

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Tuberculosis Diagnosis in **Remote Island Communities: Equity Gaps and Gains**

Speaker: Dr. Samantha F. Tinsay

Public Health Consultant, Philippines Clinical Lecturer, Cebu Doctors' University College of Medicine



14 October 2025 (Tuesday) 12:00 - 1:00 pm SGT



Hybrid NUS MD1 Rm 13-02/ Zoom

Synopsis:

This presentation examines the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in revolutionizing tuberculosis (TB) diagnosis in Bantayan, a remote island municipality in Cebu, Philippines. Focusing on field implementation of Al-assisted chest x-ray screening and molecular point-of-care testing (POCT), the session will explore how digital innovations have helped bridge geographic, socioeconomic, and health system barriers that historically limited access to timely TB case detection and treatment. The session will highlight both the equity gains achieved and the persistent gaps that remain, offering insights into how digital health innovations can advance TB control while strengthening health systems and building community resilience.

By discussing Bantayan's experience with the broader discourse on digital health and equity, the presentation will highlight strategic opportunities for scaling AI and POCT in resource-limited settings. The session aims to create dialogue on how technology can be harnessed not only to advance TB eradication, but also to strengthen health systems in ways that are inclusive and sustainable.

About the Speaker:

Samantha F. Tinsay is a Physician, Public Health Consultant, Lifestyle Medicine Specialist, and Clinical Lecturer at Cebu Doctors' University College of Medicine. She holds an MD from Cebu Doctors' University College of Medicine, is a Diplomate of the Philippine College of Lifestyle Medicine, and has a BS in Public Health Sciences from the University of California, Irvine.

As the Municipal Health Officer of Bantayan, Cebu, she was one of the early implementers of utilizing AI and POCT in the Philippines for TB diagnosis. Her work has significantly improved early detection and access to care in remote island communities, advancing equity in the fight against TB. She currently serves as TB program consultant to several local government units and is leading the Philippine TB Caucus to advocate for TB patients and survivors.

