

## Latin American Report, India 2011

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### I Latin American IUSTI/ALACITS Congress: a great success!!!

The I Latin American IUSTI/ ALACITS Congress: took place in Curitiba, Brazil between May 18th to May 21st. This is the first time ALACITS and IUSTI-Latin America joint forces and organize a meeting with a very extensive program including STIs, and HIV and aspects related to clinical, public health, behavior and laboratory issues with the participation of experts from Latin America and other parts of the world. The main theme of the Congress is “Impact of STIs in women”. ([www.dstajds2011.com.br](http://www.dstajds2011.com.br))

The president of the conference was Newton Sergio de Carvalho, Scientific Director of ALACITS and professor at the Universidade Federal do Paraná, Brazil.

The president of the scientific committee was Dr. Angélica Espinosa Miranda from the *Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo*, Brazil. Dr. Adele Benzaken, President of ALACITS and from the Fundação Alfredo da Mata was also a member of the scientific committee.

The congress was very well attended by participants from all Brazil and Latin America.

The total number of registrants to the congress was 2192 with 228 speakers and 105 exhibitors.

236 were members from the Brazilian society of STDs. The distribution of the registrants by country is shown in table 1.

**Table 1: Participants per country**

Countries of origin	N
Argentina	5
Bolivia	4
Brazil	2138
Chile	4
Colombia	1
Cuba	2
Ecuador	1
England	2
Honduras	3
Panama	1
Paraguay	3
Peru	10
Dominican Republic	2
South Africa	1
Uruguay	2
USA	13
<b>Total number</b>	<b>2192</b>

There were 615 abstracts accepted to the Congress, 210 (34%) in the epidemiology track, 119 (19%) clinical, 260 (42%) prevention and 26 (5%) basic sciences. 99 (16%) were accepted as oral presentation and the rest 516, as posters.

The opening ceremony was in charge of two speakers, Dr. Pedro Chequer with the topic “*STDs and HIV Interaction*”, and Dr. King Holmes with the presentation “*Multi-component Prevention of STI: The Peru PREVEN Study.*”

The congress had multiple concurrent sessions and courses in Portuguese, Spanish and English which covered different aspects related to HIV and STDs with a special focus on women.

### **Scholarship Fund for the I Latin American IUSTI/ALACITS**

Through the generous support of the Office of AIDS Research at the National Institutes of Health we were able to support the participation of 28 Latin American participants, all members of IUSTI Latin America, representing 11 countries. We also fund the trip and expenses of 3 international speakers for the conference and translations.

All of the delegates supported by this scholarship participated in a session entitled *“Research needs in HIV and STIs in Latin America”*.



*Discussion during the session  
“Research needs in HIV and STIs in Latin America”*



*Two delegates in front of the ALACITS/IUSTI Latin America  
Exhibition Booth*



*ALACITS/IUSTI Latin America members with Dr. King Holmes at the Curitiba Congress*

## The new website for ALACITS/IUSTI Latin America has been launched

The Latin American and Caribbean Association for the Control of Sexually Transmitted Infections (ALACITS) is an international scientific association founded in 2003, aimed at bringing together professionals from different specialties from the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, who are interested in collaborating on activities related to services, training and research applied to the control of Sexually Transmitted Infections. ALACITS/IUSTI Latin America has launched its website in April 2011, where information about the association and activities can be found (both in English and Spanish). It also has an online system for registration of associate members. Visit our website at [www.alacits.org](http://www.alacits.org)



## Increasing numbers of members of ALACITS/IUSTI Latin America!!!

In this past year, due to the launch of the website, the electronic registration system and the promotion association during the last meeting in Curitiba, we have been able to increase the membership in Latin America. By September 2011, we are 1291 members from 17 Latin American countries. We are a growing association, Congratulations!!!