinolones, pyrazinamide and ethambutol **rather than culture-based phenotypic drug susceptibility testing.**

*(Conditional recommendation, certainty of evidence moderate [isoniazid and pyrazinamide], low [rifampicin, fluoroquinolones and ethambutol])*

“In people with bacteriologically confirmed **rifampicin-resistant pulmonary TB disease**, targeted NGS technologies **may be used** on respiratory samples to diagnose resistance to isoniazid, fluoroquinolones, bedaquiline, linezolid, clofazimine, pyrazinamide, ethambutol, amikacin and streptomycin **rather than culture-based phenotypic drug susceptibility testing.**

*(Conditional recommendation, certainty of evidence high [isoniazid, fluoroquinolones and pyrazinamide], moderate [ethambutol], low [bedaquiline, linezolid, clofazimine and streptomycin], very low [amikacin])*

# The future?



- University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
- University of Oxford Clinical Research Unit, Vietnam
- European Bioinformatics Institute, Cambridge, UK
- Public Health England, Birmingham, UK
- San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Milan, Italy
- National Tuberculosis Control Program, Islamabad, Pakistan
- The Foundation for Medical Research, Mumbai, India
- PD Hinduja National Hospital, Mumbai India
- Research Centre Borstel, Germany
- Institute of Microbiology & Laboratory Sciences, Gauting, Germany
- London School of Tropical Medicine, London, UK
- Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredá, Lima, Peru
- China CDC, Beijing, China
- Institute for Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, China

- Mycobacteria Reference Laboratory, Edinburgh, UK
- University of Cape town, Cape town, South Africa
- Imperial College London, London, UK
- National University of Singapore, Singapore
- CDC Atlanta, Atlanta, USA
- University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- Instituto Adolfo Lutz, São Paulo, Brazil
- CDC Taiwan, Taipei, Taiwan
- Public Health Agency of Sweden, Sweden
- Institut Pasteur Madagascar, Antananarivo, Madagascar
- African Health Research Institute, Durban, South Africa
- TORCH Consortium
- World Health Organisation

<http://www.crypticproject.org>



BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation

