



IUSTI-NORTH AMERICA

Message from the Regional Director

Welcome to the IUSTI-North America Fall 2010 Newsletter. We welcome our new Global IUSTI President, Dr. King Holmes, an internationally known STI and HIV researcher from the University of Washington, Seattle, WA, who is also the editor of the 4th edition of the Sexually Transmitted Diseases book. We look forward to his tenure as president of IUSTI in the future years as IUSTI grows to combat STIs on a world-wide scope.

We hope to see many of you at the upcoming European IUSTI. The **25th IUSTI Europe Congress**, 'Broadening Your Horizons', will take place in Tbilisi, Georgia, 23-25 September 2010. The Congress is organized by Dr. Joseph Kobakhidze and Dr. Georgi Galdava from Georgia. The international scientific committee chairman for the meeting is Dr. Simon Barton (London, UK). Tbilisi is the capital and largest city in Georgia and sits on the banks of the Kura River. A meeting of the IUSTI World Executive Committee will be held immediately after the meeting.



Other upcoming IUSTI meetings include:

26th IUSTI Europe Congress will be held in Riga, Latvia on 8-10 September 2011 and will be organized by Andris Rubins. The chair of the international scientific committee for that meeting is Dr. Willem van der Meijden from Rotterdam in the Netherlands. For further information see <http://www.iusti-europe2011.org/>.

12th IUSTI World Congress will be held in New Delhi, India from 2-5 November 2011 and is being organized by Somesh Gupta and Vinod Sharma. Co-chairs of the international scientific committee for this meeting are Dr. Charlotte Gaydos and Dr. Robert Bollinger from Johns Hopkins University. Our theme is 'Promoting Sexual Health: Basic Science to Best Practices.'



The previous Asia Pacific IUSTI meeting in Bali, Indonesia was attended by several North Americans. A record number of 700 delegates attended the conference held in the Bali International Convention Centre, Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia. The conference was opened by representatives of the Governor of Bali and Ministry of Health, Republic of Indonesia. The opening plenary lecture was given by Francis J. Ndowa (WHO) on 'Global Strategy in STI Prevention: Focus on Developing Countries', and the closing lecture by IUSTI-President King Holmes (USA) on 'Prevention of STI and HIV Infection: Current Concepts and Results of a Community-Randomized Trial.'

We are hoping to increase our membership for the North American branch of IUSTI, so we are requesting our members to canvas their collaborators and co-investigators and encourage them to join IUSTI. Associate membership is free, and full membership only costs the equivalent of Euro 40 every two years and can be paid online by using PayPal. Potential full or associate members should complete the online membership application at http://www.iusti2011.org/member_add_page1.php. Please help us increase our membership!

Charlotte Gaydos, DrPH
Regional Director &
Editor-in-Chief
and
King Holmes, MD, PhD
President, IUSTI





Johns Hopkins University
International STD Laboratory
530 Rangos Building
855 North Wolfe Street
Baltimore, MD 21205

Mary Jett-Goheen, Editor
Phone: 410-502-2694
Fax: 410-614-9775
Email: mjettgo1@jhmi.edu

Inside this Issue:

Message from the Regional Director	1
National HIV/AIDS Strategy	2
American Social Health Association	3
National Chlamydia Coalition	3
American College Health Association	3
19th ISSTD, Quebec 2011	4
STD Prevention Online	4
JAMA: A National Strategy to Improve Sexual Health	5
World AIDS Day	5
Sex::Tech 2011	5
Women's Health 2011	5
Letter from Co-Chairs of International Scientific Committee, 12th IUSTI World Congress	6
Recent Publications	6
26th IUSTI Europe Congress	7
12th IUSTI World Congress	7
Upcoming Events	8
Websites Worth Checking Out	8
Facebook	8

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.

National HIV/AIDS Strategy

(The following is excerpted from the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, coordinated by the White House Office of National AIDS Policy)

<http://www.aids.gov/>

On July 13th, 2010, the White House released its National HIV/AIDS Strategy. President Obama committed to developing a *National HIV/AIDS Strategy* with three primary goals: 1) reducing the number of people who become infected with HIV, 2) increasing access to care and optimizing health outcomes for people living with HIV, and 3) reducing HIV-related health disparities. To accomplish these goals, we must undertake a more coordinated national response to the HIV epidemic. The Strategy is intended to be a concise plan that will identify a set of priorities and strategic action steps tied to measurable outcomes. Accompanying the Strategy is a **Federal Implementation Plan** that outlines the specific steps to be taken by various Federal agencies to support the high-level priorities outlined in the Strategy. This is an ambitious plan that will challenge us to meet all of the goals that we set. The job, however, does not fall to the Federal government alone, nor should it. Success will require the commitment of all parts of society, including State, tribal and local governments, businesses, faith communities, philanthropy, the scientific and medical communities, educational institutions, people living with HIV, and others. The vision for the *National HIV/AIDS Strategy* is simple:

The United States will become a place where new HIV infections are rare and when they do occur, every person, regardless of age, gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic circumstance, will have unfettered access to high quality, life-extending care, free from stigma and discrimination.

It is hoped that the strategy will serve as a catalyst for all levels of government and other stakeholders to develop their own implementation plans for achieving the goals of the *National HIV/AIDS Strategy*.

Reducing New HIV Infections

- Step 1: Intensify HIV prevention efforts in communities where HIV is most heavily concentrated.
- Step 2: Expand targeted efforts to prevent HIV infection using a combination of effective, evidence-based approaches.
- Step 3: Educate all Americans about the threat of HIV and how to prevent it.

Increasing Access to Care and Improving Health Outcomes for People Living with HIV

- Step 1: Create a seamless system to immediately link people to continuous and coordinated quality care when they are diagnosed with HIV.
- Step 2: Take deliberate steps to increase the number and diversity of available providers of clinical care and related services for people living with HIV.
- Step 3: Support people living with HIV with co-occurring health conditions and those who have challenges meeting their basic needs, such as housing.

Reducing HIV-Related Health Disparities

- Step 1: Reduce HIV-related mortality in communities at high risk for HIV infection.
- Step 2: Adopt community-level approaches to reduce HIV infection in high-risk communities.
- Step 3: Reduce stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV.

Achieving a More Coordinated National Response to the HIV Epidemic in the United States

- Step 1: Increase the coordination of HIV programs across the Federal government and between Federal agencies and state, territorial, tribal, and local governments.
- Step 2: Develop improved mechanisms to monitor, evaluate, and report on progress toward achieving national goals.

As the American Social Health Association (ASHA) marches ever closer to our 100th anniversary in 2014, we've taken the opportunity to look forward as well as looking back at our rich history. In looking back we see a focus on youth when the fact is that older adults are affected by STIs as well. In fact, rates of STIs such as chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhea, and syphilis among older persons have nearly doubled from 1996 to 2003.

At ASHA, we hear the stories behind these statistics. One of ASHA's greatest strengths has been our contact with the public about their sexual health and STI concerns and questions. Like the story we recently received from Virginia, a 54-year-old widow diagnosed with genital herpes who hopes others can learn from her experience:

"After my husband died, going from a loving, 30 year monogamous relationship to the dating scene of the 21st century was not only difficult, but a real culture shock for me. I've only been with two men, and neither would use a condom because they were 'clean,' and I was stupid enough to proceed unprotected. I always preached to my sons to use condoms and protect themselves and I didn't even follow my own advice! For those of you who have parents or grandparents who by death or divorce find themselves dating again, please share my story with them. Maybe some good could come from my mistake."

Virginia encourages us to find new ways to speak to audiences of all ages and address issues of sexual health.

The following are a few of the ways ASHA reaches the public and others:

- **Ensuring positive media coverage on STIs and sexual health:** An important part of our work is working with various media outlets to ensure accurate coverage on STI issues and promote positive messages on sexual health. In the past few months, we've contributed to stories found on CNN, in the Washington Post, Glamour and Health magazines, and on Yahoo.com's Shine site for young women.
- **Educating healthcare providers about HPV to improve patient care and counseling:** We're working right now on a new project to conduct seminars across the country to help educate healthcare providers on HPV infection and how to address their patients' need for both information and emotional support.
- **Talking to people, one-on-one:** On the phone, via e-mail, through our websites, and in our online forums, we talk to thousands of people each year, answering their questions, addressing their concerns, and providing much needed support.

Update provided by Lynn Barclay



The National Chlamydia Coalition invites Healthcare Providers to learn more about how to integrate chlamydia screening into clinical practice. At <http://ncc.prevent.org/providers.html>, you can determine ways to address issues, such as maintaining confidentiality for teen patients and taking a sexual history.

In the NCC Members Area, <http://ncc.prevent.org/members.html>, information on the National Chlamydia Coalition can be found in the various documents available for download. Links to the Committee agendas and minutes are available, and the Newsletter Archive can be found here.



19th ISSTDR 2011: The Québec City “Rendez-vous”

From July 10 to 13, 2011, Québec City will host the 19th Biennial meeting of the International Society for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Research on the theme of **“From research to intervention: successes and challenges.”**

The conference will take place in the Québec City Convention Centre located in the heart of the city across from the Parliament Building, and just a few steps from tourist attractions. The facilities are comfortable and modern, and the Centre boasts leading-edge equipment, spacious exhibit halls and impeccable service.

The Conference is being held during the Québec City Summer Festival. Over the past 40 years, the Québec City Summer Festival has put on hundreds of exciting and varied shows and concerts, making it Canada’s biggest outdoor artistic event. With more than 300 shows in 11 days, the excitement that builds in the heart of Québec City is contagious. It’s a must!

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Opinion leaders, researchers and clinicians from around the world provide leadership in STI/HIV prevention, diagnosis and treatment. The ISSTDR Québec 2011 will bring them together to share their latest research results, innovation, good practice and expertise. As the theme of the conference is “From research to intervention: successes and challenges”, many sessions at the conference will focus on the use of research results to inform the implementation of better and more efficient clinical and public health practices. The meeting will also focus on rigorous scientific evaluation of clinical and preventive interventions and will emphasize what works best in these fields.

Five main tracks will guide the preparation of the scientific program:

1. Epidemiology track
2. Social and behavioural aspects of prevention track
3. Clinical sciences track
4. Basic sciences track
5. Health services and policy track

<http://www.isstdrquebec2011.com/en/welcome.aspx>

KEY DATES

- ◆ **Early Bird registration:**
From November 1, 2010 to April 8, 2011
- ◆ **Call for abstracts:**
From November 1, 2010
- ◆ **Deadline to submit an abstract:**
February 21, 2011
- ◆ **Notice of acceptance or rejection of abstracts:**
March 25, 2011
- ◆ **Standard registration:**
From April 9 to June 9, 2011



STDPO on Twitter

Want another way to stay on top of the latest STDPO goings-on? Follow STDPO on Twitter at twitter.com/stdpo. They are posting announcements of new resources, news and other information important and interesting to the field. Check it out and tweet what you think.



Online article and related content current as of September 15, 2010.

A National Strategy to Improve Sexual Health

Andrea Swartzendruber; Jonathan M. Zenilman

JAMA. 2010;304(9):1005-1006 (doi:10.1001/jama.2010.1252)

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/304/9/1005>



Excerpted from the article by Andrea Swartzendruber, MPH and Jonathan M. Zenilman, MD. (Dr. Zenilman is past Regional Director of IUSTI-North America)

“Sexual Health is an integrated care-delivery and prevention concept that recognizes sexual expression as normative and encompasses preventive and treatment services throughout the life span. However, the United States lacks an integrated approach to sexual health. Public health programs such as sexually transmitted disease (STD)/human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention and family planning are categorically funded and organizationally fragmented, and federal reproductive health programs in the past decade emphasized abstinence. As a result, sexual health indicators are poor....

Politicization of sexual health results in division, bad policy, ineffective programs, and poor health outcomes. A national strategy to promote sexual health can serve as a unifying goal and provide a framework for building on proven evidence.”



World AIDS Day is celebrated on December 1 each year around the world. It has become one of the most recognized international health days and a key opportunity to raise awareness, commemorate those who have passed on, and celebrate victories such as increased access to treatment and prevention services. World AIDS Day is important in reminding people that HIV has not gone away, and that there are many things still to be done.

The World Health Organization established World AIDS Day in 1988. World AIDS Campaign is the leading international organization which plans and implements the observance. Visit <http://www.worldaidscampaign.org/> for brochures, images and other information for the day.



Looking for a simple, powerful, engaging way to take action?

Join AIDS.gov in *Facing AIDS* for World AIDS Day, an opportunity to share photos and messages in response to HIV. If we all put our faces to AIDS, we can help reduce the stigma surrounding HIV and AIDS, and promote HIV testing. Visit <http://aids.gov/facingaids/> for tools you can download to organize an event in your community and for ways you can promote and share HIV testing information for World AIDS Day and beyond.



Sex::Tech 2011

April 1-2, 2011

San Francisco, California

The 4th annual Sex::Tech Conference is the premier event for health and technology professionals to get together with youth, parents and community leaders to advance the sexual health of young people. Hosted by ISIS, the U.S. leader in using technology and new media for sexual health, the conference is expecting over 400 national and international attendees, and more than 2,000 viewers following the proceedings via live video stream.

Call for abstracts: Sex::Tech is a fabulous opportunity for networking, presenting new findings and exploring innovative ideas with key stakeholders. Go to www.sxtech.org to review this year's call and see if your projects align with Sex::Tech 2011's goals and session tracks. Should you have any questions, email SxTechconference@isis-inc.org. Abstracts are due via the online submission tool by November 15th.

Women's Health 2011

The 19th Annual Congress

April 1-3, 2011

Crystal Gateway Marriott

Washington, DC



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS—Deadline December 1, 2010

Women's Health & Sex Differences Research

Scientific Poster Sessions

Co-sponsored by the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health

We invite researchers to submit abstracts on current and emerging issues in women's health, in any domain of women's health, including basic science, clinical, translational, behavioral, epidemiologic, disparities, and health services.

Scientific abstracts report the results of original research and must contain data and report research results. Visit http://www.whcongress.com/abstract_submission.html and use the electronic submission tool to submit your structured abstract of approximately 300 words total.

Promoting Sexual Health: Basic Science to Best Practices

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is our great pleasure and honor to invite you to the 12th IUSTI World Congress of Sexually Transmitted Infections & AIDS and the 35th National conference of IAS STD & AIDS, November 2-5, 2011, in New Delhi, India. Our International Scientific Committee will create a stimulating scientific program that is rewarding to all participants. Our theme, “Promoting Sexual Health: Basic Science to Best Practices”, will challenge us to optimize the implementation of the latest scientific discoveries and best practices regarding prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of STIs/HIV, through integrated programmatic approaches to achieve sexual health.

The challenges in the battle against STIs and HIV are ever more important today as we aim to promote sexual health from birth to senior citizens. We will be collaborating with global and local faculty to bring you a diverse and rewarding scientific program that encompasses basic science, epidemiology, clinical science, vaccine research, and the programs that assimilate these into best practices.

The venue will be the Vigyan Bhawan, India’s premiere Conference Center, located in one of the most beautiful locations in Delhi near the President’s Estate and India Gate. It is within walking distance of the Gallery of Modern Art and the National Museum.

The problems and challenges of STIs and HIV pose obstacles which scientists must meet with energy and resolve, so that the knowledge gained by international collaborations with our fellow colleagues will be successful in combating the rising epidemics of STIs and HIV through promoting sexual health. We look forward to seeing you in New Delhi next November for an exciting World Congress of Sexually Transmitted Infections & AIDS.



Charlotte A. Gaydos Robert C. Bollinger

Co-Chairs of the International Scientific Committee

Recent Publications:

The CAPRISA 004 Trial Group. Effectiveness and Safety of Tenofovir Gel, an Antiretroviral Microbicide, for the Prevention of HIV Infection in Women. *Scienceexpress*, 19 July 2010. *Tenofovir gel could fill an important HIV prevention gap for women unable to successfully negotiate mutual monogamy or condom use.*

Gatski M, et al. Patient-Delivered Partner Treatment and *Trichomonas vaginalis* Repeat Infection Among Human Immunodeficiency Virus-Infected Women. *Sex Transm Dis* 2010; 37: 502-505. *HIV-infected women with TV reported high adherence to patient delivered partner treatment, and treatment failure was the most common probable cause of repeat infection.*

Scott LJ, et al. A new multiplex real-time PCR test for HSV1/2 and syphilis: an evaluation of its impact in the laboratory and clinical setting. *Sex Transm Infect* 2010; published online July 18, 2010 in advance of the print journal. *The introduction of this new test has led to a better turnaround time for the diagnosis of genital ulcer disease, better detection of primary syphilis, and the detection of unexpected cases of syphilis where the etiological agent suspected was HSV.*

Krashin JW, et al. *Trichomonas vaginalis* Prevalence, Incidence, Risk Factors and Antibiotic-Resistance in an Adolescent Population. *Sex Trans Dis* 2010; 37: 440-444. *The study population had high prevalence and incidence of trichomoniasis. The prevalence of antibiotic-resistant TV among female adolescents was low.*

Rockett R, et al. Evaluation of the cobas 4800 CT/NG test for detecting *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. *Sex Transm Infect* 2010; published online August 18, 2010 in advance of print journal. *The cobas 4800 CT/NG test is suitable to high through-put identification of Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae infections.*

Short VL, et al. The demographic, sexual health and behavioural correlates of *Mycoplasma genitalium* infection among women with clinically suspected pelvic inflammatory disease. *Sex Trans Infect* 2010; 86: 29-31. *The demographic, sexual and behavioural characteristics of M. genitalium-positive women were similar to women with chlamydial and/or gonococcal PID.*



26th IUSTI-Europe Congress 10th BADV Congress

September 8-10, 2011
Riga, Latvia

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is great honour to organize the 26th IUSTI-Europe Congress and the 10th BADV Congress on September 8-10, 2011 in Riga, Latvia.

I am certain of the fact, that this 26th IUSTI-Europe Congress which will take place in one of the most beautiful European cities under the slogan "Staying alert for sexual health" will be attended by doctors and scientists from all over the world, and that together with the leading speakers and the support of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies they will share the experience about the novelties in the diagnostics and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, viruses and skin diseases.

The local Organizing Committee, IUSTI-Europe Branch and Congress Scientific Committee (Chairman Dr. W. I van de Meijden) and BADV board will do their best so that 26th IUSTI-Europe Congress and the 10th BADV Congress in Riga would be in the supreme scientific level, would show new ways to solve the problems and would be held in a creative and friendly atmosphere.

Prof. Dr.habil.med Andris Y. Rubins
Congress President



Dear colleagues and friends,

As chairman of the scientific committee of the 2011 IUSTI meeting in Riga, I heartily invite you to already start making plans for your input in this meeting. I am sure that the great hospitality of our host Andris Rubins, together with your professional input, will make this meeting a memorable one.



Best Regards,
Dr. Willem I. van der Meijden

<http://www.iusti-europe2011.org/>



12th IUSTI World Congress 35th National Conference of IAS STD & AIDS

November 2-5, 2011
New Delhi, India

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is our great honor to organize 12th IUSTI-World Meeting at New Delhi, India from 2nd to 5th November 2011. The Local Organizing Committee and International Scientific Committee attempt to create an enlightening scientific program that is relevant for all parts of the World. In spite of cultural and racial differences, the problems and challenges in the field of Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV are similar. This congress aims to bridge the gaps and bring diverse points of view to a common platform, so that all can benefit from each others experiences.

India is fighting a battle against HIV/AIDS in which some states have been highly successful while others face a rising epidemic. The venue of the IUST World Congress in New Delhi will help in shifting focus to the control of Sexually Transmitted Infections including HIV, which is the second most common cause of disability and death in this part of the World.

India is a country with great geographic and cultural diversity. Nearly five thousand years back one of the first major civilizations flourished here along the Indus River valley (now in Pakistan). India has virtually every kind of landscape imaginable. It is separated from the rest of Asia by the mighty Himalayas, the highest, youngest and still evolving mountain chain on the planet. The subcontinent as it is rightly called, touches three large water bodies and is immediately recognizable on any world map.

We look forward to seeing you in New Delhi in November 2011 for a wonderful experience.



Vinod K. Sharma
Co-Chair



Somesh Gupta
Co-Chair

<http://delhi.iusti2011.org/home>

Upcoming Events

IDSA 48th Annual Meeting
October 21-24, 2010 Vancouver, Canada

Time to Test for HIV—Multidisciplinary conference
on HIV testing and World AIDS Day Event.

December 1, 2010

Royal College of Physicians, London

111th ASM General Meeting
May 21-24, 2011 New Orleans, LA

19th Congress of the ISSTD &
IUSTI-North America (joint meeting)
July 10-13, 2011 Quebec City, Canada

26th IUSTI Europe Congress
September 8-10, 2011 Riga, Latvia



We're on the
web!!

www.iusti.org

51st Annual ICAAC Meeting
September 18-21, 2011 Chicago, IL

IDSA 49th Annual Meeting
October 20-23, 2011 Boston, MA

12th IUSTI World Congress
November 2-5, 2011 New Delhi, India

IUSTI World Congress 2012
Melbourne, Australia

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

20th Meeting of the ISSTD
2013 Vienna, Austria

Websites Worth Checking Out!

Advocates for Youth

I Wanna Know

It's Your Sex Life

Scarleteen

Sex, Etc.

Avert

Womenshealth.gov

<http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/>

<http://www.iwannaknow.org/>

<http://www.itsyoursexlife.com/iysl>

<http://www.scarleteen.com/>

<http://www.sexetc.org/>

<http://www.avert.org/>

<http://womenshealth.gov/faq/sexually-transmitted-infections.cfm>

facebook

"Giving people the power to
share and make the world
more open and connected."

Visit these facebook pages to
see what's being posted,
uploaded, and shared.

"Like" these pages to receive
updates.

"Share" to spread the word
about STI/HIV infections,
treatment and prevention
with your **facebook** friends..

