



Prevention NOW!

November, 2018 - Issue 45

HPTN at HIVR4P



More than 1,400 researchers, policymakers and advocates gathered at the Madrid Marriott Auditorium Hotel in Madrid, Spain for [HIV Research for Prevention \(HIVR4P\)](#), the only global scientific meeting dedicated exclusively to biomedical HIV prevention. During the five day conference (October 21-25), HPTN members presented research from 18 abstracts – seven oral presentations and 11 poster presentations – covering [HPTN 067](#), [HPTN 069](#), [HPTN 074](#), [HPTN 075](#), [HPTN 077](#), [HPTN 078](#) and the antibody mediated prevention (AMP) studies [HVTN 703/HPTN 081](#) and [HVTN 704/HPTN 085](#). HPTN data was also featured in four satellite sessions and Raphael Landovitz, MD, MSc, [HPTN 077](#) and [HPTN 083](#) protocol chair, delivered a talk on PrEP during a plenary session.

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Scholars Program Now Accepting Applications



Tom Fleming, PhD (back row, middle), widely recognized clinical trials expert, with Domestic Cohort 9 and International Cohort 4 at the mid-program HPTN Scholars Workshop in September 2018. Scholars, from left to right: Allysha Maragh-Bass, PhD, MPH, Yamikani Mblizi, MBBS, Tamara Taggart, PhD, MPH, Wilfred Gurupira, MPH, Maganizo Chagomerana, PhD, María Luisa Mittal, MD, and Darren Whitfield, PhD.

Application materials for the HPTN Scholars program are now available for early-career minority investigators who wish to collaborate with the HPTN in the development and implementation of our research agenda.

The program is funded through a supplement from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and the National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH). Fifty (50) scholars have participated in the program since it started in 2010. In 2015, the program expanded to include international investigators. The 18-month funding period covers a portion of the scholars' time and includes travel and supplies. To be considered, domestic applicants must be investigators who have received their terminal degree (e.g., MD, PhD, etc.). For international applicants, current MD, PhD, and MBChB students may apply, along with individuals who have already graduated with their terminal degree.

Learn More and Apply

Shout-outs



Wafaa El-Sadr, MD, MPH, MPA, received the Stephen Smith Award for Distinguished Contributions in Public Health from the New York Academy of Medicine at the Academy's 171st Anniversary Discourse & Awards. She was honored for her leadership in addressing global health threats including HIV and AIDS. Dr. El-Sadr is co-principal investigator of the HPTN, professor of Epidemiology and Medicine at Columbia University, director of the Global Health Initiative at the Mailman School of Public Health, and director of ICAP at Columbia University in New York. This year marks ICAP's 15th anniversary, a global health institution focused on improving the health of families and communities. ICAP was founded in 2003 under the leadership of Dr. El-Sadr.

Linda-Gail Bekker, MBChB, PhD, received the 2018 Desmond Tutu Award for HIV Prevention Research and Human Rights during the opening plenary of the HIVR4P conference. Dr. Bekker was recognized for her work to advance HIV prevention research and the human rights of people living with HIV. She is a professor of medicine and deputy director of the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town, South Africa. Dr. Bekker is also president of the International AIDS Society and has supported many Network studies including [HPTN 067](#), [HPTN 075](#), [HPTN 076](#), [HPTN 082](#), [HPTN 083](#) and [HPTN 084](#).





Steffanie Strathdee, PhD, was named to [TIME Magazine's](#) 50 Most Influential People in Health Care for 2018. In this inaugural list, Dr. Strathdee was highlighted for her work helping save her husband's life from a near-fatal superbug infection. She is the associate dean of Global Health Sciences and Harold Simon Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of California San Diego School of Medicine in San Diego, California. Dr. Strathdee is also a member of the [HPTN 074](#) study team and chair of the HPTN Substance Use Scientific Committee.

Gita Ramjee, PhD, was recently honored with the Outstanding Female Scientist Award by the European Development Clinical Trials Partnerships. Dr. Ramjee was recognized for her efforts to identify safe and effective HIV prevention tools for women. She is a chief specialist scientist and director of the South African Medical Research Council's HIV Prevention Research Unit in Durban, South Africa. Dr. Ramjee is currently a member of the [HPTN 084](#) study team and was protocol co-chair for [HPTN 035](#).



Network Member Spotlight



Sergii Dvoriak, MD, DMedSci, is a protocol team members for the [HPTN 074](#) study and senior researcher at the Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy (UIPHP) in Kiev, Ukraine. He is also the executive director of the Eurasian Professional Association of Addiction Medicine (EPAAM). In addition, Dr. Dvoriak works as a consultant for the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). He has more than 70 publications in peer-review journals on drug abuse treatment and public health issues. In 2011 and 2014, Dr. Dvoriak was elected as an International AIDS Society (IAS) governing council member for the European region.

How did you first get involved with the HPTN?

I learned about the HPTN from Dave Metzger, PhD, in 2003 during a WHO meeting in Bangkok. I realized the Network could be incredibly helpful for my country, which has the fastest growing HIV epidemic in Europe due to intravenous drug use. Much later, in 2012, HPTN 074 protocol team member Bob Booth, PhD, and I worked hard to collect data and presented the UIPHP as the best partner to do work with the HPTN in support of the HPTN 074 study.

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Awareness Days



[Transgender Awareness Week](#)

November 13-17



[Transgender Day of Remembrance](#)

November 20



[World AIDS Day](#)

December 1

Hot Off The Press

Eisenberg AL, Patel EU, Packman ZR, Fernandez RE, Piwowar-Manning E, Hamilton EL, MacPhail C, Hughes J, Pettifor A, Kallas EG, Busch MP, Murphy G, Quinn TC, Eshleman SH, Laeyendecker O. [Dried Blood Spots Stored at Room Temperature Should Not Be Used for HIV Incidence Testing](#). AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2018 Oct 17.

Stoner MCD, Nguyen N, Kilburn K, Gomez-Olive FX, Edwards JK, Selin A, Hughes JP, Agyei Y, Macphail C, Kahn K, Pettifor A. [Age-disparate partnerships and incident HIV infection in adolescent girls and young women in rural South Africa: An HPTN 068 analysis](#). AIDS. 2018 Oct 4.

Go VF, Hershov RB, Kiriazova T, Sarasvita R, Bui Q, Latkin CA, Rose S, Hamilton E, Lancaster KE, Metzger D, Hoffman IF, Miller WC. [Client and Provider Perspectives on Antiretroviral Treatment Uptake and Adherence Among People Who Inject Drugs in Indonesia, Ukraine and Vietnam: HPTN 074](#). AIDS Behav. 2018 Oct 10.

Lippman SA, Leddy AM, Neilands TB, Ahern J, MacPhail C, Wagner RG, Peacock D, Twine R, Goin DE, Gómez-Olivé FX, Selin A, Tollman SM, Kahn K, Pettifor A. [Village community mobilization is associated with reduced HIV incidence in young South African women participating in the HPTN 068 study cohort](#). J Int AIDS Soc. 2018 Oct;21 Suppl 7.

Wheeler DP, Lucas J, Wilton L, Nelson LE, Hucks-Ortiz C, Watson CC, Hutchinson C, Mayer KH, Kuo I, Magnus M, Beauchamp G, Shoptaw S, Emel LM, Chen YQ, Hightow-Weidman L, Fields SD. [Building effective multilevel HIV prevention partnerships with Black men who have sex with men: experience from HPTN 073, a pre-exposure prophylaxis study in three US cities](#). J Int AIDS Soc. 2018 Oct;21 Suppl 7.

Lancaster KE, Hoffman IF, Hanscom B, Ha TV, Dumchev K, Susami H, Rose S, Go VF, Reifeis SA, Mollan KR, Hudgens MG, Piwowar-Manning EM, Richardson P, Dvoriak S, Djoerban Z, Kiriazova T, Zeziulin O, Djauzi S, Ahn CV, Latkin C, Metzger D, Burns DN, Sugarman J, Strathdee SA, Eshleman SH, Clarke W, Donnell D, Emel L, Sunner LE, McKinstry L, Sista N, Hamilton EL, Lucas JP, Duong BD, Van Vuong N, Sarasvita R, Miller WC; HPTN 074 Study Team. [Regional differences between people who inject drugs in an HIV prevention trial integrating treatment and prevention \(HPTN 074\): a baseline analysis](#). J Int AIDS Soc. 2018 Oct;21(10).



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