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Diseases Labs

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## Professor Zarir F. Udhwadia

Hinduja Hospital & Research Centre,  
Breach Candy Hospital & Research Centre,  
Parsee General Hospitals, India

**Thursday, 22 June 2023**  
11.00am To 12.00pm (SGT)

**Venue:** Codon A & B L5 @ Matrix

### MDR-TB management: past, present, and future

Tuberculosis is the world's foremost infectious disease and has killed a staggering 1 billion people over the last two centuries. TB control has been sabotaged by the emergence and spread of MDR-TB and XDR-TB. More recently, the COVID pandemic, has been directly responsible for the first rise in MDR-TB rates in 20 years with the WHO documenting a 6.4% rise in 2021 over 2020. As a consequence, MDR rates have now risen to over half a million every year over the last 3 years.

After years of stagnancy, the MDR treatment landscape has changed at exhilarating speed, with the emergence in the last decade alone of three novel agents: bedaquiline, delamanid, and pretomanid. These have been added on to repurposed but highly effective drugs like linezolid to make up new, all oral, short (6 month) regimens. Compared to the prolonged (24 months) treatments of the past with toxic drugs (injectable aminoglycosides), multiple, high quality RCTs have demonstrated the improved cure rates and reduced toxicity of these new, all oral, shorter regimens.

This talk will highlight these recent advances, discussing data from the major trials and chart the exciting evolution of drug resistant TB over the decades. Optimism must however be tempered with caution as the spectre of looming drug resistance, even to the new drugs, continues to emerge. I will end with a glimpse of some future advances which hopefully will continue to help man triumph in the battle against this most ancient but deadly of scourges.

**Dr Zarir F Udhwadia** is a consultant chest physician and MD, DNB, FCCP (USA) and FRCP (London) attached to the Hinduja Hospital & Research Centre, Breach Candy Hospital & Research Centre, and Parsee General Hospitals. He has struck the unique balance of combining a busy clinical practice with internationally acclaimed medical research. He sees over 10,000 patients annually in his extremely busy clinics. Special interests include TB, Drug-resistant TB, ILD, and COVID 19

He is a prolific researcher and has over 220 PubMed indexed medical research publications in the world's premier academic medical journals and has been consistently listed amongst the top 2% of respiratory medicine researchers worldwide in the field of respiratory medicine in annual Stanford University publications, and in the top 1% of TB researchers in the world

**Host: Dr Amit Singhal**

**Webinar is open to all. No registration required**

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