

NEWSLETTER

Quarter 2, Apr-Jun, 2026

Welcome to the second quarterly newsletter of [The Union Child Pneumonia Working Group](#)—your go-to resource for the latest developments, events, funding opportunities, publications, and more shaping the field of child pneumonia research, policies, and programs.



Developments

Important recent developments in the field of child pneumonia...

- [Uptake of RSV prevention – monoclonal antibodies and maternal RSV vaccines during pregnancy](#)
- [WHO updated guidance on management of bronchiolitis](#)
- [Expansion of rapid nucleic-acid tests for RSV, influenza, pneumococcus, and atypical pathogens](#)
- [Trial of an AI-enabled Digital Stethoscope to Improve Antibiotic Stewardship \(BLAAAST\)](#)
- [The LalelaLung Study: Digital Stethoscope Clinical Evaluation \(LaLeLa\)](#)
- [CHAMPS updated website and newsletter](#)
- [Every Breath Counts Pneumonia Workshop at ISPPD](#)
- [View-hub by IVAC updated RSV page](#)
- [University of Washington START Center's Global Pneumococcal Serotype Interactive Dashboard](#)
- [IHME overview of Global Burden of Disease 2023 and pneumonia](#)



Events

Relevant up and coming global health events...

- [INSPIRED](#), Bologna, 25–28 June
- [UN High-level Political Forum](#), New York, 7–15 July
- [WHO Regional Committee for Africa](#), Addis Ababa, 24–28 August
- [3rd International Dialogue on Sustainable Financing for NCDs](#), Manila, 2–4 September
- [UN General Assembly](#), New York, 22–28 September
- [World Lung Day](#), 25 September
- [13th World Congress of the World Federation of Pediatric Intensive & Critical Care Societies](#), Melbourne, 26–30 September
- [World Oxygen Day](#), 2 October
- [World Health Summit](#), Berlin, 11–13 October
- [World Pneumonia Day](#), 12 November
- [Union World Conference on Lung Health](#), Rio de Janeiro, 17–20 November
- [5th International Conference on Public Health in Africa](#), Addis Ababa, 23–27 November



Funding

Significant child pneumonia-related funding awards...

Awarded

- [Wits Health Consortium from Gates Foundation](#)
- [Queen Mary University of London from Gates Foundation](#)
- [PATH from Gates Foundation \(RSV and GBS vaccines\)](#)
- [Boston University School of Public Health from NIH](#)
- [Locus Biosciences from NIAID and NIH](#)
- [Gram-Negative Antibiotic Discovery Innovator \(Gr-ADI\) from Gates Foundation, Wellcome Trust, and Novo Nordisk](#)

Open

- [American Thoracic Society](#)
- [Canadian Institutes of Health Research](#)
- [European Commission](#)
- [Fund for Innovation in Development](#)
- [NIH/Fogarty](#)
- [NIHR](#)
- [Thrasher Research Fund](#)
- [Wellcome Trust: multiple](#)





Publications

Notable child pneumonia publications...

- [*A cost-consequence analysis of the Children's Oxygen Administration Strategies Trial \(COAST\) in severe pneumonia*](#), Carroll OA, et al, PLOS Global Public Health, January 2026
- [*Pathogen and Patient Characteristics and the Severity of Viral Respiratory Infections in Children*](#), Moracas C, et al, JAMA Network Open, February 2026
- [*Effects of a comprehensive antibiotic stewardship program on antibiotic prescribing for acute respiratory infections in rural facilities: a cluster randomized trial*](#), Wei X, et al, Nature Medicine, February 2026
- [*Net benefits of investing in pulse oximetry and oxygen for childhood pneumonia in high burden countries*](#), Colbourn T & King C, Expert Review of Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research, March 2026
- [*Development and optimization of an easy to interpret loop-mediated isothermal amplification \(LAMP\) assay for the identification of bacterial pathogens causing childhood pneumonia*](#), Martínez-Trejo A, et al, Front Microbiology, March 2026
- [*From evidence to action: taking stock of the Lancet Global Health Commission on medical oxygen security after a year*](#), Rahman AE et al, Lancet Global Health, May 2026
- [*The Use of Point-of-Care Lung Ultrasound in the Diagnosis of Pneumonia in Pediatric Patients*](#), Marzook N, Pediatr Emerg Care, May 2026
- [*Post-pandemic resurgence of Mycoplasma pneumoniae and its emerging link with Rhinovirus in children*](#), Brandlmeier E, Infection, May 2026
- [*Mounting evidence of large reductions in RSV hospitalizations following introduction of prevention tools*](#), CDC, May 2025
- [*Systemic Corticosteroids in Children With Pneumonia: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis*](#), Geropeppa M, et al, Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal, June 2026



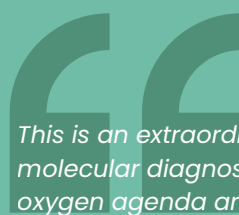
Member Spotlight



[Makerere Lung Institute](#) (MLI) is a semi-autonomous academic research institute within the Makerere University College of Health Sciences in Uganda. MLI provides specialized clinical care for tuberculosis, asthma, pneumonia, and other lung conditions, as well as research and other interventions to improve respiratory healthcare across Africa. The institute also works with international partners to advance medical innovation, community outreach, and healthcare capacity building in underserved populations.

Workshop 7
Pneumonia Control in LMICs
Sunday 17 May, 2026
1:00-4:00pm
Auditorium 12, Bella Center, Copenhagen

[Learn more here!](#)



From the Co-Chairs

This is an extraordinary time to work in child pneumonia. Rapid molecular diagnostics, expanding RSV prevention, and a global oxygen agenda are converging in ways we couldn't have imagined a decade ago. But tools only save lives when they reach children and that depends on the research, advocacy, and partnerships this community drives daily. We encourage every member of [The Union Child Pneumonia Working Group](#) to stay engaged, keep asking the hard questions, and point your science squarely at making the maximum impact.

Contact us!

- **Dr Eric McCollum**, Johns Hopkins University, emccoll3@jhmi.edu
- **Dr Rebecca Nantanda**, Makerere Lung Institute, rnantanda@gmail.com
- **Leith Greenslade**, Every Breath Counts, leith@justactions



Join Us!

Union members can log into their account and select this group; non-members can contact membership@theunion.org.

Everyone is welcome on our quarterly calls and to receive this newsletter!