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President's Letter

This is my last newsletter contribution as IUSTI-World President. In July 2017 at the ISSTD-IUSTI World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, the President's role will be transferred to Professor Charlotte Gaydos. I would like to thank the IUSTI-Executive Committee and all our IUSTI members for your continual support during my four years' term of service. Give that I have spent many years working and publishing on matters pertaining to gonococcal infection, I thought it would be appropriate to make gonorrhoea the focus of my final President's message., particular with respect to antimicrobial resistance and the need for more research on appropriate targets for gonococcal vaccines.

Untreated gonorrhoea may result in several serious complications, such a pelvic inflammatory disease, infertility, ectopic pregnancy, epididymo-orchitis and disseminated gonococcal infection. The most recent 2012 WHO estimates have documented the estimated global prevalence of gonorrhoea among women and men, aged 15–49 years, to be 0.8% (0.6–1.0%) and 0.6% (0.4–0.9%), respectively. These figures correspond to an estimated 78 million (53–110 million) new cases of gonorrhoea in 2012 (Figure 1).

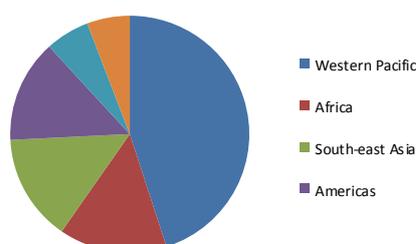


Figure 1. Distribution of 78 million new cases of gonorrhoea in 2012 by WHO region

The advent of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV has also been linked to substantial increases in the incidence of gonorrhoea amongst men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) at high-risk for HIV acquisition who have been enrolled in PrEP implementation projects.

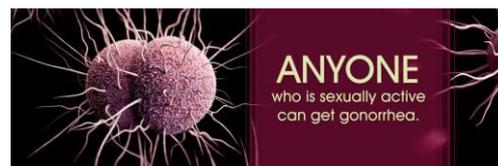


Figure 2. Gonorrhoea is highly infectious (<https://www.silompulse.com/treatment/hiv-std/full-std-test/>)

Surveillance programmes in the UK and USA have clearly shown that antimicrobial resistant *N. gonorrhoeae* strains account for a higher proportion of gonorrhoea cases in MSM than in heterosexuals. The threat of untreatable gonorrhoea in the near future poses a serious threat to human health. In February 2017, the World Health Organization (WHO) graded multidrug resistant *N. gonorrhoeae* as a high priority for research and development with respect to discovery of new antimicrobial agents. This reflects the observation that very few new drugs are currently in the pipeline. Indeed, only three are being assessed in clinical trials at the present time, specifically Solithromycin (Cempra), Zoliflodacin (Enastasis) and Gepotidacin (GlaxoSmithKline). None of these agents are likely to be used as single agent first-line therapies and, if licensed, are likely to be part of a combination drug regimen.

Given concerns over the rising incidence of gonorrhoea in MSM, the global burden of disease including reproductive tract complications, and the added threat of untreatable gonorrhoea in the absence of major advances in drug development, the case for a gonococcal vaccine is clear. However, there are four key challenges to vaccine development. Firstly, *N. gonorrhoeae* strains have substantial variability in their surface-exposed antigens due to natural transformation, antigenic variation and phase variation. Secondly, naturally-acquired adaptive immune responses to highly conserved gonococcal antigens do not protect against subsequent infection as repeat infections occur fairly commonly. Thirdly, the immune correlates for protection remain unknown. Finally, we lack robust animal models to study this obligate human pathogen.

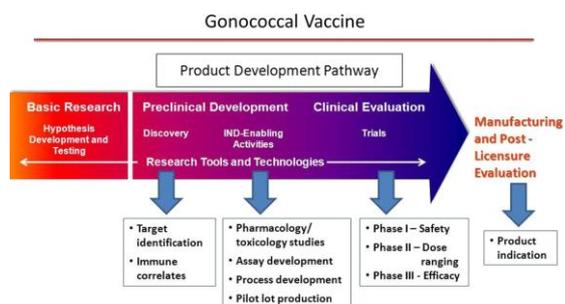


Figure 3. Pathway for a gonococcal vaccine (reproduced from Jerse and Deal, *Sex. Transm. Infect.* 2013;89(Suppl 4):iv63-68 and available at http://sti.bmj.com/content/89/Suppl_4/iv63)

We need to see more financial support of the basic science research required to develop gonococcal vaccine candidates. A key step to achieving this is engagement with the vaccination community. To this end, a Chatham House Meeting on 'The Value of Vaccines in the Avoidance of Antimicrobial Resistance' was convened in London at the end of March 2017. This meeting was an important first step in bringing together the vaccine and the antimicrobial resistance communities so that they can work together to make the case for supporting vaccine research to deal with the impending threat of antimicrobial resistance.

David Lewis, IUSTI-World President

Regional Reports

Europe

The world is changing faster than ever before, and the need to stay in front of many trends is increasingly challenging. Nobody will get ahead by maintaining old habits and skills; everyone needs to collaborate with the smartest minds in the field. Scientific congresses are still one of the best ways to do this.



The 31st IUSTI-Europe Congress on Sexually Transmitted Infections will be held in Helsinki, Finland on 31 August – 2 September 2017. The congress will be held in Marina Congress Centre, a

fabulous congress venue in the heart of Helsinki. The chair of the Scientific Committee prof. Stephan Lautenschlager has created a scientific program with excellent plenary speakers; Manuel Battegay, Catriona Bradshaw, Charlotte Gaydos, David A. Lewis, Jorma Paavonen and John White. The main topics of the symposiums are:

- What is hot in HIV?
- Practical STI diagnosis; which micro-organisms, how and when
- Troubleshooting in anogenital dermatology - expert opinion
- E-sexual health; how can apps and technology help you?
- Genital pain syndromes
- Changing infections
- HPV – clinical challenges today
- STIs in Europe, new trends and old foes
- Anorectal sex and its role in STI transmission
- Genital herpes update 2017
- Microscopic diagnosis of genital infections

More information in the congress website www.iusti2017.org

Forthcoming IUSTI -Europe meetings

Whilst attention naturally focuses on our forthcoming 2017 IUSTI-Europe meeting in Helsinki plans are also well advanced for the meeting in 2018 (Dublin - in conjunction with IUSTI World) and for 2019 (Estonia).

The 2018 meeting will be held in the hallowed halls of Trinity University, Dublin (27-30 June). The University has excellent conferencing facilities and is the alma mater of Beckett and Joyce. It hosts an historic archive of important manuscripts including the 'Book of Kells'. The joint scientific Chairs for the meeting are Dr Kees Rietmeijer and Prof Henry De Vries. The conference aims to have a limited number of tracks to reduce clashes and to incorporate research into its general workshop and symposia programs. Dr Derek Freedman, the Chair of the organising committee, is putting together an attractive social program.

Plans are also well developed for the 2019 meeting in Tallinn, Estonia. Dr Airi Poder (Chair of the organising committee) hosted a small group of IUSTI officers in Tallinn to visit the potential congress sites and to finalise the venue and dates. The conference will be held 5th-7th September 2019 and will take place at the historic Tallinn National Opera and Konzert Hall. This venue has excellent conferencing facilities and has hosted many prestigious international conferences. The historic building has recently been refurbished to provide state of the art A-V facilities. The scientific committee is chaired by Dr Raj Patel.

IUSTI-Europe Advanced STI Course

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the IUSTI Advanced Course on Sexually Transmitted

Infections 2017: Test and Treat which will be held in conjunction with the IUSTI Europe Conference as a pre-meeting from August 30 to August 31, 2017.

The course is particularly aimed at young clinicians developing an interest in sexually transmitted infections, but all are invited. Well known European and local Finnish experts will present an update on diagnostic technologies and summarize the most recent treatment recommendations.

We are delighted to announce that IUSTI Europe will support attendance at the course with five scholarships to help cover registration fees, travel and accommodation. The total amount of each scholarship will be €700. To be eligible for a scholarship you must be a full member of IUSTI and younger than 35 years.

Applications, in the form of a short (2 pages or less) curriculum vitae should be sent to: iustieuropesecretary@gmail.com by 30th June 2017

STI Guidelines in Europe

The Editorial Board held its most recent teleconference on 21 March. Prof A Nast (Berlin, Germany) has been appointed to the editorial board in order to improve collaboration and communication with the EDF (European Dermatology Forum).

Dr Marti Vall Mayans is leading on the development of a "pocket summary" which will contain the key recommendations from all the guidelines in a concise and user-friendly format.

A new guideline on vulval disease has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (JEADV)*. The revised guideline on epididymo-orchitis has been published online in the *International Journal of STD and AIDS (IJSA)*.

The revised guideline on pediculosis pubis has been published online in the *JEADV*. The guidelines on hepatitis (B and C), scabies, gonorrhoea, genital warts, PID, vaginal discharge and the organisation of a consultation, are all being revised.

Work continues on a position statement on testing for genital mycoplasmas other than *M. genitalium* (on which a guideline has already been produced). Patient information continues to be developed on each guideline as it is produced or updated. Like all the guidelines these are freely available via the IUSTI website.

The Armenian Association of Dermatologists and Venereologists has requested permission to translate the European STI guidelines into the Armenian language in order to help promote the use of evidence-based medicine. The editorial board is happy to support this initiative and permissions have been requested from the editors and publishers of the *IJSA* and the *JEADV*.

The next teleconference is scheduled for 27 June.

News from Member Countries

Ukraine

There have been several interesting conferences, meetings and training sessions in Ukraine.

The VI International Medical Congress, April 25-27 in Kyiv, which was organized by the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, Ministry of Health Protection of Ukraine, participants were scientists, clinicians, private practitioners. The main focus was treatment and laboratory diagnosis of bacterial STIs.

Additionally, "Problems of Skin Diseases and STIs in Children and Adolescents", March 23-24 in Kyiv, which was organized by "P.L. Shupik" National Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education, Ministry of Health Protection of Ukraine, participants were scientists-dermatovenereologists, clinicians. The main topic was STI in children and adolescents, case reports.

The organization and provision of reproductive health services in the case of gender violence: An interdisciplinary training unit for medical employees in the Donetsk region. Organized by UNFPA, Ministry of Health Protection of Ukraine, participants were obstetricians and gynecologists, nurses, midwives, family doctors, dermatovenereologists. The main topic was provision of current information on gender-based violence, needs of victims and providing of medical care for them, modern clinical and epidemiological characteristics, diagnosis of current STI.

Portugal

The "VI JORNADAS SOBRE INFECÇÕES SEXUALMENTE TRANSMISSÍVEIS (IST)", Portugal's national conference, will take place on May the 19th, and will address some "hot topics" in STI: trends in the epidemiology of STI in Portugal, resistance to antibiotics in STI (including data from Portugal), new agents in STI, update on vaccines against STI.

There will also be two symposia, one on genital dermatoses and the other on HPV infection. We will have two debates, one about genital infection by *Mycoplasma genitalium* and the other on the pros and cons of PrEP. Finally there will be time for free papers and case reports.

Russia

Guild of Specialists in STI USTI-Ru, which represents IUSTI-Europe in Russia, continues the program of one-day "USTI-Ru" Schools throughout the country. Gynecologists, urologists and specialists in laboratory diagnostics are invited as speakers. There are about 100 participants at each school. Since January and until December 2017 as many as 19 "USTI-Ru" schools are planned.

The annual meeting of USTI-Ru was held in Moscow on March 15 during the joint meeting with Russian Alliance of Dermatovenereologists and Cosmetologists.

United Kingdom

There are two major issues to report and, additionally, a celebration.

Firstly, HIV PrEP. Free availability of HIV PrEP varies across the four nations of the UK. In England, following a controversial court battle NHS England intends to run a large-scale implementation trial with an aim of recruiting 10,000 participants. Wales initially rejected PrEP funding but recently announced a similar trial. Northern Ireland has made no decision. In Scotland, Truvada was accepted for use in NHS Scotland by the Scottish Medicines Consortium on 10 April 2017 with the indication ‘in combination with safer sex practices for pre-exposure prophylaxis to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV-1 infection in adults at high risk’. Clinics are now preparing detailed implementation plans with expected availability from early July 2017.

Secondly, HPV vaccine for MSM. In Scotland on 10 May, the Scottish Medical, Nursing and Pharmaceutical Officers issued a letter announcing that, from 1 July 2017, men who have sex with men (MSM), aged up to and including 45 years of age, who attend sexual health / HIV clinics will be eligible to receive the quadrivalent HPV vaccine as part of a national HPV vaccination programme. Prisoners who identify as MSM will also be able to access the HPV vaccine through prison health services.

In Wales a similar programme was rolled out from April 1. In England a pilot trial of clinic-based HPV vaccine has been running at selected GUM and HIV clinics since May 2016. There has been no announcement about wider scale availability.

Finally, 100 years of venereology: The specialty in the UK celebrates 100 years in 2017 and there was a reception at the House of Lords on Tue 6 Jun to celebrate.

Germany

The congress “HIV & Psyche” was organized by the Competence Network for HIV/AIDS (Kompetenznetz HIV/AIDS) and was supported by the German STI-Society. During the last few years the therapy of HIV-infected persons has been remarkably improved. Nevertheless, the psychological suffering of those people is still widely ignored. The congress “HIV & Psyche” is meant to change this. It offers the opportunity for medical professionals as well as consultants to talk about the topic on a professional basis. In 2017, the conference took place for the sixth time. The main topic this year was “Sexuality – the forbidden fruits of paradise.”

In 2017, the DSTIG continues the training program “Sexual Health and STI” in cooperation with the Federal Centre for Health Education (Bundeszentrale für gesundheitliche Aufklärung – BzgA), the Medical Association of Westphalia-Lippe (Ärzttekammer Westfalen-Lippe) and the Berlin Chamber of Physicians (Ärzttekammer

Berlin). This curriculum is unique in Germany and is meant to be an interdisciplinary training unit for medical employees and people working in healthcare.

In 2016, the first Center for Sexual Health opened in 2016 in Germany: “Walk In Ruhr (WIR) – Centre for Sexual Health and Medicine”. In June 2017, the center celebrates its first anniversary and, in the context of a symposium on HIV, Hepatitis and other STI, looks back on its first achievements. As a pilot WIR could be a role model in order to bring forward STI medicine and the promotion of sexual health services in Germany.

Estonia



IUSTI Estonia Conference Party ‘Times That Will Never Return’

The XIX Conference of IUSTI- Estonia took place in June, 2-3 in Rakvere. There were about 130 participants from Estonia and from all over the World. Outstanding plenary lectures were carried out by Angelika Stary, Henry de Vries, Kees Rietmeijer and Andreas Wismeijer.

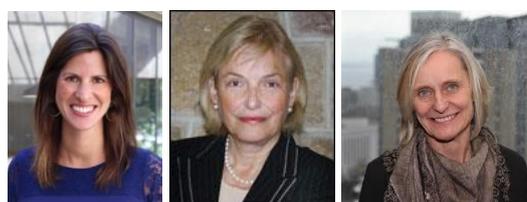
The main topics of the conference were: using different models in the management of STI-services and how, through different questionnaires, to most effectively assess the risk of becoming infected with STIs.

Airi Põder

North America

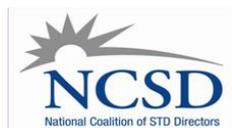


ASTDA Awards



Christine Khosropour, Jo-Anne Dillon & Lisa Manhart

The annual ASTDA awards have been announced. The 2017 Distinguished Career Award will be presented to Dr. Jo-Anne Dillon, University of Saskatchewan, Canada; the Achievement Award will go to Dr. Lisa Manhart, University of Washington, and the Young Investigator Award will go to Dr. Christine Khosropour, also from the University of Washington. The awards ceremony will be held at the upcoming ISSTDR meeting in Rio de Janeiro on Tuesday July 11 during the annual ASTDA Awards Luncheon from 12:30 – 2:00 PM for which all conference attendees are cordially invited. Congratulations to all awardees! At the conference, ASTDA will also be sponsoring a breakfast session presented by ASTDA President, Dr. Dennis Fortenberry entitled: "Connecting Human and Sexual Rights to STI/HIV Prevention.



The National Coalition for STD Directors released this statement in reaction to President Trump's recent budget proposal on May 23:

President Donald Trump's Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Budget proposal was released today. Included in the budget is a \$27 million dollar (or 17.2 percent) cut to the Division of STD Prevention (DSTDP) at CDC. Large cuts are also proposed for HIV programs, school health, TB, and other safety net programs throughout CDC.

From information included in the budget proposal, NCSA has determined that in the event that the full proposed cuts were enacted for NCHHSTP:

- *Support for DSTDP Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) positions would be reduced by up to 300 positions nationwide and training for clinicians would end.*
- *Funding would only be provided to jurisdictions "most in need" - meaning that DSTDP would no longer fund every state, territory, or directly funded city.*
- *Funding would be reduced for HIV testing, support, and prevention services (including school-based health programs), and PrEP demonstration programs.*
- *A reminder, this is a proposed FY18 budget request to Congress. Many have already said that this proposed budget is dead on arrival, but there will be a major fight over priorities.*
- *NCSA is committed to doing everything possible to fighting these proposed cuts so that a viable STD and HIV prevention program is maintained in the U.S.*

David C. Harvey
Executive Director, NCSA



National Network of
STD Clinical Prevention
Training Centers

NNPTC.ORG

The National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Centers (NNPTC) is a CDC-funded group of training centers created in partnership with health departments and universities. The PTCs are dedicated to increasing the knowledge and skills of health professionals in the areas of sexual health. The NNPTC provides health professionals with a spectrum of state-of-the-art educational opportunities including experiential learning with an emphasis on STD treatment and prevention.

The Organization

The NNPTC seeks to improve STD clinical care training at multiple levels: the individual health care clinician; providers who care for persons with, or at risk for STDs; as well as clinical organization and health care systems. The NNPTC project comprises a national network of regional (Component A) and national (Component B) centers of excellence. NNPTC grantees are Apex (Albuquerque, NM); the University of Alabama (Birmingham, AL); Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD); the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Boston, MA); the University of California, San Francisco (San Francisco, CA); Denver Health and Hospitals (Denver, CO); Public Health Solutions (New York, NY); the University of Washington (Seattle, WA); and Washington University (St. Louis, MO). Awards for the five year project were finalized on September 1, 2014 with total project funding of \$16.5 million.

Expected long-term outcomes of a strong NNPTC include increased integration of STD services into primary care, decreased transmission of STDs in the community, and decreased morbidity and mortality from STDs and related health outcomes.

The National Coordination Center

The National Coordination Center strives to build internal and external capacity of the NNPTC. The National Coordination Center assures uniformity of access and processes for clinicians seeking training among regional PTCs, facilitates collaborations and resource sharing among NNPTC members, oversees the development and maintenance of the NNPTC website and collaborates with internal and external partners to respond to emerging issues in HIV prevention and STD prevention and clinical care.

The Regional STD Clinical Prevention Training Centers

STD clinical training courses provide up-to-date information to public and private clinicians who diagnose, treat, and manage patients with STDs

and HIV. Many courses devote 50% of class time to clinical and laboratory experience under the guidance of a qualified preceptor. PTCs also offer clinical training courses in the following formats: grand rounds, teleconferencing, self-study, on-site courses, and web-based courses.

Training content and priorities are based on current CDC STD Treatment Guidelines, which encompass screening, treatment, and prevention of STDs, and are informed by STD epidemiological trends and scientific advancements.

The National Prevention Training Centers

The National Prevention Training Centers support and enhance the NNPTC by coordinating national activities, preventing duplication of resources, providing expertise and oversight of common network functions. There are seven national PTC funded to assist with national coordination, evaluation, curriculum, quality improvement, and technological innovation. The national PTCs strive to create efficiencies and consistency in these key areas, while also promoting innovation on behalf of the NNPTC.

National STD Curriculum Center:

STD Self-Study Modules: <http://www.std.uw.edu/>

About the National STD Curriculum

The National STD Curriculum is a free educational Web site from the University of Washington STD Prevention and Training Center and the University of Washington. This project is funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The National STD Curriculum addresses the epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical manifestations, diagnosis, management, and prevention of STDs.

Free CME credit and free CNE credit are offered throughout the site.

STD Clinical Toolbox (Mobile App) Downloads:

iPhone: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/std-clinical-toolbox-for-iphone/id1128491831?mt=8>

iPad: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/std-clinical-toolbox-for-ipad/id1117038744?mt=8>

Description

The STD Clinical Toolbox gives physicians and other healthcare providers immediate access to the latest STD information; STD resources including the CDC's 2015 STD Treatment Guidelines; STD training opportunities across the United States; and upcoming STD-related conferences.

service providers on the reduction of STBBI-related stigma

In an effort to support frontline service providers in the provision of sexually transmitted and blood-borne infection (STBBI)-related services in Canada, the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) is pleased to release a number of tools that focus on the individual and organizational factors required to enhance services and reduce STBBI-related stigma, and ultimately improve health outcomes for those affected by or living with STBBIs. These resources were developed in consultation with an Expert Reference Group, and based on findings from literature reviews, key informant interviews with health and social service providers, and focus groups with clients from across Canada. All resources are available free of charge in English and French. Download CPHA's resources on STBBIs and stigma. For more information, contact Rachel MacLean.

HPV World (from Xavier Bosch)

It has become clear in our field that the HPV technologies and HPV-based preventive strategies are dramatically reshaping our understanding of cervical cancer prevention in both developed and developing countries. This interest translates into some 3,500 new scientific publications per year, multiple reviews, guidelines and recommendations that include not minor inconsistencies in the messaging. Modern forms of independent and simplified communication need to be in place to facilitate dissemination of the progress in the field.

We are now entering a down-to-earth period in which decisions are being made and where the state of opinion of the medical and health professionals is critical. This includes practical and implementation issues, such as the introduction of HPV testing or the support to the vaccination programs, but also the challenging research areas such as the implication of HPV in head and neck or skin cancers. At the end of the day, it is the status of the medical opinion that forces public health recommendations and shapes the change.

For the last 15 years the newsletter HPV TODAY has enjoyed a significant success as a reader-friendly and quality-assured source of information for clinicians. This project is now terminated, giving way to a novel project, HPV WORLD, a publication that will be devoted to generating a summary of the results of complex research areas in a reader-friendly manner, with ample dissemination in the professional networks and interactive features.

HPV WORLD will include a new technical editor and a new team in graphics design/technology that will allow free e-circulation of the materials as well as allowing the production of high quality printed version for targeted distribution at relevant events and meetings. The operational mode will be largely based on invitations to consolidated teams of authors to produce topic-specific compact summaries of the scientific evidence with special



interest in the implications in clinical practice. HPV WORLD will preserve its editorial independence in terms of authorship invitations and selection of contents that makes it particularly attractive to medical audiences.

We have an exciting period ahead of us and these academic vehicles of communication are likely to become precious links between science and clinical practice. Building on over 15 years of the HPV TODAY experience, HPV WORLD is geared at being one of these vehicles, perhaps the most consistent and valued in the HPV field.

On behalf of IUSTI Canada,
Marc Steben, MD



During STI Awareness Month (April) and Women's Health Month (May) ASHA debuted *Yes Means Test*, a social media campaign to encourage STI testing among youth (especially for chlamydia in sexually active young women). #YesMeansTest featured a video, social media content, and articles and blogs in *channels* popular with the target audience (e.g., Bedsider, Refinery29, and HuffPo). In May ASHA launched the redesigned and updated website of the *National Chlamydia Coalition* (NCC), a collaboration of nonprofits, healthcare professional societies, health insurers, and representatives from all levels of government. NCC's mandate is to address the high burden of chlamydia in adolescents and young adults by promoting equal access to comprehensive and quality health services.

Is it Time for Your Screen Test? is our latest patient education video and focuses on cervical cancer screening information including guidelines and an explanation of the tests utilized. The video also has *printable* companion materials. ASHA's videos are housed on our *Sexual Health TV* channel.

The #SayYesToPrEP social media campaign was extended until the end of the year. Working in collaboration with the Mississippi Department of Public Health, we design and promote a series of Twitter and Facebook ads targeted to Mississippians who may benefit the most from information on PrEP while also driving those users to a clinic locator service at <http://www.sayyestoprep.org/>.

Lynn Barclay
President, ASHA
Fred Wyand,
Director of Communications, ASHA

2018 IUSTI World Congress



On behalf of ASTDA and the North American Region of IUSTI, Dr. Kees Rietmeijer will chair the scientific committee of the 2018 IUSTI World Congress together with Dr. Henry de Vries from the University of Amsterdam. The Congress will be held June 27-30 at Trinity College in Dublin, hosted by Dr. Derek Freedman and the incoming president of the IUSTI World Executive Committee, Dr. Charlotte Gaydos. Preparations to the Congress are already in full swing and a first announcement will be sent soon.



Henry de Vries, Derek Freedman, Kees Rietmeijer

With the theme "The Appliance of Science", the scientific committee of the 2018 IUSTI World Congress aims to bring together the state of STI science and the state of STI clinical and prevention practice. Through multidisciplinary sessions, we hope that an exchange of research findings and ideas will stimulate discussion and positively affect the future direction of STI research and practice.

We believe that this approach will lend itself well to tackle newly emerging issues in the STI field, including the rise of syphilis and other STIs in the context of HIV biomedical interventions, practical implications of research into the genital microbiome, how to confront gonococcal resistance, addressing sexual health and healthy sex in STI practice, the place of behavioral interventions in the era of biomedical prevention, new approaches to partner services, the future of publicly-funded STD clinics and workforce development, and how STI practice can be improved through program science.

By choosing quality over quantity and avoiding silos, we envision a limited number of parallel tracks for symposia and abstract-driven sessions. In addition, a number of discipline-specific workshops will also be organized, including a clinical case series that has been received very well at previous conferences.

More information on the Congress website: [IUSTI Dublin 2018](http://www.iusti.org).

Kees Rietmeijer

Asia Pacific

The New IUSTI-AP Executive Committee

In December 2016, Okayama, Japan, the new IUSTI-AP EXCO has been formed. The previous EXCO has done an excellent job. The new committee is as follows-

- Regional Director - Dr Somesh Gupta
- Regional Chairman- Prof. Kaushal Verma - India
- Chairman Elect - Prof. Christopher Fairley- Australia
- Honorary Secretary- Dr. Ryoichi Hamasuna - Japan
- Honorary Treasurer- Dr. Anne Robertson – New Zealand
- Honorary Membership Secretary -Dr. Pachara Sirivongrangson - Thailand
- Immediate Past Chairman – Dr. Xiang-Sheng Chen
- Immediate past Secretary- Prof. Sunil Sethi
- Immediate past treasurer- Dr. Brian Mulhall

Sub-regional representatives:

- Vice-Chair Oceania Pacific Subregion- Dr. Catherine O'connor (Australia)
- Vice-Chair South East Asia Subregion- Prof. Sunil Sethi (India)
- Vice-Chair West Asia Subregion - Dr. Kamal Faour (United Arab Emirates)
- Vice-Chair East Asia Subregion- Dr. Pingyu Zhou (China)
- Vice-Chair East Asia Subregion - Dr. Satoshi Takashaki (Japan)

First Regional symposium of IUSTI-Asia-Pacific

PROGRAMME	PROGRAMME
<p>Pre-congress session on "EBV-VI Co-infection" Thursday, 05th October 2017 at 6.45 pm Hilton, Colombo</p> <p>Inaugural Ceremony Thursday, 05th October 2017 at 6.45 pm Hilton, Colombo</p> <p>Congress Day 1 – Friday, 06th October 2017 at Hilton, Colombo in collaboration with IUSTI</p> <p>Symposium I – A new glimpse of old problems</p> <p>08:30-09:00 am Prof Jane S. Hocking "Transmission of HIV, when and how to screen for HIV" 09:00-09:30 am "Hypertension, diabetes, stroke in South Asia - Prof Sunil Sethi" 09:30-10:00 am "Evaluating the behavioral impact of HIV risk reduction" 10:00-10:30 am "HIV and TB" - Dr Phillip Hay 10:30-10:45 am Panel discussion</p> <p>Symposium II – Creating opportunities</p> <p>09:00-09:30 am "Global health innovation and control strategies" 09:30-10:00 am "HIV in control" - Dr Anne Robertson 10:00-10:30 am "HIV and structural violence in Sri Lanka" - Dr Phillip Hay 10:30-10:45 am Panel discussion</p> <p>Symposium III – Sexually transmitted infections and cancers: HIV, HPV and HPV</p> <p>09:00-09:30 am "Global health innovation, when and how to screen for HIV" 09:30-10:00 am "Hypertension, diabetes, stroke in South Asia - Prof Sunil Sethi" 09:30-10:00 am "Evaluating the behavioral impact of HIV risk reduction" 10:00-10:30 am "HIV and TB" - Dr Phillip Hay 10:30-10:45 am Panel discussion</p> <p>10:30 pm IUSTI Ex-co Meeting</p>	<p>Congress Day 2 - Saturday the 7th of October 2017 at Hilton, Colombo</p> <p>Free Paper Session</p> <p>08:30-09:00 am 09:00-09:30 am 09:30-10:00 am</p> <p>Symposium IV – Sexual health</p> <p>10:00-10:30 am "Hypertension, diabetes, stroke in South Asia - Prof Sunil Sethi" 10:30-11:00 am "Evaluating the behavioral impact of HIV risk reduction" 11:00-11:30 am "HIV and TB" - Dr Phillip Hay 11:30-11:45 am Panel discussion</p> <p>Symposium V HIV and EBV/CT</p> <p>11:30-12:00 pm "Hypertension, diabetes, stroke in South Asia - Prof Sunil Sethi" 12:00-12:30 pm "Evaluating the behavioral impact of HIV risk reduction" 12:30-12:45 pm "HIV and TB" - Dr Phillip Hay 12:45-1:00 pm Panel discussion</p> <p>7:30 pm Fellowship Dinner of the college (By reservation and invitation)</p> <p>ORGANIZING CHAIR</p> <p>Dr. Darshani Wijeyaratne, President, Sri Lanka College of Sexual Health and HIV Medicine, No. 29, De Saram Place, Colombo 10 Tel: +94 (071) 0900003, +94 (011) 2467023, Fax: +94 (011) 5338873 Email: srilanka.cosh@gmail.com, darshani.wijeyaratne@gmail.com Web: www.slcosh.org</p>

First Regional symposium of IUSTI-Asia-Pacific will be held jointly with 22nd Annual Scientific Sessions of Sri Lanka College of Sexual Health and HIV Medicine (CoSHH) in Colombo from 5th to 7th October 2017. This will be held together with IUSTI-AP EXCO meeting. The scientific program is designed to meet the local needs of South Asia. The IUSTI symposium includes several IUSTI members and other experts from the Region

including Prof Jane S. Hocking, Prof David A. Lewis, Prof Sunil Sethi, Dr Phillip Hay, Prof Kaushal Verma, Dr Anne Robertson, Prof Seema Sood, Dr Chinthana Hapuarachchi, Prof Christopher K Fairley, Prof Somesh Gupta, Dr Ranjababu Kulasegaram, Prof Graham Taylor.

Human trafficking in Middle-East

In UAE, at least 40 cases of human trafficking are recorded every year, but in 2016 human trafficking rates have decreased by 75%. The situation in Syria continues to deteriorate due to civil war. It is a source of sex trafficking. Seventy five Syrian women were forced into sexual slavery in Lebanon, the largest human trafficking network ever uncovered in this area. Although Lebanon has passed a law to combat human trafficking, in late 2011 under pressure from the US, prior to that, human trafficking networks were prosecuted under the penal code, criminalizing prostitution, which equated the women in the network with their 'pimps'. The new law treats the women as victims, although they are required by the law to prove that they were forced into prostitution. Ministry of Justice reported investigating 93 traffickers including a doctor who performed over 200 abortions on victims. Because of internal political instability, insufficient funding, the government of Lebanon does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, however, it is making significant efforts to do so. In Jordan, 30 cases of human trafficking uncovered in 2016 and in Turkey 108 trafficking victims were recorded in 2016 compared to 75 cases in 2015. Turkey is a destination and a transit country for human trafficking.
Dr. Kamal Faour from UAE

Somesh Gupta

Latin America

STI & HIV World Congress 2017, July 9 – 12, 2017
Rio de Janeiro – Brazil
<http://stihivrio2017.com>
WINDSOR BARRA HOTEL
 Av. Lucio Costa, 2630 – Barra da Tijuca
 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 Postal Code: 22620-172

KEYNOTE LECTURE:

HIV, STIs and evolution in global health
 Kevin M. De Cock
 US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Kenya

PLENARY SESSIONS

PLENARY 1 and 2nd
 IUSTI Prestigious Lecture

Update on vaginal microbiome research
 Jeanne Marrazzo,
 University of Alabama at Birmingham School of
 Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, USA

PLENARY 2:
 Implications of implementation of PrEP
 Sinead Delany-Moretlwe
 University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South
 Africa

PLENARY 3:
 Maternal-to-child syphilis transmission/elimination
 in Latin America
 Suzanne Serruya
 Centro Latino-Americano de Perinatologia (CLAP),
 Pan American Health Organization, Uruguay

PLENARY 4:
 Refugees and HIV/STI risks and responses –
 Paul Spiegel
 Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health,
 USA

PLENARY 5:
 Know your status: How we can harness the power
 of dating apps to educate and empower around
 HIV/STI prevention
 Alex Garner
 Senior Health Innovation Strategist, Hornet gay
 social networking app, USA (30')

PLENARY 6:
 Biomarkers for HIV Risk using Systems Biology
 Tools
 Douglas Kwon
 Harvard Medical School, USA

PLENARY 7:
 Zika virus: Vectorial vs. sexual transmission, what
 we know and why it matters –
 Dr. Flavio Codeco Coelho
 Professor, School of Applied Mathematics at
 Fundação Getulio Vargas, Head of the
 Mathematical Epidemiology Center, Rio de
 Janeiro, Brazil

PLENARY 8:
 Surveillance of neglected STIs, the evolving
 landscape
 Gwenda Hughes,
 National Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance
 and Control at Public Health, UK

PLENARY 9:
 A new focus for social and behavioral research in
 the era of biomedical advances in STI and HIV
 treatment and prevention –
 Patricia Dittus
 Division of STD Prevention, Centers for Disease
 Control and Prevention, USA

PLENARY 10:
 Lessons learned from the Zika epidemic:
 reproductive justice as a human right.
 Debora Diniz. University of Brasília (Brazil) and
 Anis - Institute of Bioethics.

PLENARY 11:
 To Be Or Not To Be. Civil society and HIV: Why
 not the other STIs? -
 Fabio Mesquita
 World Health Organization

PLENARY 12:
 The future of anal cancer prevention –
 Andrew Grulich
 HIV Epidemiology and Prevention Program, The
 Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales,
 Australia

SYMPOSIA

**New technologies for diagnosis,
 characterization and control of STIs/HIV**
 Chairs: *Barbara Van Der Pol & Roberto Carvalho
 da Silva*

**Mathematical modeling and decision making in
 the world of STIs**
 Chairs: *Marc Steben & Anne Rompalo*

**Latest generation point-of-care tests for
 STIs/HIV – a marriage of innovation and
 technology**

Chairs: *Francis Ndowa & Arlene Sena-Soberano*

**The digital age and sexual health: friend or
 foe?**

Chairs: *Sevgi Aral & Matthew Golden*

Progress on STI vaccines

Chair: *Carolyn Deal*

**Policy gaps and opportunities in the
 elimination of congenital syphilis**

Chairs: *Xiang-Sheng Chen & Somesh Gupta*

**Noncondom-based interventions for STI
 control**

Chairs: *Christopher Fairley & Mariangela Freitas
 da Silveira*

The dual epidemics of STIs and HIV in women

Chairs: *Christine Johnston & Michel Alary*

**Evolution and global spread of resistance in
 STIs**

Chairs: *Jo-Anne Dillon & Jorgen Jensen*

**Tackling antimicrobial resistance in *Neisseria
 gonorrhoeae*: a need for a comprehensive and
 collaborative approach**

Chairs: *Ranmini Kularatne & Edward Hook III*

***Mycoplasma genitalium* amongst the clinical,
 microbiology and public health communities**

Chairs: *Angelica Stary & Jonathan Ross*

STIs in MSM; What will be new in the future?

Chairs: *Henry de Vries & Paulo Cesar Giraldo*

**Modifying the vaginal microbiome to impact
 STI/HIV risk**

Chairs: *Marcia Hobbs & Valdir Monteiro Pinto*

Meet the editors - Scientific journals and research promotionChairs: *Mauro Romero & Nicola Low***Program science applied to the Latin America National program: country specific results?**Chairs: *Sevgi Aral & Cesar Carcamo Cavagnaro***Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) of HIV: impact on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and lessons learned from real-life implementation.**Chairs: *Tatianna Alencar & Carlos Cáceres***Presentation of the Lancet Commission - The current and future challenges in diagnosis and controlling sexually-transmitted infections**

Introduction: Marco De Ambrogi

Chlamydia control - Jane Hocking

Gonorrhoea - Magnus Unemo

Bacterial Vaginosis - Catriona Bradshaw

STI in low to middle income countries - Rosanna Peeling

STI in MSM - Henry De Vries

Call to Action - Christopher K Fairley

Summary - Nicola Low

WHO-NIH-CDC Organized Session:

Emergence of new STI: facts and challenges

Chairs: Nathalie Broutet and Kyle Bernstein

1- Review of sexual transmission of Ebola and Zika virus and impact on the epidemics - Nathalie Broutet,

WHO

2- How to explore sexual transmission?

a. Sexual transmission framework - Nicola Low, University of Bern

b. A study in Brazil - Ana Bispo, Fiocruz Brazil

c. Summary of sexual transmission of Ebola – Kyle Bernstein, CDC

3- Health messaging and communication – Rachel Kachur, CDC

4- Considerations for implementation of sexual transmission framework - Carolyn Deal, NIH

*Adele Benzaken***Conference Update*****IUSTI Events:***

World STI & HIV Congress 2017

Dates: July 9-12, 2017

Location: Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Website: <http://stihivrio2017.com/>

IUSTI-Europe congress 2017

Dates: August 31- September 2, 2017

Location: Helsinki, Finland

Website: www.iusti2017.org/

First IUSTI-Asia-Pacific symposium jointly held with 22nd annual scientific sessions

Sri Lanka College of Sexual Health and HIV Medicine (CoSHH)

Dates- October 5-6, 2017

Location: Colombo, Sri Lanka

Website: <http://www.slcoshh.org/>

19th IUSTI 2018 World and Europe Congress

Dates: June 27-30, 2018

Location: Dublin, Ireland

Website: <http://iusti.org/events/default.htm>

23rd ISSTD/20th IUSTI World Congress

Dates: July 14-17, 2019

Location: Vancouver, Canada

Website: www.STIHIV2019vancouver.com

21st IUSTI World Congress

Dates: November 2020

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Website: TBA

Other STI or Related***Meetings/Congresses/Courses:***

BASHH Annual Conference 2017

Dates: 18th - 20th June 2017

Location: Belfast, UK

Website: <https://www.bashh.org/events/annual-conference/annual-conference-2017/>

BASHH genital dermatology plus course 2017

Date: June 23, 2017

Location: London, UK

Website: <https://www.bashh.org/events/training-courses-and-meetings/bashh-genital-dermatology-plus-course-2017/>

42nd International Herpes Virus Workshop

Dates: July 22-26, 2017

Location: Brisbane, Australia

Website:

http://www.herpesvirusworkshop.com/2017/uploads/IHW-2017-Brisbane_Australia.pdf

9th IAS Conference on HIV Science (IAS 2017)

Dates: July 23-26, 2017

Location: Paris, France

Website: www.ias2017.org

2017 Philadelphia Trans Health Conference

Dates: September 7-9, 2017

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Website: <https://www.mazzonicenter.org/trans-health>

26th EADV Congress

Dates: September 13-17, 2017

Location: Geneva, Switzerland

Website: <http://www.eadvgeneva2017.org>

2017 Australasian Sexual Health Conference

Dates: November 7-9, 2017

Location: Canberra, Australia
Website: <http://www.shconference.com.au/>

41st National conference of Indian Association for the Study of STD & AIDS
Dates: November 24-26, 2017
Location: Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India
Website: <http://www.asticon2017.com/>

ICASA 2017: International Conference on HIV/AIDS and STI's in Africa
Dates: December 4-9, 2017
Location: Republic of Côte d'Ivoire,
Website: <http://icasa2017cotedivoire.org/>

46th National Conference of Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venerologists and Leprologists
Dates: January 18-21, 2018
Location: Kochi, Kerala, India
Website: <http://dermacon2018.com/>

15th EADV Spring Symposium
Dates: May 3-6, 2018
Location: Budva, Montenegro
Website: <https://www.eadv.org/calendar/show/38>

Fourteenth International Symposium on Human Chlamydial Infections
Dates: July 1st – 6th , 2018.
Woudschoten in Zeist, The Netherlands
<http://www.iusti.org/events/2018/Announcement14thISHCI2018.pdf>

22nd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2018)
Dates: July 22-27, 2018
Location: Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Website: www.aids2018.org

2018 STD Prevention Conference
Dates: August 27 – 30, 2018
Location: Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC
Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/stdconference/default.htm>

The 32nd International Papillomavirus Conference in Sydney, Australia
Dates: October 1-6, 2018
Location: Sydney, Australia
Website: <http://www.ipvsoc.org/conferences>

Somesh Gupta

STI Global Update is published by the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections. Its aims are to provide an international perspective on the management and control of sexually acquired infections. Regular contributions from the regional directors of IUSTI and feedback from conferences is supplemented by short reviews of relevant topics and input from the Center for Disease Control (US), Health Protection Agency (UK), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, and the World Health Organisation.

Prof. Jonathan Ross, Editor
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Further information on the activities of IUSTI available at www.iusti.org