



The HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) is a runner-up for prestigious Katerva Award

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The HPTN is honored to be a runner-up for a Katerva Award which spotlights the most promising new sustainability concepts in the world. Katerva, a UK based charity organization, recognized HPTN for its groundbreaking HPTN 052 HIV treatment as prevention study. HPTN 052 was selected in the human development category which covers all initiatives related to maintaining and improving the quality of life for all people despite the growing global population. In announcing the awards, Katerva stated the winners “represent the most promising new ideas and initiatives on the planet in their fields.”

The HPTN 052 study found that in HIV couples in which one person is infected with HIV and the other is not, providing early antiretroviral therapy (ART) to the HIV-infected person reduced sexual transmission of HIV to the uninfected partner by 96%. The study began in 2005 and involved 1,750 couples (97% heterosexual) from 13 countries across Asia, Africa and the Americas.

All nominees for Katerva Awards undergo a rigorous year-long nomination and review process involving roughly 500 experts, researchers, business and thought leaders across 50 countries. The evaluation process is an all-inclusive review of each nominee's marketability, scalability, feasibility, originality, and impact.

Winners were announced in 10 award categories. A grand prize winner of the Katerva Award will be announced at a press event at the Lincoln Center in New York City on December 7, 2011.

The HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) is a worldwide collaborative clinical trials network that develops and tests the safety and efficacy of primarily non-vaccine interventions designed to prevent the acquisition and transmission of HIV. The HPTN research agenda is focused primarily on reduction of HIV transmission and acquisition through the use of ART for HIV-infected persons and ARVs as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV-negative persons for HIV prevention, reducing the impact of behavioral and biologic co-factors that increase risk of infection, treatment of substance use (particularly injection drug use), behavioral risk reduction interventions, and structural interventions. The highest priority of the HPTN is to develop and implement combination prevention strategies that demonstrate a significant and measurable reduction in HIV incidence in a variety of populations and epidemic settings.

The HPTN was established in 2000, building on the work of the HIV Network for Prevention Trials (HIVNET). Funded by the Division of AIDS (DAIDS) of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the HPTN carries out its mission through a strong network of expert scientists and investigators from both international and United States (U.S.) institutions, partnered with a leadership group that includes three central resource groups based at U.S. institutions. The HPTN also receives substantial support through the coordination of the NIH Office of AIDS Research and two other NIH institutes: the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). For additional information, visit the HPTN website at www.hptn.org.