## Back to the Future: Aerosol Treatment and Prevention of Tuberculosis

## Anthony J Hickey

## RTI International, RTP, NC

Tuberculosis remains a serious and globally prevalent disease causing between 1.5 and 2.0 million deaths annually. The increasing incidence of multiple and extensively drug resistant tuberculosis has created urgency that cannot easily be addressed by new drug and vaccine development approaches. Repurposing existing drugs or drugs that cannot be delivered by conventional routes of administration for aerosol delivery to the lungs is not a new concept. It was first employed in the early 1950s as a response to streptomycin resistant tuberculosis. However, we are much presently much better equipped to pursue lung delivery of drugs and vaccines than we were at any other point in history.