**Important Announcement**

Beijing Call to Action for Lung Health Promotion

The commitment of GARD to conduct effective actions to fight the global burden of Chronic Respiratory Diseases (CRDs) was echoed in the Beijing Call to Action (BCA) for Lung Health Promotion. The BCA is a key starting point to build momentum and converge the international community’s attention on CRDs, as one of the major causes of mortality and disability worldwide. The aims of the BCA are multidimensional: to promote advocacy of CRDs, foster multi-sectoral action against risk factors, strengthen the primary health care system, support research and encourage partnerships.

**Upcoming National/International Conferences**

- **27-31 March 2020, Victoria, Australia**  
  Australia and New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science And The Thoracic Society Of Australia and New Zealand Annual Meetings (TSANZRS)  
  (https://www.tsanzrs2020.org/)

- **8-12 April 2020, Antalya, Turkey**  
  Turkish Thoracic Society Annual Congress  
  (http://kongre2020.toraks.org.tr/?lang=en)

- **16-18 April 2020, Niagara, Canada**  
  Canadian Respiratory Conference 2020  
  (https://cts-sct.ca/crc/)

- **24-26 April 2020, Nagoya, Japan**  
  Japanese Respiratory Society 60th Annual Meeting  
  (https://www.jrs.or.jp/jrs60/)

- **15-20 May 2020, Philadelphia, USA**  
  ATS International Conference  
  (https://conference.thoracic.org/)

- **28-30 May 2020, Dublin**  
  IPCRG 10th World Conference  
  (http://www.ipcrg2020.org/home)

- **6-10 June 2020, London, UK**  
  39th Annual Congress of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI)  
  (https://eaacicongress.org/)

- **5-9 September 2020, Vienna Austria**  
  The ERS 30th Annual Congress  
  (https://erscongress.org/)

- **17 – 21 Oct 2020, Chicago, USA**  
  CHEST Annual Meeting  
  (https://www.chestnet.org/)

The 13th GARD General Meeting was held in Beijing, China October 25-27, 2019. Nearly 100 GARD colleagues attended this annual meeting. A symposium focusing on Air Pollution and Chronic Respiratory Diseases in China was held a day prior to the GARD General Meeting and was organized and hosted by the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical Collage. Details of the meeting report, presentations can be found in https://gard-breathefreely.org/resources-2/
Since 2018, a total of 10 papers have been published in the GARD section of the Journal of Thoracic Disease (JTD, http://jtd.amegroups.com/issue/current/showToc ). We thank JTD for their ongoing support to GARD.

- **Health Benefits of Air Pollution Reduction.**

- **Next-generation care pathways for allergic rhinitis and asthma multimorbidity: a model for multimorbidity non-communicable diseases-Meeting Report (Part 2).**

- **Helsinki by nature: The Nature Step to Respiratory Health.**
• Mobile Technology in Allergic Rhinitis: Evolution in Management or Revolution in Health and Care?

• Tobacco Advertising, Anti-Tobacco Information Exposure, Environmental Smoking Restrictions, and Unassisted Smoking Cessation Among Chinese Male Smokers: A Population-Based Study.

• COPD’s early origins in low-and-middle income countries: what are the implications of a false start?

• Asthma in Children Under 5 Years in Rural Kyrgyzstan: A Diagnostic Vacuum? a Qualitative FRESH AIR Study.

• Adapting Very Brief Advice (VBA) on smoking for use in low-resource settings: experience from the FRESH AIR project.
• Presence of GARD at APSR
The 24th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR) was held at the National Convention Center (NCC), Hanoi, Vietnam, 14–17 November 2019. Partnered with the Journal of Thoracic Disease (JTD), GARD promoted the “Beijing Call to Action” at the JTD booth.

EVENTS/ACTIVITES/MEDIA

On 24th November 2019, the Asthma, Allergy and Clinical Society of Ho Chi Minh City held a symposium to celebrate the COPD day. 350 participants from the South of Vietnam, including physicians, nurses, and pharmacists attended this symposium. The symposium aimed to provide the updated knowledge on diagnosis and management of COPD for health care providers at primary care level. The symposium covered a wide range topics such as Update of GOLD 2020, Diagnosis of COPD, Vaccination for COPD patients, and health economy of COPD. After the symposium, most of participants made positive feedback for its topics.

The 13th GARD GM was featured the China Daily News on October 29, 2019 (http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201910/29/WS5db7923ba310cf3e35574191.html).

Dr Cherian Varghese was interviewed by the press at the GARD GM in Beijing, China about GARD missions, achievements & impact of GARD in global CRD prevention.
2019-2021 GARD Governance

During the 13th GARD General Meeting in Beijing, China, the 2019-2020 GARD Executive Committee, Planning Groups and Regional Groups were elected. See details in https://gard-breathefreely.org/about/elections-exec-2/

**Executive Committee**: Arzu Yorgancioglu (Chair), Chen Wang (Vice-Chair), Mina Gaga (WHO Nominee) Talant Sooronbaev (General Meeting Nominee) and Cherian Varghese (WHO Representative).

**Planning Groups** (in alphabetical order of last name): Innes Asher, Jean Bousquet, Cláudia Conceição, Álvaro Cruz, Marina Erhola, Letitia Harding, Teresa To, Arunas Valiulis, Giovanni Viegi, and Siân Williams and a representative of GINA/GOLD (TBD).

**Regional Groups**: Elizabete Nunes & Asma El Sony (African Region), Sandra Gonzalez Diaz & Rafael Stelmach (American Region), Tamaz Maghlakelidze & Bernard Pigearias (European Region), Mohammad Reza Masjedi & Youser Mohammad (Eastern Mediterranean Region), Digambar Behera & Kazi Bennoor (South-East Asia Region), and Letitia Harding & Lan Le Thi Tuyet (Western-Pacific Region)

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Contact us at: gardbreathe@gmail.com

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Season’s Greetings

GARD Executive Committee, Planning & Regional Groups Wish You All Happy Holidays!