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**ANNUAL HEALTH SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE 2021 / Konferensia Sientifiku Anual
ba Saude 2021**

30-31 March 2021 / 30 – 31 de Março 2021

*Tackling Endemic Infectious Diseases in the Era of a COVID-19 Pandemic:
Progress, Challenges, and The Way Forward*
*Kombate Moras Infeksioza Endemiku iha era Pandemia COVID-19:
Progresu, Dezafius, no Planu ba oin*

Call for Abstracts / Konvite ba Abstratu

Abstracts are NOW being accepted for the 2021 Annual Health Scientific Conference.
AGORA dadauk ami komesa simu Abstratu ba iha Konferensia Sientifiku Anual Saude nian
2021.

Paper/Poster Presentations / Karta/Poster Aprezentasaun

- Presentations must bear a direct relevance to one of the three key themes:

Aprezentasaun tenke iha direksaun ida ne'ebé mak relevante ho tema prinsipal tolu,
hanesan tuir mai:

- Laboratory & Microbiology Research on Infectious Diseases
Peskiza Laboratorial & Mikrobiologja ba iha Moras Infeksioza
- Clinical Practice & Management of Infectious Diseases
Pratika & Gestaun Klinika ba Moras Infeksioza nian
- Public Health & Epidemiology Research on Infectious Diseases
Peskiza ba Saude Publiku & Epidemologia konaba Moras Infeksioza

- Abstracts CANNOT exceed 350 words.

Abstratu LABELLE kontein liafuan barak liu 350.

- **Successful applicants will be invited to present their work at the Conference** (10 minutes presentation plus 10 minutes for question and answer), either in person or by video conference. These presentations can be in Tetun or English.

Ami sei konvida aplikante sira ne'ebé mak susesu, atu halo apresentasaun konaba
sira nia servisu iha Konferensia ida ne'e (minutu 10 sanulu ba apresentasaun no minutu
10 ba sesaun pergunta no resposta), bele partisipa direita ou bele liu husi video konferensia.
Aprezentasaun bele uza lian Tetun no mos Ingles.

- Abstracts relating to relevant project, laboratory, clinical or public health activities will be considered (conference content is not limited to formal health research only).

Abstratu ne'ebé iha relasaun ho projetu, laboratoriu, aktividade klinikal ou saude publika
ne'ebé mak relevante ne'e mos sei konsideradu (konteudu konferensia nian sei LA
limitadu deit ba peskiza saude formal).

- Presentations should avoid any commercial bias.

Aprezentasaun tenke evita kualker inklinaun komersial.



MINISTÉRIO DA
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SAÚDE
Direasaun Formasaun

- Abstracts presented at other conferences or events are eligible for consideration, but any previous presentations should be noted as part of the abstract submission.

Abstratu ne'ebé mak aprezena ona iha konferensia ou eventu seluk ne'e mos sei bele konsideradu, maibe kualker aprezentasaun anterior ne'e tenke notadu, hanesan parte husi submisaun abstratu.

- There is no limit to the number of abstracts that an individual may submit.

Sei la iha limite ba numeru abstratu ne'ebé mak individual ida hakarak atu aplika.

Submission Deadline / Data ikus ba Submisaun

All abstracts must be **submitted by email NO LATER THAN 5:00 pm on Friday, 26th February 2021**. Authors will be notified by email of acceptance as soon as possible following review.

Abstratu hotu-hotu tenke **hatama liu husi email LABELE TARDE LIU tuku 5:00 loro-kraik, lora 26 Sexta-feira fulan Fevereiro, 2021**.

Autor sei notifikadu sedu liu husi email kuandu hetan ona aprovasaun, depois de halo revizaun ba aplikasaun.

Abstract Format/Technical Specs / Abstratu nia Formatu/Espesifikasaun Teknika

*Abstracts **CANNOT Exceed 350 words** / Abstratu nia liafuan LABELE barak liu 350.

*Author name with Surname and Initials; presenting Author should be underlined.

*Autor nia naran ho Apelidu no Inisial; autor ne'ebé atu halo aprezentasaun tenke sublinha/destaka.

*Affiliations for each author should include Organisation, Department, Hospital/University, City, Country.

*Afiliasaun ba kada autor tenke inklui organizasaun, Departamentu, Hospital/Universidade, Sidade, Nasaun.

*Figures, tables and images may be included in abstract submission.

*Figura, tabela no imagen mos bele inklui iha submisaun abstratu.

*Submissions will be accepted in Tetun and English only.

*Sei simu deit submisaun ne'ebé mak uza lian Tetun ou Ingles.

*Phone number of presenting Author should be provided.

*Tenke tau numeru Telemovel apresentador nian.

Submissions should be emailed to (depending on theme):

Submisaun tenke email ba iha (konforme tuir tema):

- Laboratory & Microbiology Research on Infectious Diseases: lucsendar.alves@menzies.edu.au
Peskiza Laboratorial & Mikrobiologia ba Moras Infeksioza nian
- Clinical Practice & Management of Infectious Diseases: drjeremy@maluktimor.org
Pratika & Gestaun Klinikal ba Moras Infeksioza
- Public Health & Epidemiology Research on Infectious Diseases: nmdasilaku@gmail.com
Peskiza Saude Publika & Epidemologia konaba Moras Infeksioza



MINISTÉRIO DA
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ANNUAL HEALTH SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE /
KONFERENSA SIENTIFIKU ANUAL BA SAUDE
SCIENTIFIC SESSION INFORMATION / INFORMASAUN SESAUN SIENTIFIKU

BACKGROUND / ANTESEDENTE

The coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has spread rapidly around the world and has presented unique challenges to many health systems. Each affected country has had to adapt to its own COVID-19 epidemiology, available resources, and locally acceptable public health and social measures. The Timor-Leste Ministry of Health, in collaboration with partner organizations, moved swiftly to prepare the health system (including improvements to infrastructure, equipment, and patient flow), develop local guidelines for surveillance and management, and implement stringent restrictions to social interactions. The Experience of COVID-19 control in Timor-Leste, and other countries in tackling this pandemic, is of interest to a Timorese audience. These experiences will help Timor-Leste further understand the risk of devastating COVID-19 outbreaks, the progress achieved, and the challenges for preventing and mitigating COVID-19. One year after Timor-Leste reported its first COVID-19 cases, this conference provides unique opportunities for meaningful dialogue on upscaling health systems and protecting our communities from SARS-CoV-2 and other infectious threats.

Pandemia moras Corona virus 2019 (COVID-19) espalha ona rapidamente iha mundu tomak no hamosu ona dezafiu uniku ba iha sistema saude barak. Kada nasaun ne'ebé mak afetadu tenke halo adaptasaun tuir sira nia epidemiologia COVID-19 nian, rekursu ne'ebé mak disponivel no medidas sosial no saude publika nian ne'ebé mak lokalmente aseitavel. Ministeriu Saude Timor-Leste, halao kolaborasaun ho organizasaun parsieru sira, atu hakas a'an rapidamente hodi prepara sistema saude nian (inklui melhoraun ba infraestrutura, ekipamentus, no fluxu pasiente nian), dezenvolve matadalan lokal ba iha vigilansia no gestaun, no implementa restrisaun rigorozu ba interasaun sosial. Esperiensia husi kontrolu ba COVID-19 nian iha Timor-Leste, no nasaun seluk relasiona ho prevensaun ba pandemia, ne'e interesante ba audensia Timor-Leste sira. Esperiensia sira ne'e sei ajuda Timor-Leste atu komprende liu tan risku husi surtu COVID-19 ne'ebé mak devastadu, progresu ne'ebé mak ita alkansa ona, no dezafiu ba prevensaun no mitigasaun COVID-19 nian. Tinan ida depois de Timor-Leste relata nia kazu COVID-19 primeiru, konferensia ida ne'e sei fornese oportunidade uniku ba dialogu ne'ebé mak signifikante konaba melhoraun sistema saude nian no proteze ita nia comunidade sira husi SARS-CoV-2 no ameasas husi moras infeksiozu sira seluk.

Significant steps forward have been documented during the last twenty years in the area of controlling and management of major infectious diseases. Timor-Leste has declared the elimination polio, leprosy and malaria. Mass drug administration (MDA) was introduced in 2015 and the current data available reveals a huge reduction in neglected tropical diseases (NTD). Recent sentinel survey suggest Timor-Leste continue has a low but increasing prevalence rates of HIV/AIDS.

Dokumenta ona etapa avansus ne'ebé mak signifikante, durante tinan 20 iha area kontrolu no gestaun ba moras infeksioza prinsipais. Timor-Leste deklarara ona atu halo eliminasaun ba poliomielite, lepra no malaria. Administrasaun medikamentu massal (MDA) introdus ona iha



MINISTÉRIO DA
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SAUDE
Direasaun Formasaun

tinan 2015 no dadus atual ne'ebé mak agora disponivel hatudu redusaun bo'ot ida ba iha Moras Tropikal Negligensiadu (NTD). Peskiza sentinela resente hatudu katak Timor-Leste nia nivel prevalensia ba HIV/AIDS ne'e oituan maibe kontinua aumenta a'as.

However, the nation continues to suffer the devastating effect of other form of infectious disease such tuberculosis, still causing the deaths of three Timorese people each day; dengue remains endemic and its complications claim the lives of both adults and children every year; infectious pneumonia and diarrhoea continue to cause high morbidity and mortality among children in Timor-Leste. Skin and sexually transmitted infections are also endemic across the country. To better tackle these endemic infectious diseases, Timor-Leste needs to strengthen its microbiological and laboratory diagnostic capacities, improve clinical case identification and management, and establish good, practical and evidence-based public health interventions.

No entantu, nasaun ida ne'e kontinua sofre efeitu devastasaun husi moras infeksioza sira seluk hanesan tuberkuloze ne'ebé mak nafatin kauza populasaun Timoroan kada lora sempre mate nain tolu; dengue nafatin endemiku no nia komplikasaun nafatin kontinua hamate adultu no labarik kiik sira nia vida, kada tinan; pneumonia infeksioza no diareia kontinua kauza morbidade no mortalidade ba iha labarik kiik sira iha Timor-Leste. Infeksaun ne'ebé mak transmitidu husi kulit no liu husi relasaan sexual mos sai endemiku iha rai laran. Atu kombate ho diak endemiku husi moras infeksioza sira ne'e, Timor-Leste presiza atu haforsa liu tan nia kapasidade diagnostiku mikrobiologia no laboratoriu nian, halo diak liu tan identifikaun no gestaun ba kazu klinikal, no estabelese intervensaun saude publika ne'ebé mak diak, pratika no bazeadu tuir evidensia.

During these years, with the support of developing partners, Timor-Leste has been strengthening the national capacity in Laboratory and Microbiology. The Global Fund provides support to the Ministry of Health (MOH) to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, along with technical assistance from WHO. KOICA has support MOH to upgrade the National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory. In the last two years, Menzies School of Health Research through its STRONG-TL and Fleming Fund projects has supported the National Health Laboratory to strengthen its laboratory capability and, in 2020, to introduce and sustain RT-PCR testing for COVID-19.

Durante tinan hirak ne'e, hamutuk ho suporta husi parseiru dezvoltamentu sira, Timor-Leste haforsa ona kapasidade nasional iha area Laboratoriu no Mikrobiologia. Global Fund fornese suporta ba Ministeriu Saude (MdS) hodi kombate HIV/AIDS, tuberkuloze no malaria, hamutuk ho assistensia teknikal husi OMS. KOICA suporta ona MdS hodi atualiza/halo konstrusaun ba Laboratoriu Nasional ba Referensia Tuberkuloze nian. Husi tinan 2 kotuk, Menzies School of Health Research liu husi nia projetu STRONG-TL no Fleming Fund, fo ona apoiu ba iha Laboratoriu Nasional Saude (LNS) hodi haforsa kapasidade laboratoriu nian no iha tinan 2020, introdus no mantein teste RT-PCR ba COVID-19.

In the area of Clinical Practice and Management of Infectious Diseases; more medical general practitioners and specialists were trained and recruited into roles in hospitals, community health centres and health posts. Partners such as St John of God Health, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Cuban Medical Brigade, Chinese Medical Brigade and Maluk Timor have been providing support in reinforcing clinical skills and knowledge in the area of infectious. This was most obviously seen during the accelerated training and support of clinicians in the diagnosis and



MINISTÉRIO DA
SAÚDE



INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE
SAUDE
Diresaun Formasaun

management of COVID-19, and the revitalising of IPC practices in all hospitals, health centres and health posts in Timor-Leste.

Iha area Pratika Klinikal no Gestaun ba Moras Infeksiozu: mediku geral no espesialista barak mak hetan ona treinamentu no rekruta ba iha servisu sira iha Hospital, Centro saude komunitariu no postu saude sira. Parseiru hanesan St. John of God Health, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Cuban Medical Brigade no Maluku Timor mos fornese ona suporta hodi reforsa kapasidade no konhesimentu klinika iha area infeksiaun nian. Ida ne'e ita bele hare liu husi durante treinamentu no apoiu ne'ebé mak aseleradu ba mediku sira konaba diagnostiku no gestaun ba COVID-19, no revitalizasaun ba pratika IPC iha hospital, Centro Saude no Postu Saude hotu-hotu iha Timor-Leste.


Significant progress has also been observed in Public Health and Epidemiology, including advances in public health promotion and disease prevention at the community health level. There are many NGOs and development partners contributing to improve the control of endemic infectious diseases including Klibur Domin, Caritas East Timor, IOM, Bairo Pite Clinic, Leprosy Mission, CCT, WHO and many other institutions working in the area of Public Health and Epidemiology. Researchers and Universities contribute through evidence-based recommendations for change, and it is time for policy- and decision-makers to refine strategies for controlling endemic infectious diseases based on up-to-date evidence and quality local health research.

Progresu signifikante mos observadu ona iha parte Saude Publika no Epidemiologia nian, inklui progresu iha parte promosaun saude publiku no prevensaun ba moras sira iha nivel saude komunitariu. Iha NGO no parseiru dezenvolvimentu barak mak fó kontribuisaun hodi halo diak liu tan kontrolu ba moras infeksiozu endemiku inklui NGO sira hanesan Klibur Domin, Caritas East Timor, IOM, Bairo Pite Clinic, Leprosy Mission, CCT, OMS no insituisaun sira seluk tan ne'ebé mak servisu iha area Saude Publika no Epidemiologia nian. Peskizador no Universitariu kontribui liu husi rekomendasaun bazeadu tuir evidensia ba mudansa, no agora mak tempu atu ema sira ne'ebé iha poder ba politika no toma desizaun nian, atu ajusta/afina estrategia ba kontrolu moras infeksiozu endemiku nian bazeia tuir evidensia ne'ebé mak atualizadu no peskiza saude lokal ne'ebé mak kualidade.

This conference will bring researchers, policy- and decision-makers; health professionals, clinicians, laboratory scientists, public health experts, epidemiologists and academics in infectious diseases to present and debate the recent progress, current challenges and recommendations for further strengthening of the Strategy for Prevention and Mitigating Endemic Infectious Diseases in Timor-Leste, including COVID-19.

Konferensia ida ne'e sei lori peskizador sira, ema sira ne'ebé iha poder ba politika no toma desizaun nian; profesionais saude sira, medikus, sientista laboratoriu, espesialista saude publika, epidemiologista no akademiku sira ne'ebé mak iha area moras infeksioza nian atu apresenta no debate progresu resente, dezafiu atual no rekomendasaun hodi haforsa liu tan estrategia ba Prevenaun no Mitigasaun Moras Infeksiozu Endemiku nian iha Timor-Leste, inklui COVID-19.

Approved by


Dirce Maria Soares Araújo, SKM, MPH
Chair of Annual Scientific Conference -INS