

## NBT Can Assist WHO Urgent Call to End TB

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BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA, UNITED STATES, September 25, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The WHO estimates that a quarter of the world's population has TB infection.

Although global efforts have averted an estimated 54 million TB deaths since 2000, tuberculosis (TB) remains the world's deadliest infectious disease. Fewer people fell ill and died from TB last year, but countries are still not doing enough to end the disease, warns the World Health Organization (WHO).

The [ANCON](#) Medical Nanoparticle Biomarker Tagging (NBT) device is the ideal weapon to fight a disease like TB, allowing for mass screenings by use of a simple breath test that can be administered by non-medical staff and volunteers, with results in less than one hour. Further research into the TB's biomarker is the next step and would make take the NBT device an indispensable tool for screening for the disease.

Globally, an estimated 10 million people developed TB in 2017. The number of new cases is falling by 2% per year, although faster reductions have occurred in Europe (5% per year) and Africa (4% per year) between 2013 and 2017. However, drug-resistant TB remains a global public health crisis: In 2017, 558 000 people were estimated to have developed disease resistant to at least rifampicin – the most effective first-line TB drug. The vast majority of these people had multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB), that is, combined resistance to rifampicin and isoniazid (another key first-line TB medicine).

WHO's 2018 Global TB Report, released in New York today, calls for an unprecedented mobilization of national and international commitments. It urges political leaders gathering next week for the first-ever United Nations High-level Meeting on TB to take decisive action, building on recent moves by the leaders of India, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, and South Africa. Nearly 50 Heads of State and Government are expected to attend the meeting.

Tuberculosis is precisely the kind of disease where ANCON Medical's advanced disease screening technology can be life-saving. Non-invasive, simple to use, and affordable, the ANCON Medical NBT technology can detect the presence of disease by measuring exhaled breath for signs of the disease.



Tuberculosis in the Lungs

The technology works by detecting in exhaled breath specific “biomarkers,” which are DNA-protein controlled volatile organic compound (VOC) metabolites specific to diseases. Researchers have discovered biomarkers for more than 400 diseases, with lung and other cancers among those.

“Being programmable makes an ANCON Medical NBT device quite versatile. It can be used to screen for diseases like tuberculosis and cancer and later be reprogrammed to test for a range of other diseases when needed,” ANCON Medical CEO, Wesley Baker; a member of the Royal Society of Medicine said. “Lung cancer, scleroderma, cervical cancer, the Ebola virus, tuberculosis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease are just some of the diseases where known biomarkers have been discovered.”

For more information on ANCON Medical’s NBT technology research, visit <http://anconmedical.com/about-us/animated-nbt-demonstration/>

The United Nations General Assembly High-level Meeting on the fight against tuberculosis will take place on 26 September 2018 ([www.who.int/UNHLMonTB/](http://www.who.int/UNHLMonTB/)). The meeting follows the Global Ministerial Conference on Ending TB (Moscow, 16-17 November 2017), which resulted in high-level commitments from nearly 120 countries to accelerate the End TB response as expressed in the Moscow Declaration to End TB.

To read the WHO news release on this call-to-action, visit <http://www.who.int/news-room/detail/18-09-2018-who-calls-for-urgent-action-to-end-tb->.

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