



Call for Symposium Proposals

Theme:

Integrated diagnostics: Advancing chest X-ray innovation

The Union World Conference on Lung Health 2026 invites symposium proposals that explore how recent advancements in chest X-ray (CXR) technology can transform disease detection strategies beyond TB. We welcome contributions that demonstrate how innovations such as AI-assisted interpretation, ultra-portable devices, and improved imaging protocols can support integrated care models and equitable access to comprehensive diagnostic services.

Background

Chest X-ray is a foundational imaging modality, particularly valuable as a first-line examination, with diverse applications. Recent advancements in CXR technology present an opportunity to transform disease detection strategies beyond TB. In many countries, innovations, such as AI-assisted interpretation of CXR, are being used for TB screening. These innovations can also enable simultaneous screening for other critical conditions like lung cancer, bridging both communicable and non-communicable disease priorities.

Why a focus on advancing integrated diagnostics through CXR innovation at the Union Conference 2026?

Over the past three years, many presentations at the Union Conference have highlighted CXR use for TB screening; however, discussions on broader applications have been limited. As health systems move toward integrated approaches, leveraging existing TB infrastructure for multi-disease screening could provide cost-effective, scalable solutions. Despite growing attention on new diagnostic tests, like nucleic acid amplification tests, CXRs innovations, primarily driven by AI and digital technology, support multi-disease screening and improve health system efficiency within integrated care models. As these become increasingly available, they deserve renewed focus as a versatile tool for integrated lung health strategies.



Symposium focus areas

We welcome proposals addressing (but not limited to):

1. **Maximising CXR use within integrated care models:** How can CXR innovations support multi-disease screening and improve health system efficiency?
2. **Advancing equitable access:** Strategies to ensure CXR technology reaches underserved populations and strengthens diagnostic equity.
3. **Alignment with global health priorities:** How CXR-based approaches can bridge TB, lung cancer and other critical conditions within universal health coverage frameworks.

Proposal guidelines

Each symposium should be 90 minutes, with 3–4 presentations (15 minutes each) and structured discussion time. Proposals must clearly state:

- Symposium title
- Rationale and objectives
- Suggested speakers and affiliations (diversity across geography, gender, career stage, and discipline is strongly encouraged)
- Expected outcomes and contributions to advancing integrated diagnostic strategies
- Proposals involving early-career investigators, LMIC-based researchers, survivor/community advocates, or interdisciplinary teams are especially welcome.

Expected outcomes

Through this symposium theme, the Union Conference 2026 aims to:

- Highlight the transformative potential of CXR innovations in integrated disease detection.
- Promote interdisciplinary approaches that align TB and non-TB priorities within health systems.
- Showcase scalable, cost-effective strategies for multi-disease screening using CXR technology.



- Stimulate dialogue on policy, implementation, and research to advance equitable access to diagnostic services globally.