

# Development of Rapid Diagnostics using the Waveguide-based Optical Biosensor

Harshini Mukundan and Basil I. Swanson

LANL Biosensor Team



Courtesy: K-RITH, Durban, S. Africa

# Overview

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## ■ The Waveguide-based Platform

- Introduction to biomarkers
- Components of a diagnostic platform
- Optical waveguide-based biosensor
- Sensing films
- Assay format

## ■ Applications to Disease Detection

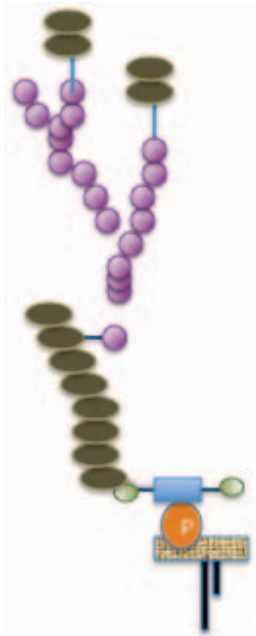
- Anthrax lethal toxins
- Influenza
- Tuberculosis



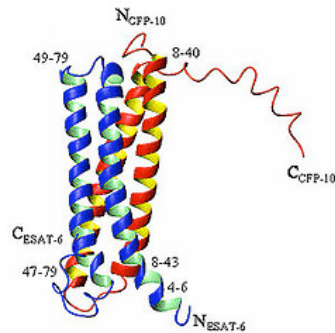
Wikipedia, NY City Campaign, Public Domain

# Biomarkers

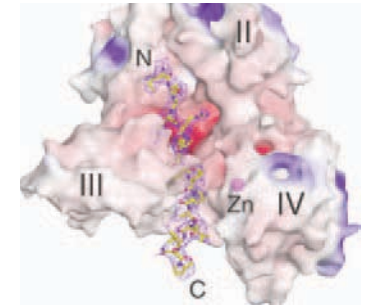
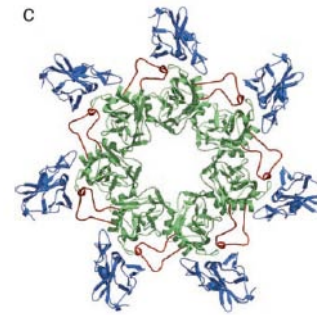
Biological Molecules that are secreted or differentially expressed during the course of disease.



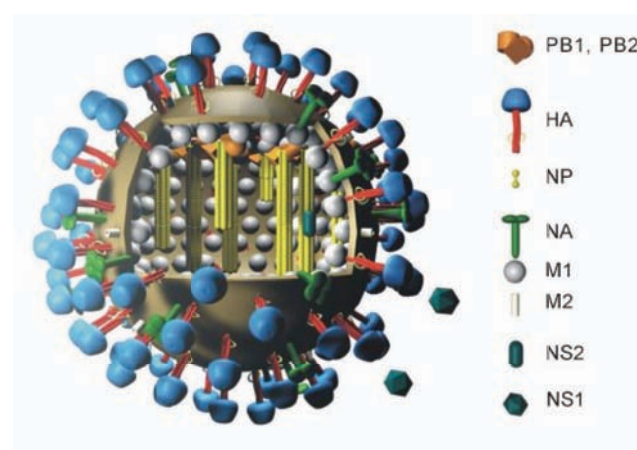
Lipoarabinomannan  
for TB



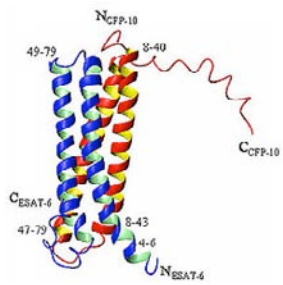
ESAT-6 & CFP 10  
for TB



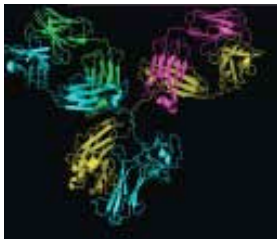
Anthrax lethal toxins



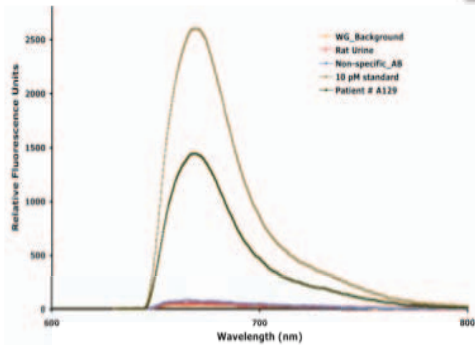
Influenza Virus



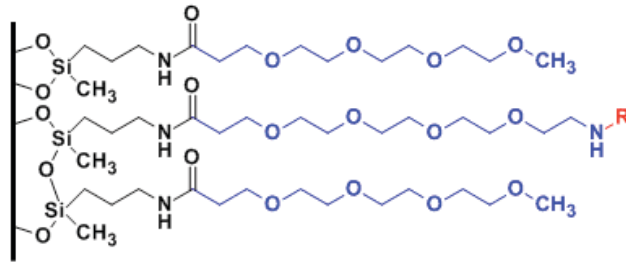
Purified Antigens



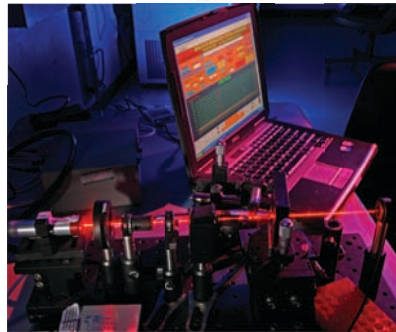
Recognition Ligands



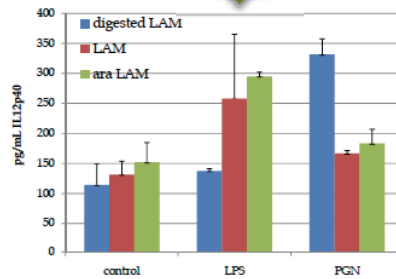
Sensitive Detection



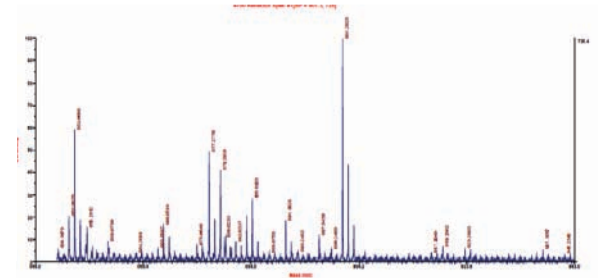
Functional Surfaces



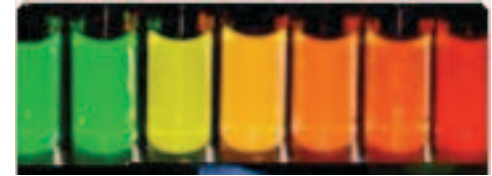
Biosensors



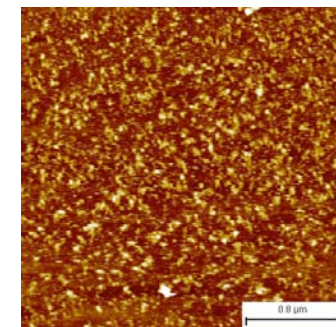
Basic Biology



Marker Discovery



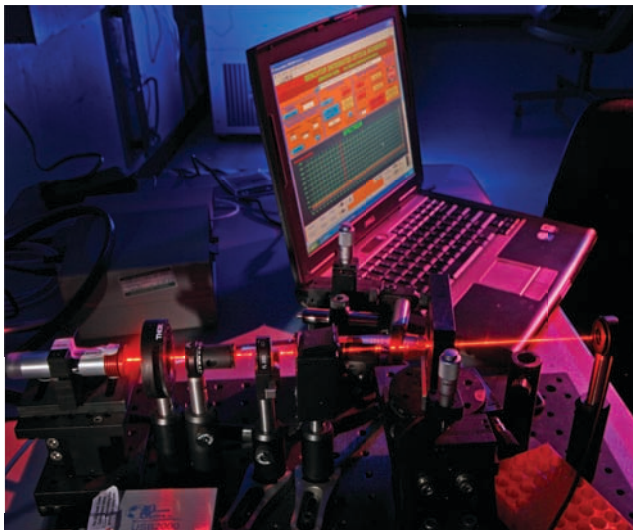
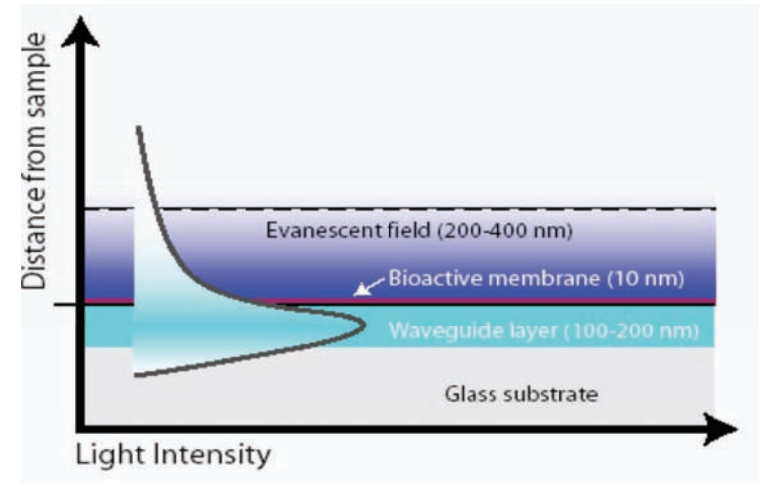
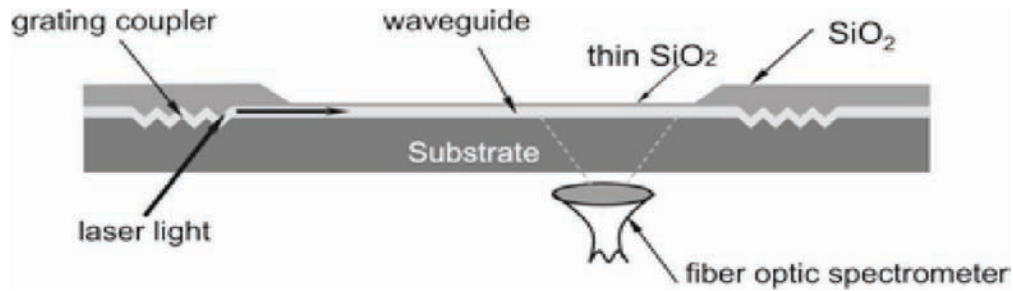
Fluorescence Reporters



Physical Characterization



# Waveguide-based Optical Biosensor

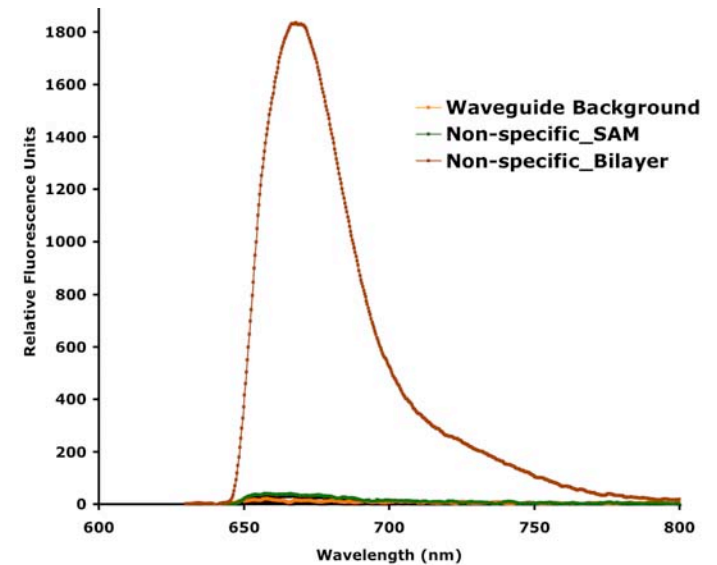
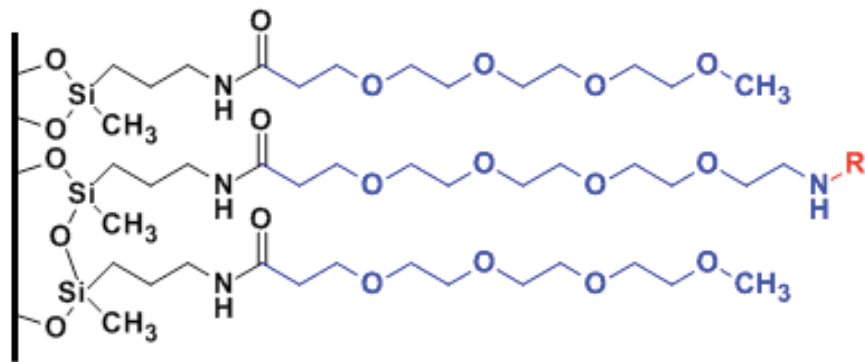


← **Waveguide sensor test-bed**

**Hand-held sensor system** →



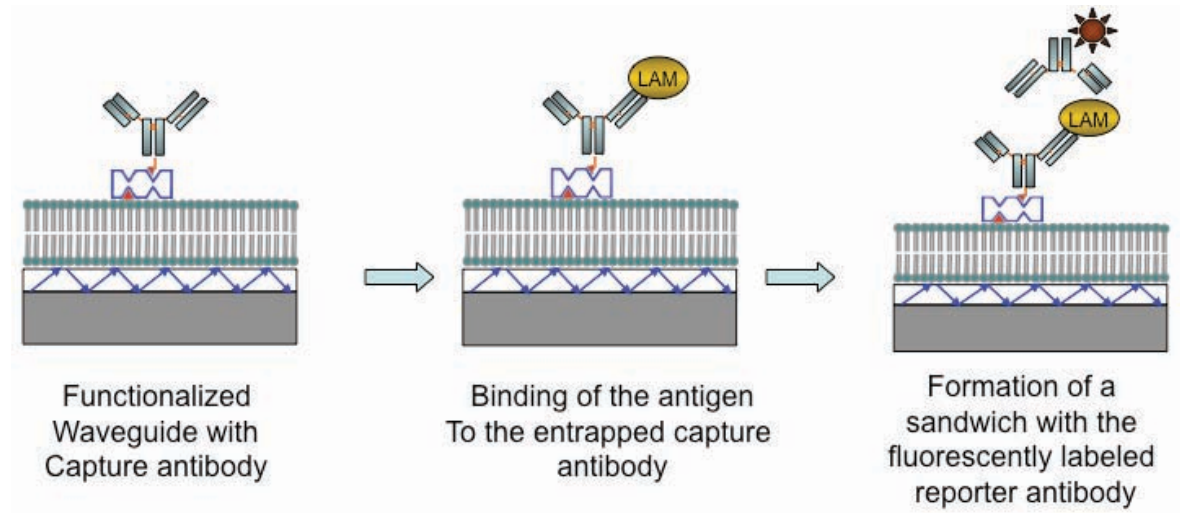
# Sensing Films for use with the Optical Biosensor Platform



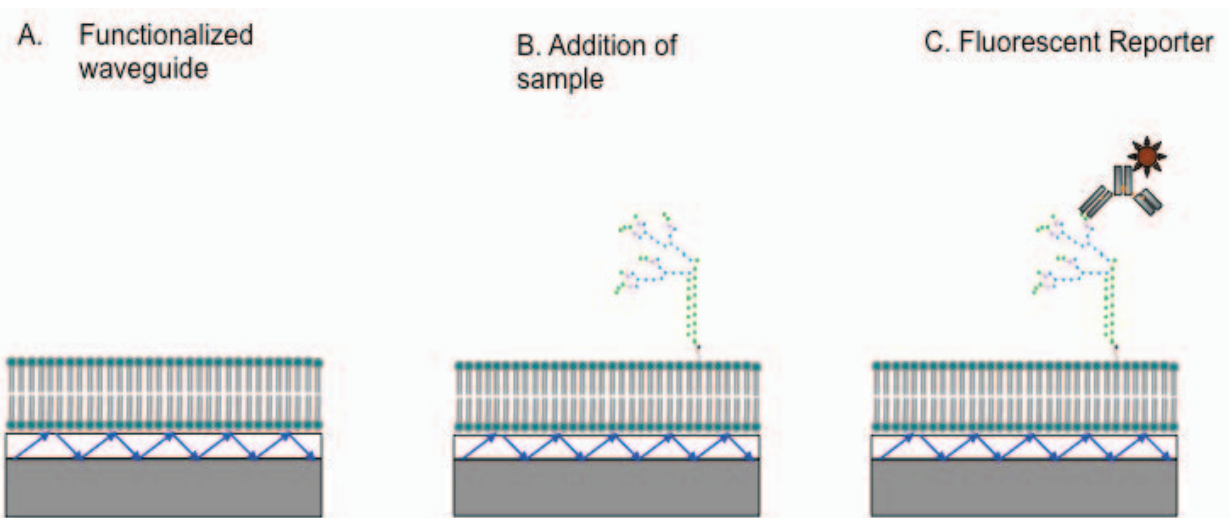
- Silane-based self assembled monolayers
- Robust, cheap, easy to store and use, resistant to detergents and complex biological solutions, potentially reusable.
- Excellent at resisting non-specific binding!

# Assay Format

## Traditional Sandwich Immunoassay

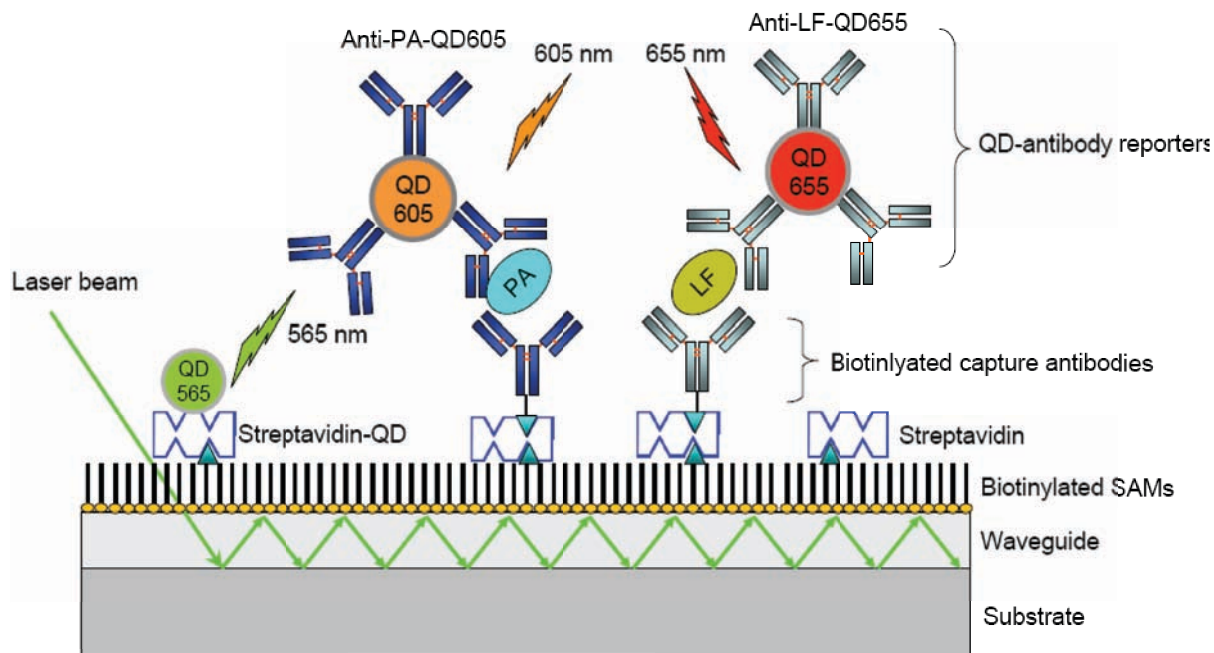
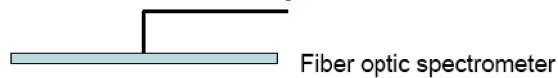


## Membrane Mimetic Approach

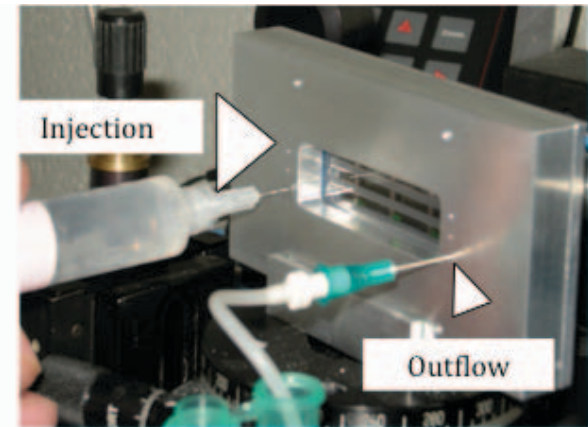


# Multiplex Detection and Multichannel Waveguides

Simultaneous rapid detection of multiplex biomarkers using quantum dots as the fluorescence reporter.



## Multichannel Waveguides



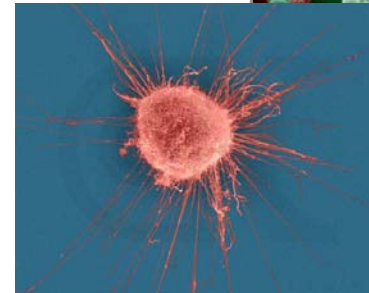
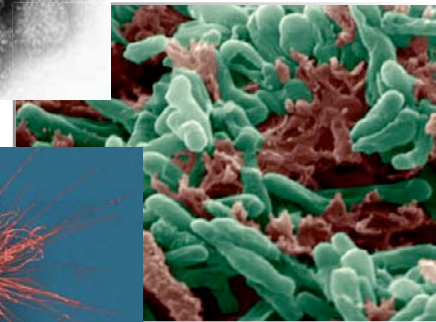
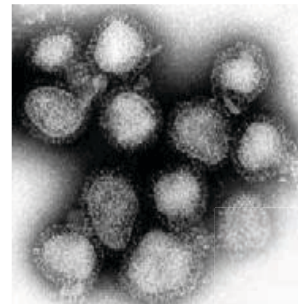
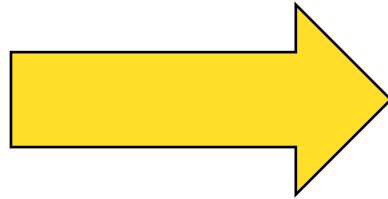
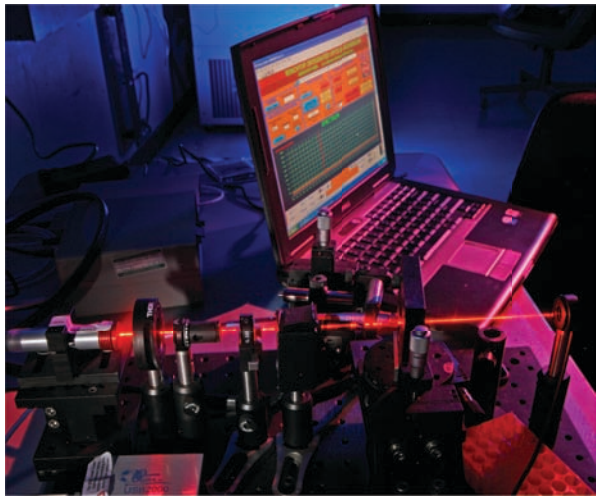
## Multichannel Waveguide mounted in flow cell



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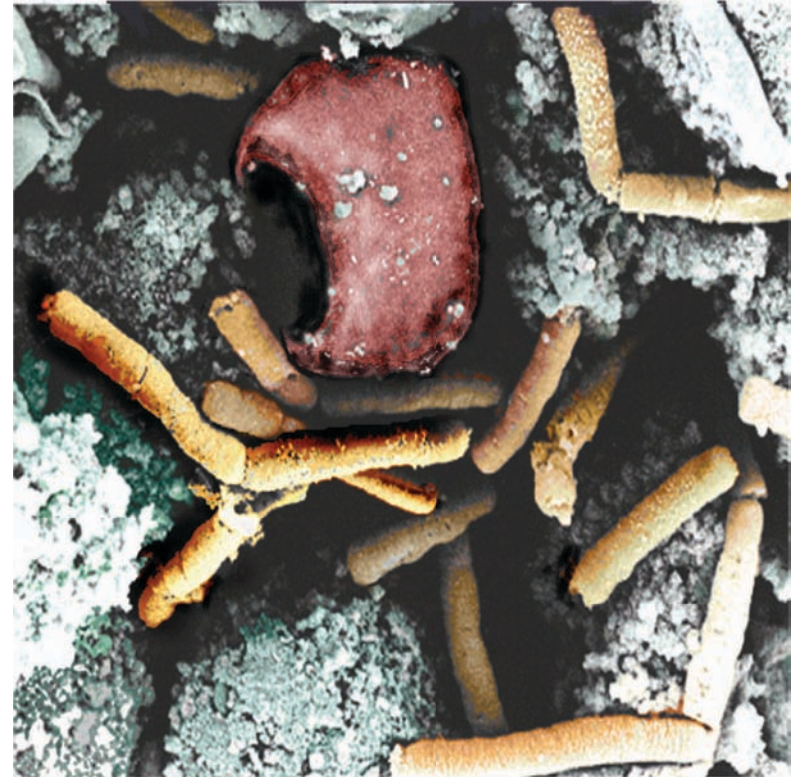
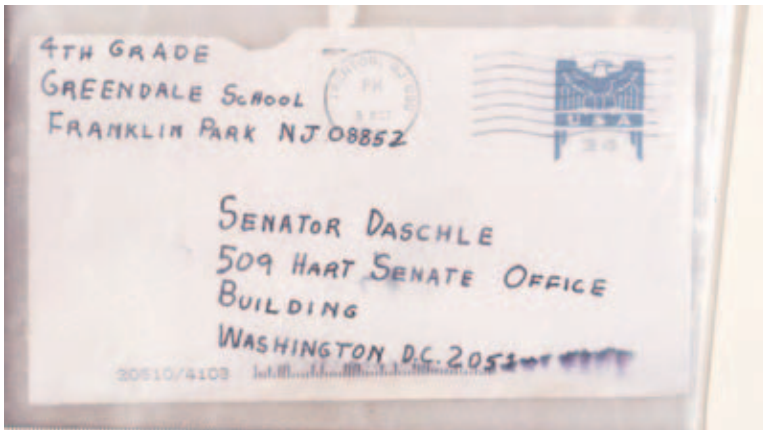
# Applications of the Waveguide-based Optical Biosensor

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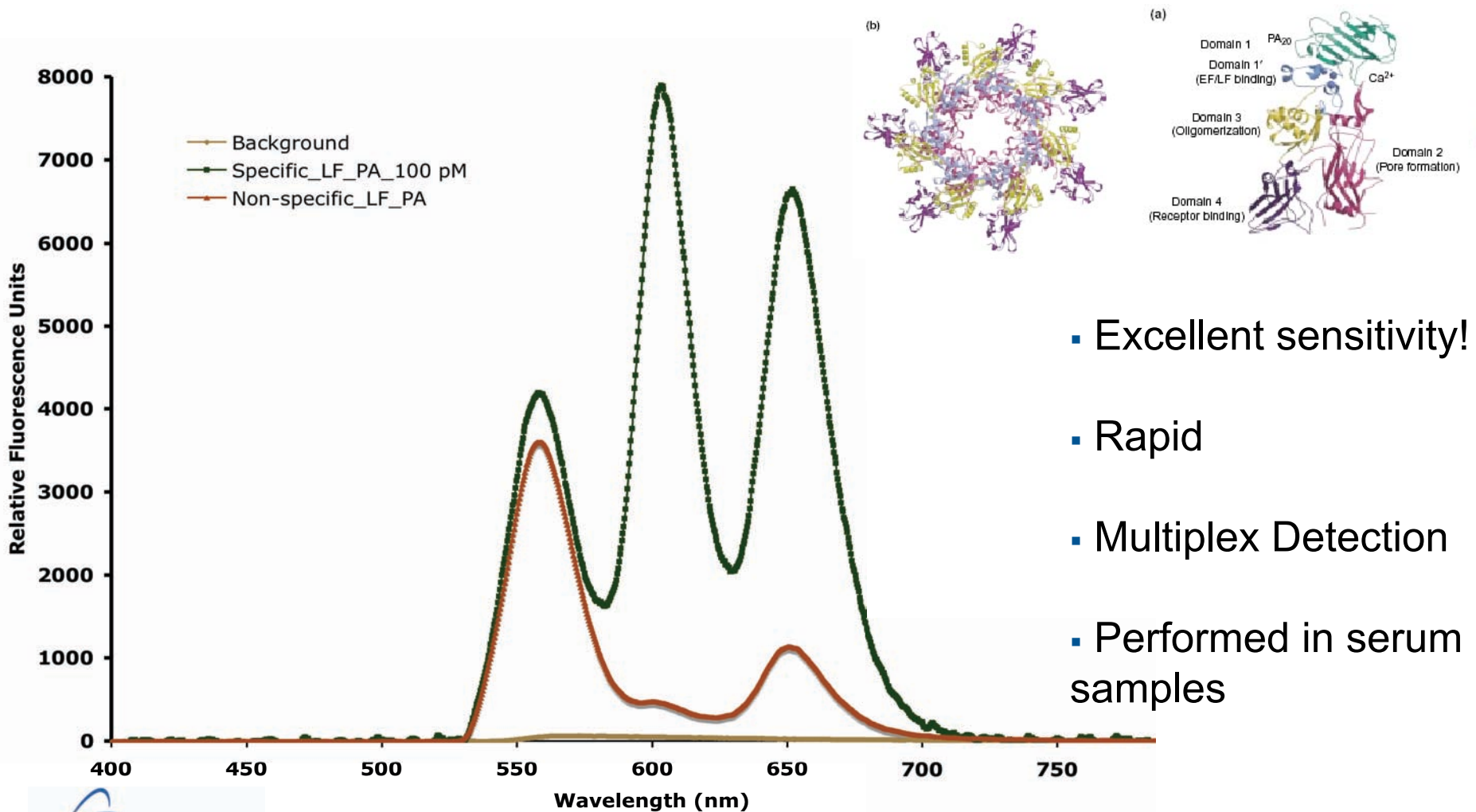


# Anthrax

- **Bio-threat agent**
- **Three associated toxins**
  - Lethal factor
  - Edema factor
  - Protective antigen
- **75% mortality with inhalational anthrax, even when treated!**



# Detection of Anthrax Lethal Toxins



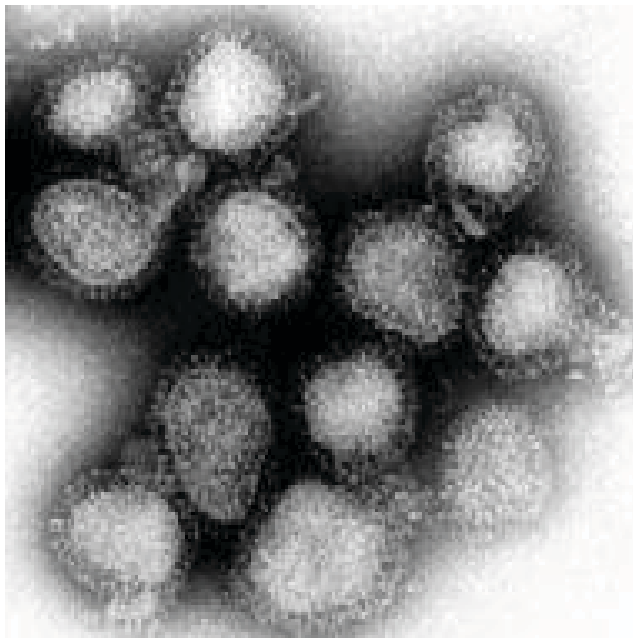
- Excellent sensitivity!
- Rapid
- Multiplex Detection
- Performed in serum samples



# Influenza

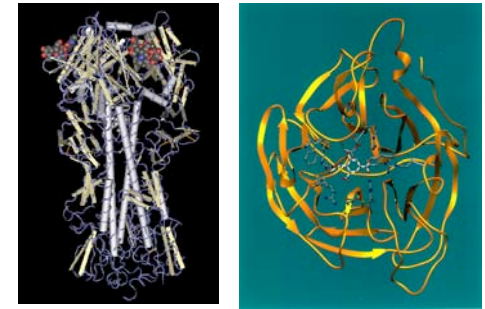
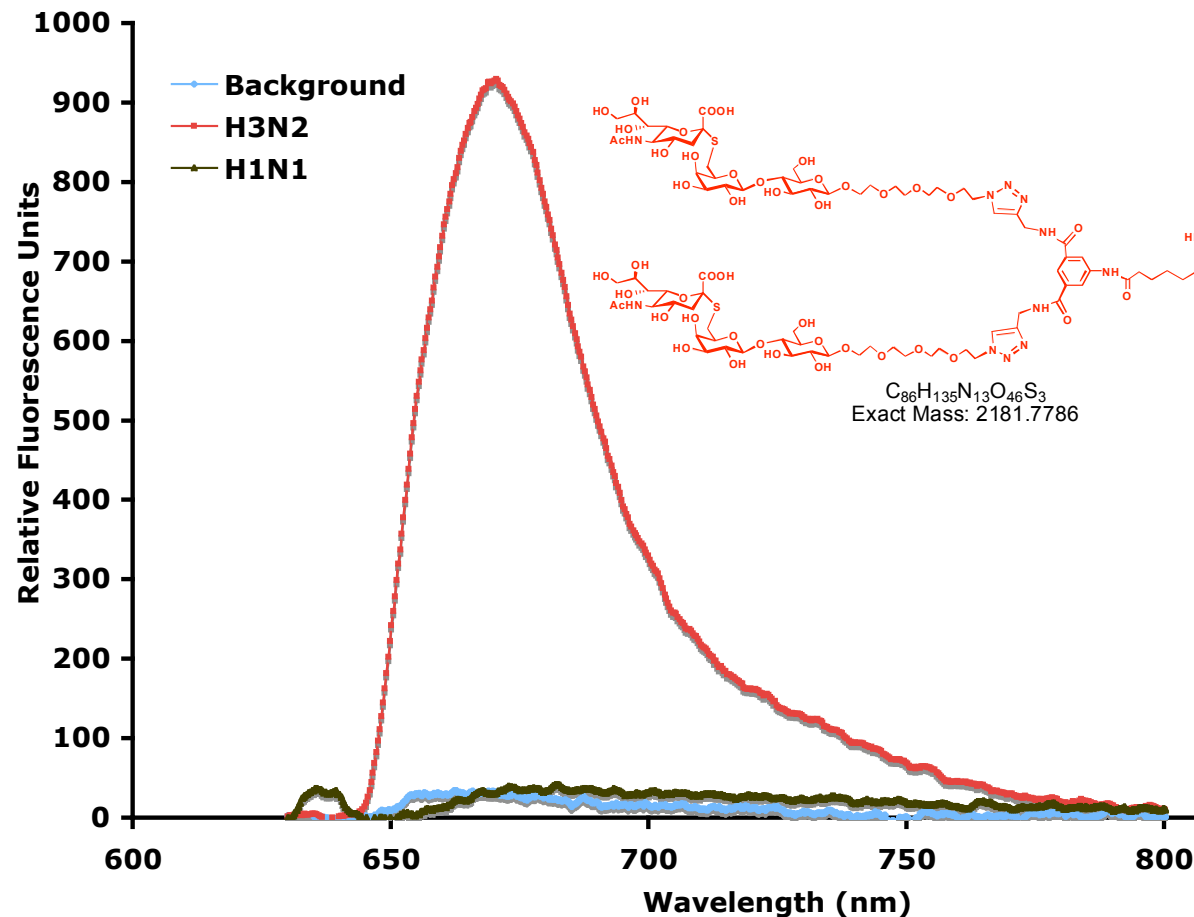
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- **Major global concern of pandemic potential**
  - Current H1N1 pandemic is a classic example
  - Risk of new pandemics, avian flu
  - Persistent annual infection cycle





# Strain-Specific Detection of Intact Influenza Virus using Carbohydrates



- Detection of intact influenza virus
- Serotype-specificity
- Ligands are extremely robust, even at room temperature
- Rapid, amenable to transition to point-of-care format

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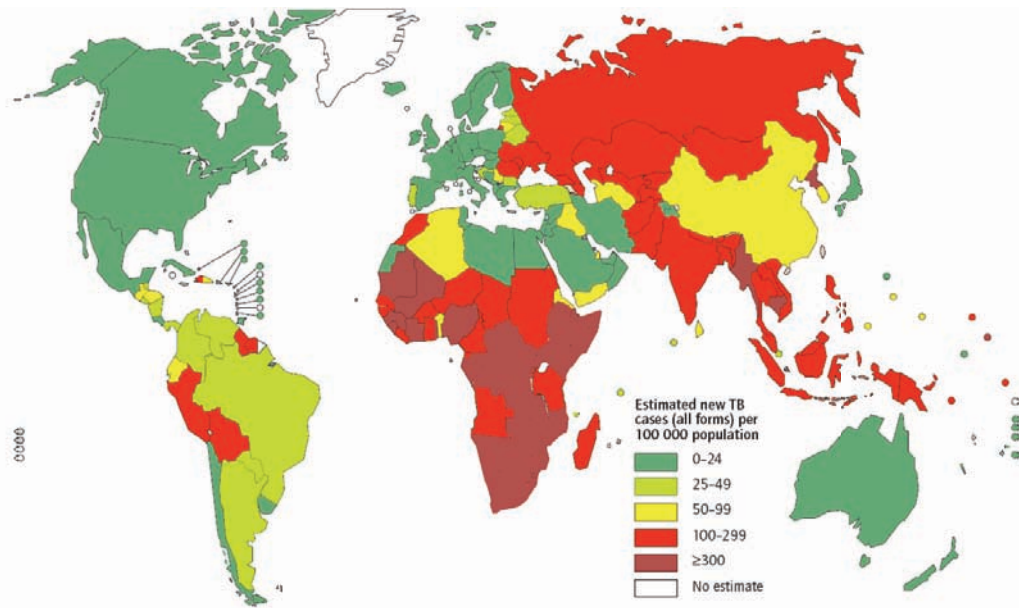
# Tuberculosis

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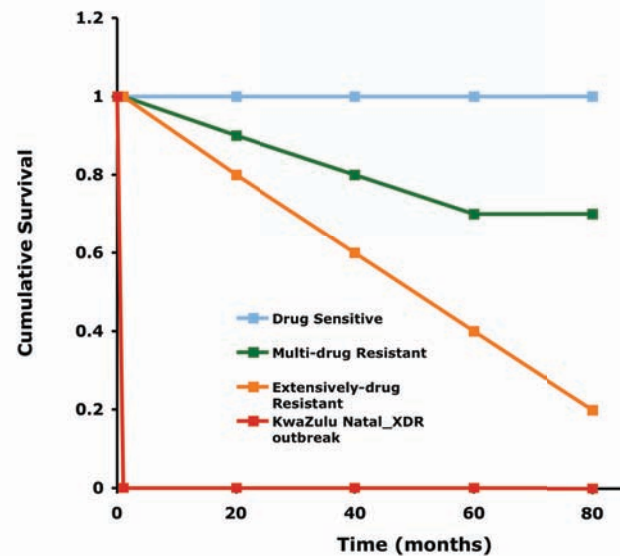
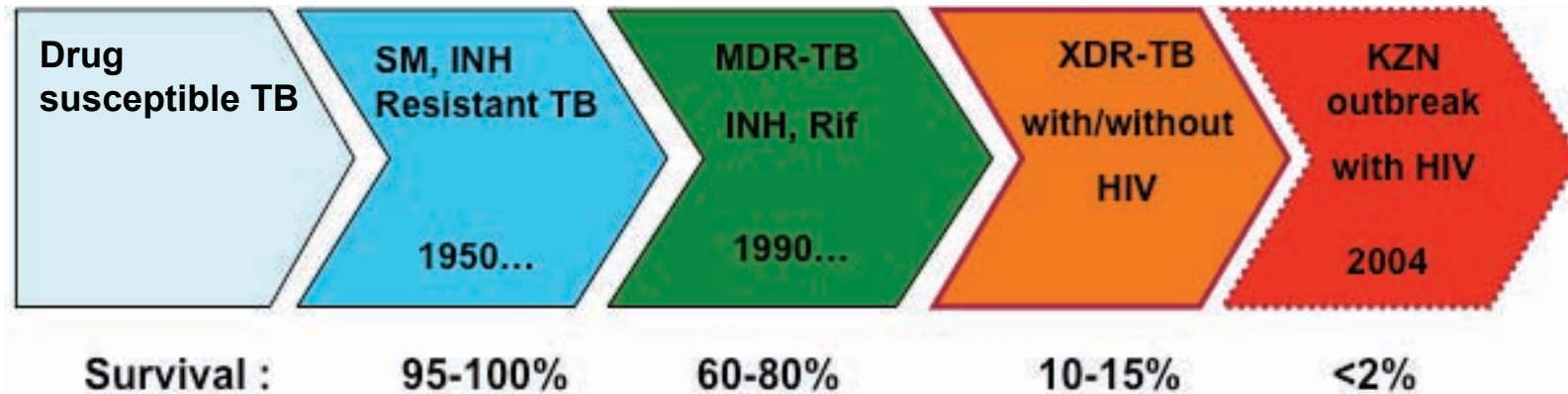


Courtesy: Dr. G. Kubica, CDC, public domain, Wikipedia

# Tuberculosis: A re-emerging Scourge



# Emergence of Drug Resistant Strains and Increased co-infection with HIV



100% co-infection with HIV.

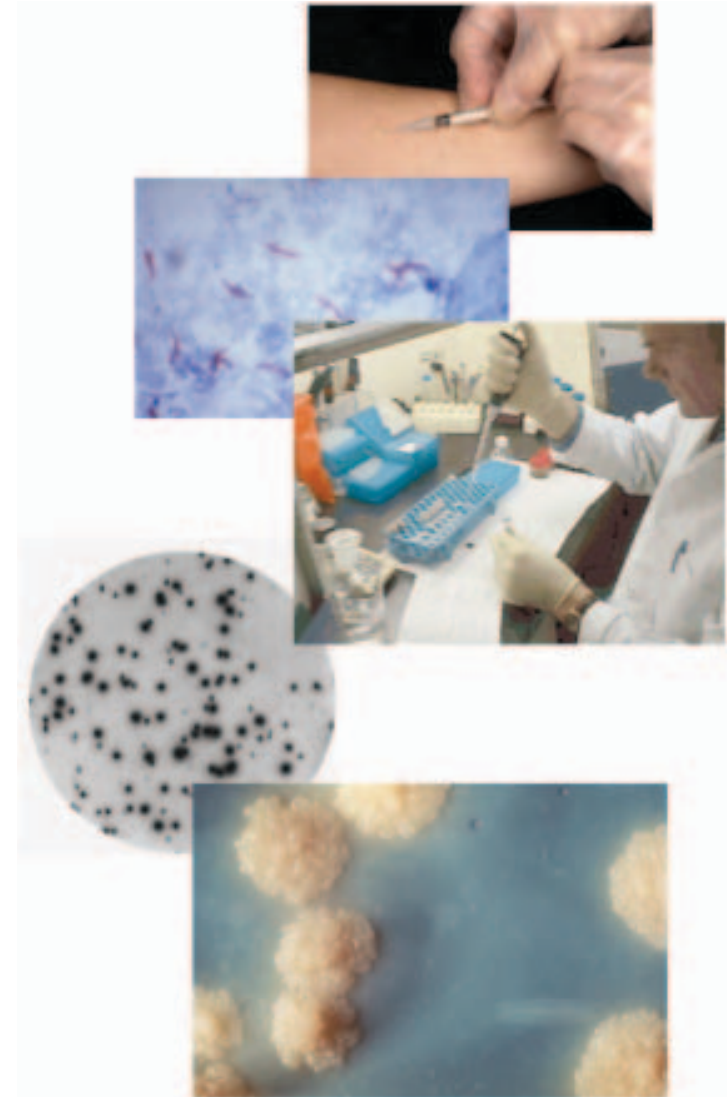
Tugella Ferry Outbreak: 53/54 dead within 16 days of positive sputum



# Current Diagnostics for Tuberculosis

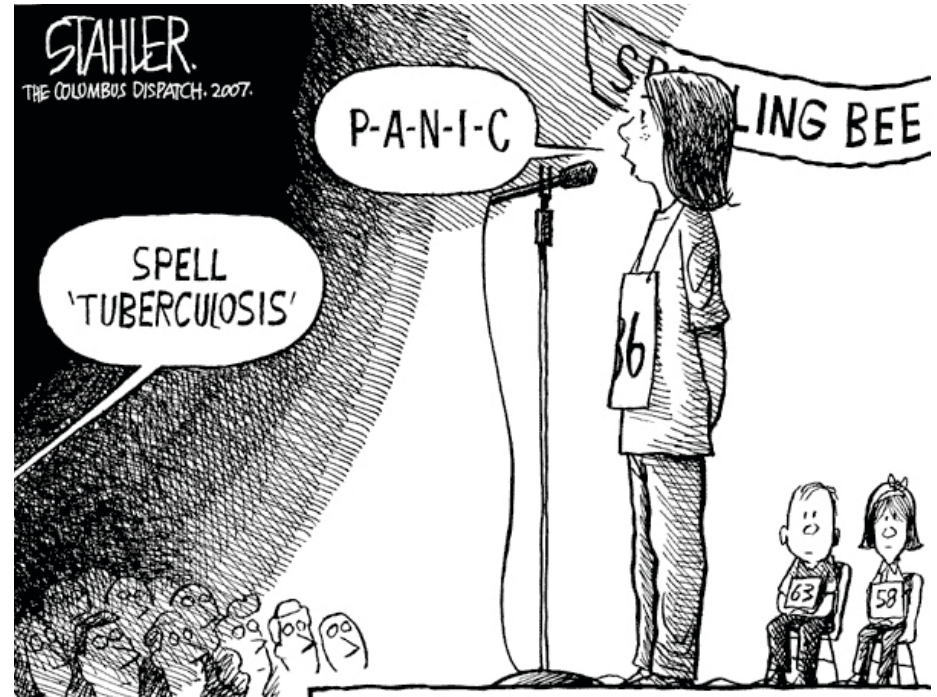
- Skin test
- “Smear microscopy”
- PCR-assay
- Interferon-gamma based assays
- Culture
  - Confirmation for all diagnostics
  - 4-6 weeks, additional 4-6 weeks for confirming drug resistance

*Current methods of diagnosis are  
NOT SUFFICIENT to resolve  
the crisis in resource-poor settings*



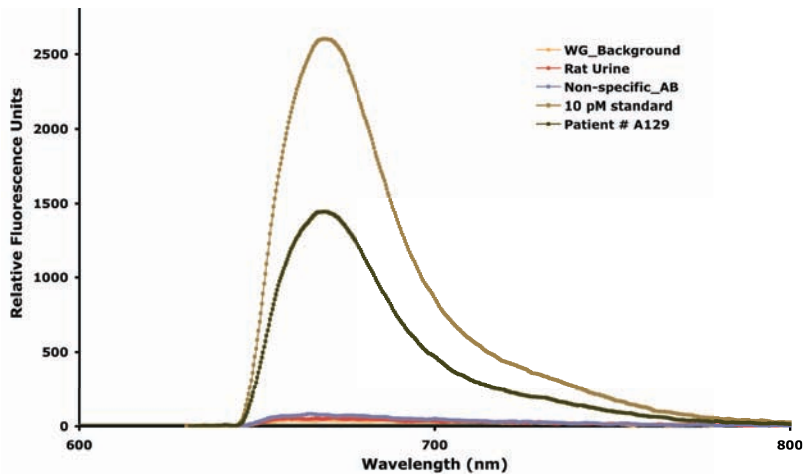
## The Need

- Rapid
- Sensitive and specific
- Effective in HIV-positive individuals
- Inexpensive
- Not require extensive laboratory equipment or personnel training
- Effective for extra-pulmonary TB
- Early detection of resistant strains



Courtesy: Stahl, Columbus Dispatch 2007

# Sandwich Immunoassays for Tuberculosis Biomarkers

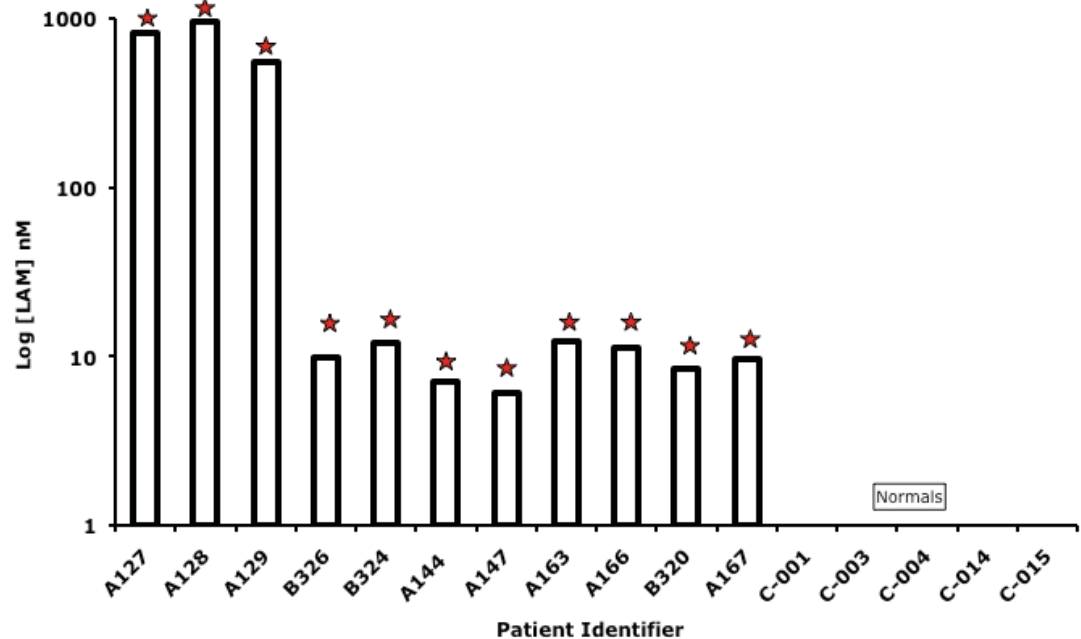


Sandwich immunoassay for Lipoarabinomannan

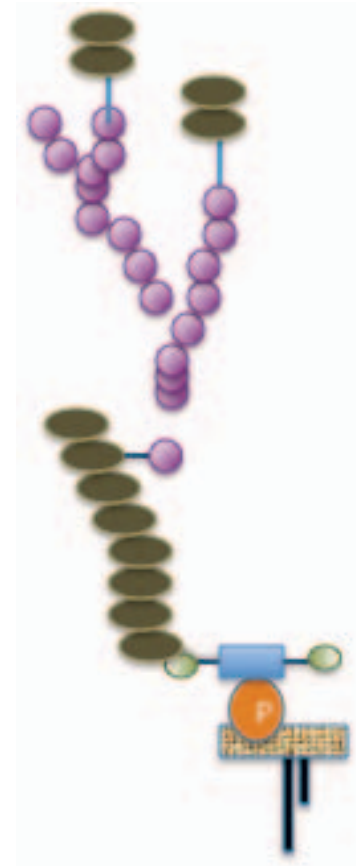
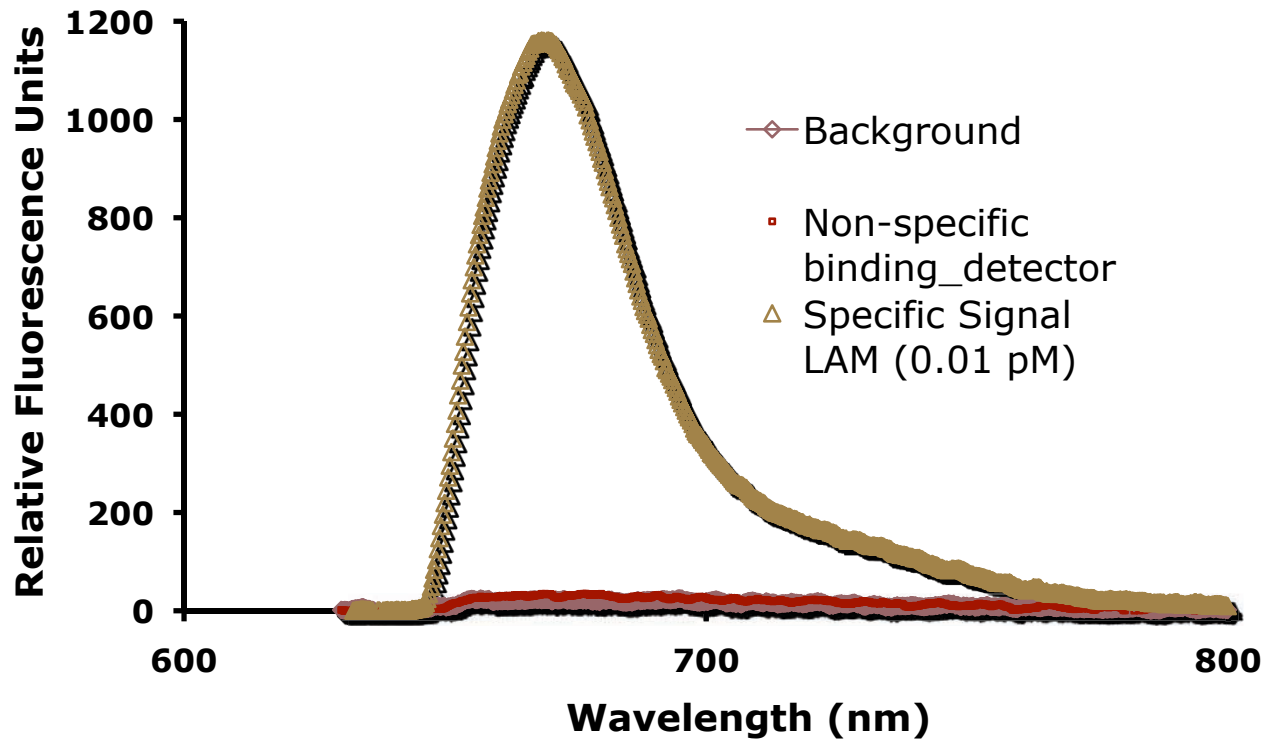
Limit of detection 1 pM in urine/serum

Evaluation in a cohort of patient urine samples

Blind study: 100% corroboration with disease!!



# Detection of Lipoarabinomannan using the Membrane-Insertion Approach



Exquisite sensitivity of detection.

Limit of detection is femtomolar in serum!



## Conclusions

- **Diagnostics of infectious disease remains an unsolved problem.**
- **Emergence of drug-resistance and co-infection (with HIV) exacerbate the problem.**
- **Diagnostics approaches based on pathogen biomarkers show tremendous promise!!**

**Our optical biosensor approach offers promise for the rapid and sensitive detection of pathogen biomarkers in disease.**

- Early pre-symptomatic diagnosis
- Detection of drug resistant strains
- Guide therapeutic intervention



Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy's NNSA





**Bette Korber**

**Ramamurthy Sakamuri**

**Sandeep Kumar**

**Felicia Archuleta**

**Dr. Suri Iyer, U. Cincinatti**



**Clif Barry & Laura Via**

**Materials Consortium at Colorado State University, Gerd Michel at the Foundation for Innovative Diagnostics  
Centers for Integrated Nanotechnology  
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