

Dear colleague,

Herewith, I wish to express my interest in the position as Chair of NTM-NET and the connected role as a member of the TB-NET Steering Committee.

For the past 10 years, I have dedicated much of my working life to treatment of patients with NTM diseases and scientific studies aiming at improving the outcomes of antibiotic treatment of NTM disease. These studies have led to >100 scientific publication on NTM disease, including papers in high ranking journals such as Science, the Lancet Infectious Diseases, the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine and the European Respiratory Journal.

As an active member of NTM-NET, TB-NET, the ERS, ESCMID and the American Society for Microbiology, I have built a strong international network that facilitates translational studies. I consider it my goal and privilege to help other interested researchers and clinicians to use this network to strengthen their research and clinical practice in NTM disease.

This activating approach will be my prime focus if I am elected Chair of NTM-NET. Currently, NTM-NET is a group of kind enthusiasts, with great potential. My goal is to promote truly active membership within NTM-NET. Membership should not be a line in one's CV, it should be evident from ongoing studies, either as PI or as participant. Only those who propose and participate in realistic multicenter studies for NTM-NET should be allowed to call themselves members. This might mean that a measure of activity is introduced, and actions could be taken towards members with too low activity scores. Most current members are active in multicenter studies that do not (yet) bear the NTM-NET flag. By promoting active interaction within the membership, I will make more studies fly under the NTM-NET flag. Interactions and collaborations feed further collaborations. I aim to be the catalyst that helps other to start (and finish!) new and exciting NTM-NET studies, as well as guidance documents and standards for clinical care.

For further background on my training and work, please find my CV attached.

Thank you very much for your attention and interest in my application.

Sincerely,

Jakko van Ingen