

NEWSLETTER

QUARTER 3, JUL-SEP 2026

Welcome to the first newsletter of the INSPIRED 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...

- [WHO prequalifies a multi-dose maternal RSV vaccine vial](#)
- [Fiji becomes the first LMIC to switch to PCV 1+1](#) [insert link]
- [PCV coverage hits 71% according to WHO-UNICEF Estimates of National Immunization Coverage \(WUENIC\)](#)
- [Secure PCV Collaborators write to Health Ministers about PCV 1+1 and RSV maternal vaccine](#)
- [Mexico introduces maternal RSV vaccine into routine schedule](#)
- [Stop RSV Collaborators appeal to governments to introduce RSV maternal vaccine](#)
- [UK surveillance shows child ICU admissions for RSV fell by 38% with 62% RSV maternal vaccine coverage](#)
- [WFPHA issues global call urging governments to protect children against both RSV and pneumococcus, emphasizing that the two pathogens interact and together cause a large share of severe and fatal childhood pneumonia](#)
- [WHO updates guidelines to create a distinct, official playbook for viral bronchiolitis in infants and children](#)
- [Landmark PediCAP trial paves way for WHO guidelines with 5-day IV antibiotic protocols](#)



EVENTS

Relevant up and coming global health events...

- [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
- [14th International RSV Symposium](#), Santiago de Compostela, 14-17 April, 2027
- [5th INSPIRED Congress](#), Rotterdam, 17-20 June, 2027
- [32nd International Pediatric Association Congress of Pediatrics \(IPA\)](#), Kigali, September 2027
- [15th World Congress of the World Society of Paediatric Infectious Diseases \(WSPID\)](#), Mexico City, November 2027



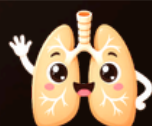
FUNDING

Child pneumonia research-related funding opportunities...

- [EDCTP Prizes 2027](#), accepting nominations/applications until 24 September 2026
- [Gates Foundation Global Grand Challenges, Innovations in Low-Cost and Simplified Pathogen Sequencing Workflows](#), deadline 29 September 2026
- [Laerdal Foundation](#), deadline 1 October 2026
- [Coefficient Giving Launchpad Funds](#), expressions of interest deadline 2 October 2026
- [NIH Fogarty Emerging Global Leader](#), deadline 3 December 2026
- [Wellcome Discovery Awards](#), rolling basis
- [Wellcome Early Career Awards](#), rolling basis
- [Wellcome Career Development Awards](#), rolling basis
- [Fund for Innovation in Development](#), rolling basis
- [AstraZeneca: Non-US RSV education grants](#), rolling basis

Coming...

- [EU Horizon Health — Portable and versatile point-of-care diagnostics, and Innovative Antimicrobials](#), opens 10 February 2027





PUBLICATIONS

Notable child pneumonia publications...

- *In-hospital and post-discharge mortality among infants with RSV in rural Kenya — Lancet Global Health, 10 Jul*
- *Optimising pneumonia vaccine programmes: a strategic opportunity for child survival and lifelong lung health*, Greenslade L, et al, Lancet Global Health, August 2026
- *Oral step-down, optimal drug, and total duration of antibiotic treatment in African children hospitalised with severe community-acquired pneumonia (PediCAP): a factorial randomised controlled trial*, Bielicki JA, et al, The Lancet, August 2026
- *Respiratory Syncytial Virus Shapes Serotype-Specific Invasive Pneumococcal Disease Dynamics in Children: An Observational Study*, Fafi I, et al, Journal of Infectious Diseases, August 2026
- *Maternal RSVpreF Immunisation Against Infant RSV Hospitalisation: Nationwide Population-Based Effectiveness and Durability Study*, Lancet Regional Health Europe, abagi MJ, et al, Lancet Regional Health Europe, August 2026
- *Misdiagnosis of bronchiolitis and misuse of antibiotics in Bangladesh*, Kabir FL, et al, Journal Global Health, August 2026
- *Causes of Death Among Stillbirths and Children Aged <5 Years in Africa and South Asia — Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance, Seven Countries, 2016–2024*, US CDC, September 2026
- *RSV Immunization Effectiveness and Safety for the 2026-2027 Respiratory Season*, Senerth E, et al, JAMA, September 2026
- *Hypoxaemia and mortality in children with lower respiratory infection in low-income and middle-income countries: systematic review and meta-analysis*, Hoekstra NE, et al, Lancet Global Health, September 2026
- *Economic and health burden of severe RSV in hospitalized children in Argentina, Brazil and Colombia*, Guiñazú GG, et al, Lancet Regional Health–Americas, September 2026
- *Pharmacist-led antimicrobial stewardship for pediatric community-acquired pneumonia*, Nguyen T, et al, Journal of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, September 2026



SPOTLIGHT

The International Society of Paediatric Respiratory Diseases (INSPIRED) is a global, multidisciplinary network dedicated to advancing respiratory health in children. Founded on the principles of collaboration, education, and equity, INSPIRED brings together pediatric pulmonologists, researchers, allied health professionals, and policymakers to share knowledge, foster innovation, and advocate for high-quality care — especially in low- and middle-income countries, where the burden of respiratory disease is greatest. Being part of INSPIRED means joining an active international community committed to shaping the future of pediatric respiratory medicine through scientific exchange, capacity building, and collaborative research. It is not just a society — it is a movement to ensure that every child, everywhere, has access to the best possible respiratory care.



Opening of the 4th INSPIRED Congress in Bologna, Italy, June 2026



FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

The field of child pneumonia research is advancing on several fronts. Vaccine coverage continues to expand, molecular diagnostics are improving case detection, and oxygen delivery systems are receiving renewed investment. The task before this Working Group is to ensure these advances translate into measurable reductions in child pneumonia mortality, particularly in the highest-burden settings, while also exploring research questions relevant for both low- and high-income contexts. We recognise Dr Rebecca Nantanda's foundational contributions in establishing this Working Group and shaping its early priorities, and we welcome Dr Diana Marangu-Boore as co-chair as we enter this new phase of development as part of INSPIRED.

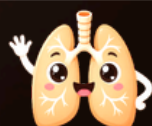
Contact us!

- **Dr Eric McCollum**, Johns Hopkins University, emccoll3@jhmi.edu
- **Dr Diana Marangu**, dmarangu@uonbi.ac.ke
- **Leith Greenslade**, Every Breath Counts, leith@justactions



JOIN US!

Everyone is welcome on our quarterly calls!



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