Message from the Regional Director

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Regional Director & Editor-in-Chief

We look forward to seeing many IUSTI members at the CDC STD Prevention Conference in Minneapolis this week.

Surveillance data 2010 from the CDC makes us more keenly aware of our challenges. CDC’s new focus is on Sexual Health instead of disease. The premise is that “all Americans should have the opportunity to make choices that lead to health and wellness.” Teamwork between private and public organizations, communities and individuals can lead to prevention of STDs and their health burden.

- Overall CDC estimates 19 million STDs occur each year in the US, almost half among 15-24 year olds. 2010 reports:
  - 1,307,893 cases of CT
  - 309,341 cases of GC
  - 13,774 cases of P&S syphilis; (first decrease in 10 years)

For ages 15-19 yr, syphilis was 25 times higher in Black men than in White men. Cases are down 1.6% since 2009. However, the rate among young black men has increased 134% over the past five years. Other CDC data also show a significant increase in syphilis among young black men who have sex with men (MSM), suggesting that new infections among MSM are driving the increase in young black men. The finding is particularly concerning as there has also been a sharp increases in HIV infections among this population.

All STDs have significant health inequity issues, with rates often 10-20 times higher in African Americans.

Of concern in North America are the rising MICs to ceftriaxone and cefixime among our gonococcal isolate surveillance program (GISP). Clinicians are urged to report treatment failures to State health laboratories, who will report to CDC. CDC reports:

The 12th IUSTI Congress meeting in New Delhi, India November 1-5, 2011 was a huge success and North America was ably represented. IUSTI-North America offered a pre-conference STD training course to scholarship delegates attending the Congress. This workshop enabled attendees to learn how findings from recent research studies could enhance their clinical ability to care for patients with HIV and STIs. The training event was designed to meet educational needs for those delegates from resource-poor settings, but it was open to all delegates attending the IUSTI World meeting.
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We welcome new members from North America. Please log onto www.IUSTI.org and join our unique international colleagues who work in the STI field. Other Regions which play an integral part of Worldwide-IUSTI include: IUSTI-Europe, IUSTI-Latin America, IUSTI-Africa, and IUSTI-Asia Pacific. Associate membership is free and full membership is inexpensive. Membership is open to individuals with a professional interest in STIs. You can see that we have a lot of work to do in diagnosing, treating, and preventing STIs in North America.

2012 ASTDA Parran, Achievement and Young Investigator Awards

David Martin, M.D., New Orleans, LA — The Thomas Parran Award is presented annually to a member for long and distinguished contributions in the field of STD research and prevention.

Kim Workowski, M.D., Atlanta, GA — The ASTDA Achievement Award is presented annually for a single recent major achievement in the field of STD research and prevention, or to a member at mid-career to acknowledge an outstanding body of research in sexually transmitted diseases.

Ina Park, M.D., M.S., San Francisco, CA — The ASTDA Young Investigator Award is presented annually to an outstanding investigator in the field of STD who is no more than five years beyond fellowship training.

13th IUSTI World Congress
October 15-17, 2012
Melbourne, Australia

Key Deadlines
Abstract Submission: June 8
Scholarship Application: June 29
Early Bird Registration: August 23
Accommodations: September 7
Final Registration: October 4

www.iusti2012.com/

STI & AIDS World Congress 2013
July 14-17, 2013
Vienna, Austria

Joint meeting of the 20th Meeting of the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research (ISSDR) and the 14th World Congress of the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI).

Call for Papers: November 1, 2012

www.stivienna2013.com/

Sexual health is a state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality; it is not merely the absence of disease, dysfunction or infirmity. Sexual health requires a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships, as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sexual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination and violence.


Upcoming Events

ASM, 112th General Meeting
June 16-19, 2012  San Francisco, CA

BASHH 2012 Spring Meeting
Joint meeting with ASTDA
June 27-29, 2012  Brighton, Dome, UK

7th Meeting of the European Society for Chlamydia Research
July 1-6, 2012  Amsterdam, the Netherlands

27th IUSTI Europe Conference
September 6-8, 2012  Antalya, Turkey

13th IUSTI World Congress
October 15-17, 2012  Melbourne, Australia

We're on the web!!
www.iusti.org

Upcoming Events

IDSA 50th Annual Meeting
October 18-21, 2012  San Diego, CA

Chlamydia Basic Research Society Meeting
March 19-22, 2013  San Antonio, TX

American Society for Microbiology
113th General Meeting
May 18-21, 2013  Denver, CO

STI World Congress 2013
Joint Meeting of the 20th ISSTDR & 14th IUSTI
July 14-17, 2013  Vienna, Austria

21st ISSTDR
Sidney, Australia

Coming Summer 2012
‘So They Can Know’ is a free resource that helps people who have been diagnosed with STIs to anonymously notify their past and present partners and links those partners to testing services.