

Previous prize winners of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize



Year	Decision of the Executive Board	About the Laureate's achievements
2023	<p>Decision EB152(27): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2023 to Dr Jorge Francisco Meneses from Guatemala for his outstanding contribution to public health.</p>	<p>Dr Jorge Francisco Meneses (Guatemala)</p> <p>Dr Jorge Francisco Meneses started his career as a physician at the Retalhuleu National Hospital in Retalhuleu, Guatemala, where he promoted community participation in hospital care for over 20 years, thanks to the set-up of community-based committees. In the light of the positive impact of his work, the model of ethical and patient-centred care that he designed during these years was scaled up at the national level and Dr Meneses became the national supervisor for hospitals. In this role, Dr Meneses implemented the Continuous Performance and Quality Improvement programme, which he helped to design, in 13 hospitals of the national hospital network, in partnership with the Ministry of Health. The programme has resulted in improving the quality of patient care, by focusing on the safety and satisfaction of patients, their families and the community. In recent years, Dr Meneses has coordinated a pilot project in the Guatemala South Health Area for the implementation of the first integrated network of health services in the country. The pilot includes providing health services to underserved communities and setting up network integration mechanisms for health services, such as a unique patient identification number, electronic medical records, appointment scheduling for any health service and unified care protocols at different levels of care. His work led to the adoption of a national strategy of integrated health services networks of Guatemala, in line with the primary health care strategy promoted by PAHO, making Guatemala the only country in Central America to have such a strategy.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB152/44</p> <p>News release</p>
2022	<p>Decision EB150(21): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2022 jointly to Professor Prakrit Vathesatogkit from</p>	<p>Professor Prakrit Vathesatogkit (Thailand)</p> <p>Professor Prakrit Vathesatogkit has served as Executive Secretary of the Action on Smoking and Health Foundation since 1986 and is a member of the National Committee for the Control of Tobacco Use, at the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand. He is also the former Dean of the Ramathibodi Hospital of the Mahidol University, Bangkok. He has served in multiple advisory roles at the national and regional levels, and in the context of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Professor Vathesatogkit's lifelong ambition has been to reduce the prevalence of lung cancer in Thailand, a country where, when his career started, 60% of men smoked and only 1 in 20 lung cancers were diagnosed. He has devoted his career to tobacco control, resulting not only in improved treatment and care protocols for patients with lung cancer and other lung diseases, but also in an impressive array of tobacco control measures, including tobacco taxes and restrictions on tobacco advertising and sports sponsorship. Professor Vathesatogkit has been a pioneer in advocating these essential measures and a champion who empowers others to</p>

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	<p>Thailand for his work in tobacco control and to the Severe Hypothermia Treatment Centre in Poland for its treatment of hypothermic patients in the country.</p>	<p>take action. He has worked across sectors, engaging the general public, and developing and empowering networks, including in the education and sports sectors. Professor Vathesatogkit has successfully assisted countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and beyond in their efforts to put effective tobacco control measures in place</p> <p>The Severe Hypothermia Treatment Centre (Poland)</p> <p>The Severe Hypothermia Treatment Centre, which is run by the John Paul II Hospital in Cracow, Poland, was the first centre dedicated to treating hypothermic patients in the country. It has collaborated closely with similar entities across the world to develop an original and innovative approach. This approach focuses on improving the survival of extreme hypothermia cases, through the standardization of diagnosis and treatment, using, among other things, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation technology and extracorporeal rewarming. The Centre has developed a number of cutting-edge innovations, including software and a mobile phone application to guide first-responder crews, and thermometers able to assess the core temperature of a hypothermic patient in the very early stage of rescue and treatment. The Centre’s outreach efforts towards first-responder crews have substantially improved the crews’ knowledge and capacity, resulting in improved chances of survival for hypothermic patients. This approach is further strengthened by e-learning courses offered to nurses and doctors. It also includes a social awareness component regarding those at risk of hypothermia, especially those in situations of homelessness or poverty. The holistic approach developed by the Centre has the potential to further the understanding and successful treatment of severe hypothermia globally.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB150/44</p> <p>News release</p>
<p>2021</p>	<p>Decision EB148(16): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2021 to the State Institution, “National Research Center for Radiation Medicine of the National Academy of</p>	<p>The State Institution, “National Research Center for Radiation Medicine of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine” (Ukraine)</p> <p>The National Research Center for Radiation Medicine of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine was established after the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident in April 1986 and started its work in October 1986. It is the primary institution in Ukraine dealing with clinical and technical research investigations into the Chernobyl accident with a focus on radiation medicine, radiobiology, radiation hygiene and radiation epidemiology. The Center’s main objectives include: the determination of the medical and radiobiological consequences of the Chernobyl accident; the examination of their impact on the health of the population of Ukraine; the development of a strategy for preserving the health of the affected population in the future; the radiological monitoring of radioactive contaminated zones; and the development and implementation of long-term State measures to overcome the consequences of the Chernobyl accident. Through the Center’s efforts, for the first time in the world, radiobiology and radiation risks in the molecular mechanisms of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia have been identified. Given its</p>

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	<p>Medical Sciences of Ukraine” for its outstanding contribution to public health.</p>	<p>unique and technical expertise in radiation monitoring, the Center has developed significant registers and databases, which include over 50 000 measurements in radiation compounds, demonstrating the extensive efforts of the Center in this regard. In addition, during 2004–2019 the Center provided crucial medical and biophysical support that enabled the transformation of the Shelter of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant into an environmentally safe system and the construction of the New Safe Confinement. The Centre’s tireless and diligent efforts have provided the international community with crucial knowledge and lessons learned from the Chernobyl accident.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB148/43</p> <p>News release</p>
<p>2020</p>	<p>Decision EB146/27: The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, decided to award the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2020 jointly to the following two laureates, for their outstanding contributions to public health: Dr João Aprigio Guerra de Almeida from Brazil and The Sickle Cell Disease Consortium of the United Republic of Tanzania.</p>	<p>Dr João Aprigio Guerra de Almeida (Brazil)</p> <p>Dr João Aprigio Guerra de Almeida coordinates the Brazilian Network of Human Milk Banks and has been involved in promoting breastfeeding for decades in Brazil and many other countries, contributing efficiently to this important global public health issue. Since 1981, he has championed social mobilization to promote the use of donated human milk for infants clinically unable to be breastfed directly by their mothers. He is considered the driving force behind the largest and most complex network of human milk banks in the world, namely the Brazilian Network of Human Milk Banks, which has 224 human milk banks and 215 collection centres for human milk in operation throughout the country. The positive impact on maternal and child health made by the Brazilian Network of Human Milk Banks has led to the establishment of the Global Network of Human Milk Banks, whose membership comprises most Latin American nations as well as Angola, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Portugal and Spain. In recognition of the leadership of Dr Guerra de Almeida, in 2018 the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs awarded him with the rank of Commander, a title granted to individuals who stand out for their social, economic or political influence.</p> <p>The Sickle Cell Disease Consortium (United Republic of Tanzania)</p> <p>The Sickle Cell Disease Consortium provides an academic and scientific environment with experience and expertise in cross-cutting skills and knowledge that serves as a platform for the professional development of clinicians and scientists who are working to combat sickle cell disease. Dr Julie Makani is the Principal Investigator for the Sickle Cell Disease programme at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences. The Sickle Cell Disease programme has demonstrated high capacity in translating research into innovative health policies and clinical practices, and has been an enabling force for developing health care in resource-limited settings. This programme has also illustrated that effective global partnerships can build a critical mass of individuals and lead to significant advances in health and biomedical science in the area of public and family health. The Sickle Cell Disease programme works closely with patient and advocacy groups including the Sickle Cell Disease Patients Community, Sickle Cell Foundation of Tanzania, Sickle Cell Youth Foundation and the Tanzania Sickle Cell Disease Alliance.</p>

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		<p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB146/44 News release</p>
<p>2019</p>	<p>Decision EB144(15): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel,3 awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2019 jointly to Professor Balram Bhargava from India for his impressive career as a cardiologist and biomedical innovator and to the Health Promotion Unit of the Department of Public Health of Myanmar for its contribution to public health, in particular through its Community Health Clinic model, from concept to implementation.</p>	<p>Professor Balram Bhargava (India)</p> <p>Professor Balram Bhargava was nominated for his impressive career as a cardiologist and biomedical innovator. He is a professor of cardiology at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, and serves as the Executive Director of the Stanford-India Biodesign Programme, which provides an interdisciplinary fellowship programme that fosters innovation and design of low-cost implants and devices. The Programme led to the establishment of the School of International Biodesign: over the course of 10 years, it has trained around 100 innovators who have created over 30 low-cost medical devices, four of which are now being marketed. For more than 25 years, Professor Bhargava has treated about 250 000 patients and trained over 200 cardiologists who are now leading several departments and hospitals in India and abroad. Professor Bhargava has developed the indigenous platinum–iridium coil coronary stent and has clinically evaluated and established the use of two other laser-cut medicated Indian stents. Several thousand patients have already benefited from these low-cost stents. Professor Bhargava has pioneered several techniques in interventional cardiology and the treatment of patients with dilated cardiomyopathy. He is currently developing a chest compression device for patients with sudden cardiac arrest. He has published several papers on the harmful cardiovascular effects of chewing tobacco and is evaluating the continuous blood pressure of bus drivers in New Delhi with difficult-to-control hypertension. Professor Bhargava was the founding Editor-in-chief of the journal BMJ Innovations.</p> <p>News release</p> <p>The Health Promotion Unit of the Department of Public Health (Myanmar)</p> <p>The Health Promotion Unit of the Department of Public Health of Myanmar was nominated for its contribution to public health, in particular through its Community Health Clinic model, from concept to implementation. Myanmar has been struggling with the double burden of communicable and noncommunicable diseases, and the challenge of delivering health services in rural settings where 70% of its population lives. The concept of the Community Health Clinic is to strengthen community health services, through the efficient use of resources and increased promotion of health literacy. The Community Health Clinic model places the community at the centre of care, while recognizing the contributions of community health volunteers, civil society organizations and local and international nongovernmental organizations. The health care activities provided focus on screening for hypertension and diabetes, and treatment of uncomplicated cases, health care for the ageing population and health literacy. Arrangements are made to supply essential medicines and equipment and providing training on the management of the above-</p>

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		<p>mentioned conditions. Mobile clinics have been dispatched to the most remote areas. The implementation of the Community Health Clinic model began in 2018, and after only seven months, a measurable increase in awareness and use of the public health care services has already been noted.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB144/40</p> <p>News release</p>
2018	<p>Decision EB142(17): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel,1 awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2018 to Dr Nazni Wasi Ahmad from Malaysia for her contribution to innovative research in forensic entomology, in particular her studies on maggot debridement therapy with <i>Lucilla cuprina</i> to expedite the healing process in diabetic wounds and foot ulcers.</p>	<p>Dr Nazni Wasi Ahmad (Malaysia)</p> <p>Dr Ahmad, Senior Research Officer of the Medical Entomology Unit, Institute for Medical Research in Kuala Lumpur, is being recognized for her contribution to innovative research in forensic entomology, in particular her studies on maggot debridement therapy with <i>Lucilla cuprina</i> to expedite the healing process in diabetic wounds and foot ulcers. According to documentation submitted with Dr Ahmad’s candidature, in Malaysia the prevalence of foot ulceration is around 6% in patients attending diabetic outpatient facilities, and foot complications account for 12% of all diabetic hospital admissions. A serious complication of diabetes is the development of ulcers. The presence of multidrug-resistant bacteria in wounds further compounds the risk of septicaemia, and amputation of affected limbs is often seen as the only option. It is estimated that the cost of treating diabetic ulcers will be US\$ 5.1 billion in the South-East Asia Region by 2025. This represents a heavy burden on the health care systems of the Region, especially in developing tropical countries. The need to develop new therapeutic methods that are effective, affordable, simple and available at any time and at any health care setting, particularly primary health care facilities, to treat diabetic foot ulcers has revived maggot debridement therapy. The development of bacterial resistance to antibiotics and difficulties in treating various wounds has also revived this therapy. The therapy involves the application of maggots (fly larvae) onto wounds and/or ulcers for the purpose of clearing (debriding) the wounds and/or ulcers to expedite the healing process. The maggots feed on necrotized tissues, removing unwanted tissues. In addition the maggots secrete several useful agents such as antimicrobial agents and other agents that fight the infection, enhance tissue granulation and promote the healing process. There are many advantages in using this therapy, especially a reduction in the number of amputations. Amputations are carried out not only due to intractable lesions but also because they are about two thirds the cost of treatment of diabetic ulcers with antibiotics and also less expensive than time spent in hospitals. To date in Malaysia, more than 6000 patients in more than 51 hospitals have been successfully treated using this therapy, without any untoward side effects.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB142/30</p> <p>News release</p>
2017	<p>Decision EB140(14): The Executive Board, having</p>	<p>The Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade (Cuba)</p>

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	<p>considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2017 to the Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade of Cuba for its outstanding contribution to public health.</p>	<p>The Henry Reeve International Medical Brigade was established in 2005. It is integrated into the medical cooperation unit of the Ministry of Public Health of Cuba, which itself has over 40 years of medical aid experience. The Brigade is composed of Cuban health workers, including physicians and nurses, trained in disaster medicine and infectious disease containment. The volunteer teams have extensive experience in responding to disasters and major epidemic outbreaks. More than 7000 team members have intervened in countries such as the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan and Peru. The Brigade carried out a significant mission during the Ebola virus disease outbreak in West Africa: over 250 health professionals provided care in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB140/43 News release</p>
<p>2016</p>	<p>Decision EB138(10): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2016 to Dr Alireza Mesdaghinia from the Islamic Republic of Iran for his lifelong commitment to, and leadership in, strengthening the capacity of public health facilities and education systems in the Islamic Republic of Iran.</p>	<p>Dr Alireza Mesdaghinia (Islamic Republic of Iran)</p> <p>Dr Mesdaghinia, born in 1939, was nominated by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education of the Islamic Republic of Iran for his lifelong commitment to and leadership in strengthening the capacity of public health facilities and education systems in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He has made an outstanding contribution to research and control of infectious diseases in his own country as well as in others. Dr Mesdaghinia has enhanced local, national and international collaborations between the School of Public Health of the Tehran University of Medical Sciences and many organizations that specialize in education, research and public health, including WHO. Dr Mesdaghinia is a professor of renown in the field of public health both nationally and internationally. At the Tehran University of Medical Sciences, he was Dean of the School of Public Health for 28 years; he has taught and supervised numerous postgraduate students, conducted extensive research, and published over 200 papers in peer-reviewed medical journals. In addition, Dr Mesdaghinia has contributed to expanding the management, education and research activities of the School of Public Health, establishing new PhD, Master of Science and Master of Public Health programmes. The Master of Public Health programmes have been followed by over 500 public health professionals from the Islamic Republic of Iran and from the Eastern Mediterranean Region. The International Diploma Course on Malaria Programme Planning and Management, established by Dr Mesdaghinia, has been attended by national and international students. Furthermore, under Dr Mesdaghinia's management, the School of Public Health established the Leishmaniasis, Malaria and Virology laboratories, among others, which serve as national reference laboratories. As Deputy for Public Health in the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Dr Mesdaghinia has managed several national programmes that focus on the improvement of public health, and has directed the Institute of Environmental Research over the last 14 years. Dr Mesdaghinia has contributed to the establishment of 10 peer-reviewed medical journals in the field of public health, and, since 2008, has chaired the Journal of Environmental Health.</p>

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		Report of the Selection Panels: EB138/49
2015	Decision EB136(12) : The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2015 to the Thalassemia International Federation of Cyprus for their outstanding contribution to public health.	<p>The Thalassemia International Federation (Cyprus)</p> <p>The Thalassemia International Federation was established in 1987 in Nicosia as a non-profit, nongovernmental, patient-driven international organization. Its goal is to improve the survival and quality of life of patients with thalassemia around the world. This is achieved through established support mechanisms and the development of national control programmes that work on prevention and management of the disorder. In just over 25 years, the Thalassemia International Federation has contributed to the development and dissemination of knowledge on prevention and clinical management of thalassemia and sickle-cell diseases in many countries. It has empowered patients and their families at local and national level, while promoting and recommending resolutions at national and international level. The Thalassemia International Federation has established 117 National Thalassemia Associations in 57 countries and has organized numerous national, regional and international conferences, seminars and workshops. The Federation has also established official relations with relevant international stakeholders, including WHO, and has prepared and distributed educational materials. The success of the Thalassemia International Federation is based on the following: effective, evidence-based and regularly updated educational programmes; the Federation’s collaboration with WHO and other organizations, and with health professionals, national and international bodies; the establishment of networks with academic and public health organizations and expert centres; and the production of position papers, including those for the promotion of patients’ rights and non-transfusion dependent thalassemia, and information to patients on counterfeit medicines and chronic liver disease.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB136/41</p> <p>News release</p>
2014	Decision EB134(13) : The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2014 jointly to Professor Sinata Koulla-Shiro from Cameroon for her	<p>Professor Sinata Koulla-Shiro (Cameroon)</p> <p>Professor Sinata Koulla-Shiro is currently the Secretary General of Cameroon Ministry of Public Health, and is Professor of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at the University of Yaoundé and consultant in infectious diseases at Yaounde Central Hospital. She specialized in internal medicine at the University of Geneva, focusing particularly on infectious diseases and medical bacteriology. Professor Koulla-Shiro has extensive experience in the conduct of clinical trials, and is the author of more than 75 publications on communicable diseases and clinical microbiology in bacterial infections, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases in peer-reviewed journals. She has directed or co-directed many medical and scientific and third cycle doctoral dissertations. Professor Koualla-Shiro has made numerous presentations and has also been a panel moderator at numerous national and international scientific conferences and scientific workshops. Among her achievements, Professor Koulla-Shiro coordinated and implemented the first strategic plan for HIV/AIDS control in Cameroon and led negotiations with pharmaceutical companies for access to</p>

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	<p>dedication and outstanding contribution to the research and management of communicable diseases, and clinical microbiology in bacterial infections, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, and to the Czech Society of Cardiology of the Czech Republic for its success in improving standards of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases.</p>	<p>antiretroviral medicines in Cameroon through the ACCESS programme, and with Indian companies to obtain generic medicines. She also lead a research team that studied the efficacy, tolerance and use of the first combination of three generic antiretroviral medicines introduced in Cameroon. The publication of this study contributed to the scaling up of this therapy in developing countries.</p> <p>The Czech Society of Cardiology (Czech Republic)</p> <p>The Czech Society of Cardiology, established in 1929, is one of the oldest cardiology societies in Europe. It organized the first international congress of cardiology in 1933 and publishes the scientific journal Cor et Vasa. The Society carries out research for the continuous improvement of standards for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases and designs guidelines to improve the use of evidence-based therapies. The Czech Society of Cardiology organizes congresses, symposia and teaching courses for young physicians. The Society provides grant support to young researchers and awards prizes for the best research. The Czech Society of Cardiology pioneered the revolutionary change in the treatment of acute myocardial infarction. In 2002, it published the first guidelines that declared primary (direct) coronary angioplasty to be the preferred treatment for acute myocardial infarction even if the patient required transport for up to 100 kilometres. In 2008, members of the Czech Society of Cardiology contributed to the foundation of the panEuropean Stent for Life Initiative. Thanks to the Society’s activities, hundreds of thousands of patients worldwide survive acute myocardial infarctions and many can resume an active life.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB134/45</p>
<p>2013</p>	<p>Decision EB132(8): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2013 jointly to Dr An Dong from China for his dedication and outstanding contribution made to public health in the Province of Ghizhou, China, and to the</p>	<p>Dr An Dong (China)</p> <p>Dr An Dong is nominated for his dedication and outstanding contribution made to public health in the Province of Ghizhou, China. Dr An Dong has dedicated nearly 30 years of his career to the prevention and control of endemic fluorosis disease of coal-burning pollution type, in the Province of Guizhou in southwestern China. The disease is incurable but preventable, and is caused by burning coal in open stoves without smoke extraction facilities. Indoor air and foods are polluted by the fluorine-containing soot EB132/35 6 discharged during the coal burning process. The population is subject to chronic fluoride poisoning due to the excessive ingestion of fluoride. Dr An Dong’s efforts have been instrumental in establishing the causes of disease and ensuring that prevention strategies were adopted. Among the many achievements which have reduced arsenic exposure are the shutting of coal mines producing high arsenic discharging coal and the improvement of 98.72% of stoves in the Bijie area.</p> <p>The Diabetes Society of Maldives</p> <p>The Diabetes Society of Maldives, founded in 2000, is being honoured for its success in creating public awareness on diabetes, making health promotion interventions for the prevention of diabetes and other noncommunicable</p>

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	<p>Diabetes Society of Maldives for its success in creating public awareness on diabetes, making health promotion interventions for the prevention of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases in the Maldives, and for the training of local staff to offer counselling and eventual treatment.</p>	<p>diseases in the Maldives, and for the training of local staff to offer counselling and eventual treatment. Since its establishment, the Diabetes Society of Maldives has successfully run a diabetes clinic, offering free consultations. It has launched various initiatives such as the network, “My Sweet Family”, for type 1 children to meet and discuss their concerns with a counsellor, and the “Save a Diabetic Child” initiative that provides sponsorship for children to receive medical care and diabetes education. The Diabetes Society of Maldives runs regular screening and awareness programmes to evaluate the prevalence of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases, and also runs training programmes for health staff in the Maldives. The Society also conducted the clinical part of the NCD Risk Factor Survey (STEPS) between 2003 and 2004 in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB132/35</p>
<p>2012</p>	<p>Decision EB130(14): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health for 2012 to the Pacific Leprosy Foundation based in New Zealand for its outstanding contribution to public health.</p>	<p>The Pacific Leprosy Foundation (based in New Zealand)</p> <p>The Pacific Leprosy Foundation was formed by Patrick Twomey, who taught in Fiji briefly in the 1920s. Based in Christchurch, the Foundation is a not-for-profit, nongovernmental nonreligious organization that works towards the elimination of and the mitigation of the effects of leprosy in Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, New Zealand, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and Viet Nam. Despite there being an effective cure for leprosy since the introduction of multiple drug therapy in the 1980s, social attitudes rather than a lack of treatment are the major reason that the disease continues to be a problem. With the help of public donations and bequests, the Foundation works to eradicate leprosy, provide care for patients and their families (with rehabilitation and welfare), and educate the community in order to reduce stigmatization. People disabled by leprosy and their families are a low priority for governments with limited resources. The Foundation funds rehabilitation and welfare work throughout the Pacific and provides money for medical treatment and clothing to protect nerve-damaged limbs. Patients are encouraged to provide for themselves and their families. Funds are provided for income-generating projects. The Foundation also provides funds for the education of the children of people with leprosy, and for housing and housing improvements.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB130/32</p>
<p>2011</p>	<p>Decision EB128(6): The Executive Board, having</p>	<p>Clodomiro Picado Institute, Costa Rica</p> <p>The Clodomiro Picado Institute has been carrying out research on herpetofauna for the past 40 years. Its activities</p>

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	<p>considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for 2011 to the Clodomiro Picado Institute of Costa Rica for its outstanding contribution to the control of neglected tropical diseases.</p>	<p>include the following: research on toxins from venomous animals in Latin America, and on snake venoms; and basic and applied research on immunobiologicals, particularly antivenoms for envenomings following snakebites. The Institute is attached to the University of Costa Rica, where it coordinates graduate and postgraduate courses in the fields of biochemistry, immunology, herpetology and research. It also supervises student theses in these research areas. The Clodomiro Picado Institute produces antivenoms for many Central and South American and European countries. It has developed innovative scientific and biotechnical processes to promote the enhancement of biologicals, both nationally and internationally; it advises countries on the prevention and treatment of snakebites, and also the production and quality control of antivenoms in Central and South America; and it manages collaboration projects for the production of antivenoms specific to countries with scarce resources such as Nigeria, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka. In collaboration with the Latin American science and technology development programme (CYTED), the Clodomiro Picado Institute coordinates a network of production and quality-control centres in Central and South America. The Institute was involved in the drafting of the WHO guidelines for the production, control and regulation of snake antivenom immunoglobulins.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB128/29</p>
2010	<p>Decision EB126(9): The Executive Board, having considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for 2010 to Action for AIDS, Singapore, for its outstanding contribution in research into and prevention, treatment and control of HIV/AIDS.</p>	<p>Action for Aids (AfA) (Singapore)</p> <p>Action for AIDS Singapore is a voluntary, community-based organization, formed in 1988, and registered as a charity since 1994. Its objective is to provide support and assistance to persons living with HIV and AIDS; to increase awareness, education and understanding of AIDS and HIV infection; to combat discrimination and stigmatization of persons living with HIV and AIDS and their loved ones; and to encourage AIDS-related research activities in Singapore. The organization is run for the most part by volunteers and carries out many activities. Various support and welfare programmes are run for people living with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones. Their educational activities range from telephone counselling, public talks and exhibitions, and outreach to the community and target groups, which includes the development and distribution of educational materials and publications. Action for AIDS Singapore also operates an anonymous HIV-testing facility, launched in 1991. It has been involved in behavioural research and intervention programmes for human resource managers, sex workers and other communities. Action for AIDS Singapore is funded through donations from various agencies, private individuals, foundations, and businesses. The President of Action for AIDS Singapore, Professor Roy Chan, was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Gold Medal for 2009 by the Royal Society for Public Health.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB126/29</p>
2009	<p>Decision EB124(6): The Executive Board, having</p>	<p>The Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center (Georgia)</p> <p>The Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center is well regarded for its achievements in</p>

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<p>considered the report of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Selection Panel, awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for 2009 to the Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center (Georgia) for its outstanding contribution in research into and prevention, treatment and control of HIV/AIDS, and research into and control of communicable diseases.</p>	<p>diagnostics, treatment and control of infectious diseases and has pioneered work in the region on AIDS and viral hepatitis, notably in research, and their treatment, prevention and control. It has introduced universal coverage of antiretroviral treatment and services for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. An AIDS diagnostic laboratory and the National HIV/AIDS Registry were established in 1989. The Center’s main objective is to provide excellence in patient care, medical education and biomedical research in the field of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. Despite economic constraints, it has created a modern, comprehensive, evidence-based surveillance system, generating epidemiological statistics, including data on molecular epidemiology, on HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C. Progress has been made in characterizing new clinical forms of asymptomatic HCV infection. The Center played a crucial role in the country’s pioneering adoption of a law on HIV prevention in 1995 and the development of the national strategy on HIV/AIDS, completed in 2002, and the National TB–HIV Strategic Plan for 2007–2011. National treatment and care guidelines are constantly being updated to ensure their substantial effectiveness. The Center has also contributed significantly to Georgia’s biomedical research capacity, with findings published in peer-reviewed journals and presented at various international forums.</p> <p>Report of the Selection Panels: EB124/26</p>
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