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## McGill Professors/MUHC RI scientists launch new Point-Of-Care Testing (POCT) Super Collection on Infectious Diseases on ScienceOpen

Berlin, November 30, 2018

[ScienceOpen](#) is pleased to announce six new collections on Point-Of-Care Testing technologies curated and organized by a team led by [Dr. Nitika Pant Pai](#), MD., MPH., PhD—a tenured Associate Professor at [McGill University in the Department of Medicine](#) and a Research Scientist at the [MUHC Research Institute](#)—as active contributors to the mission of open science medicine research for a positive global impact in healthcare. Her trainees, Anna De Waal, Alexie Kim, Nandi Belinsky, joined her in curating this collection.

Point-Of-Care Testing (POCT) technologies have revolutionized testing for many infectious diseases by providing a much faster access to test results, allowing for rapid results and—where integrated in clinical settings—help expedite clinical decision making. Dr. Nitika Pant Pai emphasized the importance of POCT for expanded access, rapid clinical decision making for all key infectious diseases (HIV, STDs, NTDs, tuberculosis) and also for antimicrobial resistance detection and surveillance globally.

To further open scientific research and access to all the information on POCT for HIV/STBBI/NTDs/AMR and to encourage people to get tested, Dr. Pant Pai has been the collection editor of '[Point-Of-Care Testing for HIV](#)' on ScienceOpen since 2017. Now, she is taking the POCT project on ScienceOpen a step further by launching a super collection '[Point-Of-Care Testing for Infectious Diseases](#)' that features six new Point-Of-Care Testing collections for [HIV Self-Testing](#), [antimicrobial resistance \(AMR\)](#), [Hepatitis](#), [neglected tropical diseases \(NTDs\)](#), [sexually transmitted infections \(STIs\)](#), and [Tuberculosis](#).

These curated collections of articles present cutting-edge research and exciting innovation in the field of rapid POCT technologies. They are meant to share information, promote advancement, spur innovation, promote knowledge exchange, and tackle existing implementation challenges.

Each collection is open and ongoing, and it will be curated under the guidance of diagnostic experts in each field, thereby ensuring the high quality of research for every one of the POCT collections. Researchers are encouraged to contact the editors and submit their published peer reviewed papers to the relevant collection.

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Every collection on ScienceOpen is assigned a [CrossRef](#) DOI, becoming a part of the editor's [ORCID](#) record. Using the professional networking platform MyScienceOpen, editors can then comment and write editorials on each collection, and invite any researcher to publicly review an article in their collection. Collection editors can also trace how their collection is performing by tracking the number of articles, views, peer reviews, recommendations, social media activity, and the overall [Altmetric](#) score presented in the summary statistics.

Dr. Nitika Pant Pai says, “This ongoing collection is for the global infectious diseases community – in the spirit of open access for global knowledge dissemination, promoting open discussions, influencing policies, and spurring innovative thinking in the global diagnostics space. We would like to thank Science Open for providing a platform to house all relevant publications in one space.”

[Dr. Madhukar Pai](#), Professor McGill University and Director of McGill International TB Center, joins the initiative as the lead Editor of the TB collection.

ScienceOpen highlights the new Point-Of-Care collections in its research discovery environment of over 49 million articles and records as a successful researcher-led initiative to optimize the scientific and social impact of medical study in this field.

**Keywords:** medicine research, collection, Point-of-care testing, self-testing, innovative applications, HIV, infectious diseases, global health, open science

#### **About ScienceOpen:**

[ScienceOpen](#) was founded in 2013 in Berlin and Boston by [Alexander Grossmann](#) and [Tibor Tscheke](#) to accelerate research communication.

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#### **About Dr. Nitika Pant Pai:**

[Dr. Nitika Pant Pai](#), MD MPH PhD, is a tenured Associate Professor at [McGill University in the Department of Medicine](#) and a Research Scientist at the [MUHC Research Institute](#). A trained physician with a doctorate in Epidemiology from the University of California, Berkeley, and fellowship in clinical trials/infectious diseases from McGill University, Montreal. She is a global expert on POC diagnostics for HIV and Sexually transmitted co-infections. She is a new member of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists of the [Royal Society of Canada \(RSC\)](#).

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