



Prevention NOW!

May 2021 – Issue 67



A global cross-section of scientific and lay audience members, including investigators, research staff, and community advocates, recently attended the virtual HPTN Annual Meeting. Participants learned about the Network's scientific aims for 2021 and beyond, SARS-CoV-2, and key HPTN studies, including [HPTN 083](#), [HPTN 084](#), [HPTN 083-01](#), [HPTN 084-01](#), [HPTN 091](#), [HPTN 094](#), and [HPTN 096](#). In addition, featured keynote speakers were Drs. Anthony Fauci, Rochelle Walensky, and Rachel Baggaley. Finally, HPTN Scholars, Laboratory Center, and Statistical and Data Management Center researchers delivered insightful talks during special plenary sessions.

HPTN ANNUAL MEETING 2021

FEATURED KEYNOTES



DR. RACHEL BAGGALEY

UNIT HEAD, TESTING, PREVENTION
AND POPULATIONS, GLOBAL HIV,
HEPATITIS AND STI PROGRAMS AT WHO



DR. ANTHONY S. FAUCI

DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY
AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES



DR. ROCHELLE P. WALENSKY

DIRECTOR OF THE CENTERS
FOR DISEASE CONTROL
AND PREVENTION

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Ward Cates Spirit Award Winner Announced



Dr. Beatriz Grinsztejn received the 2021 Ward Cates Spirit Award during the 2021 virtual HPTN Annual Meeting. As the STD/AIDS Clinical Research Laboratory director and principal investigator of the FIOCRUZ HIV Prevention and Therapeutic Clinical Trials Unit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, she was recognized for her outstanding commitment, leadership, and scientific excellence in promoting health among groups vulnerable to HIV infection. Dr. Grinsztejn currently serves many roles in the Network, including [HPTN 083](#) protocol co-chair, HPTN Scientific Committee member, HPTN CTU and CRS principal investigator, and HPTN Scholars mentor. The award honors the legacy of Dr. Willard (Ward) Cates Jr., a dedicated steward of the HPTN scientific and research programs and a respected scientist who contributed to groundbreaking contraceptive and HIV prevention research.

HPTN Network Performance Awards



During the recent 2021 virtual HPTN Annual Meeting, the HPTN Performance Evaluation Committee recognized top performers for their efforts in supporting the Network's ongoing research efforts. However, due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, the committee determined it was best to modify the award categories and instead celebrate entire study teams for overcoming adversity and implementing innovative approaches to clinical research during a very challenging year. We congratulate all award recipients on their achievements.

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Network Member Spotlight



Jirawat Suksamosorn (aka “Mod”) is an [HPTN 083](#) community liaison at the Silom Community Clinic CRS in Bangkok. Mod has the critical role of connecting study teams to community partners and key stakeholders to ensure essential input and support of research and increase mutual understanding for the successful conduct of research trials. He brings to his work an extraordinary commitment to enhancing community engagement. In his own words, he has the core value that “making community voices heard will result in improved research through community involvement.” Mod has been working at the CRS for seven years. Previously, Mod worked at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)/Regional Development Mission/Asia, as an administrative associate in the Infectious Diseases Team, Office of Public Health and served as project coordinator, Global AIDS Program (GAP), Bureau of Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Public Health.

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Awareness Days



Hot Off The Press

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