

IUSTI - Latin-American news

Between October 4 and 7, 2023, the city of Florianópolis, in the state of Santa Catarina, Brazil, hosted the 14th Congress of the Brazilian Society of STDs, the 10th Brazilian Congress on AIDS, and the 5th Latin American Congress on STIs/HIV/AIDS. This joint event, held in collaboration with IUSTI-LA, featured a program tailored to the current epidemiological context of STIs in Brazil and Latin America, aligned with global trends.



Emerging challenges in diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and research, particularly involving newly circulating etiological agents such as MPOX virus, were a major focus of the meeting. Novel prevention strategies, such as HIV PrEP/PEP and DoxyPEP for STIs, were also widely discussed and drew great interest from participants. The opening lecture addressed congenital syphilis, a significant public health issue in the Americas.



The year 2023 marked the resumption of in-person events following the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, and the congress was held smoothly and without incident. The event brought together 697 registered participants and 105 speakers from Brazil and abroad, along with numerous exhibitors and operational staff. The scientific program included four pre-congress courses and a preparatory course for the board examination, 17 keynote lectures, one talk show, 19 roundtables, eight symposia, seven panels, five sponsored satellite symposia, and two free communication sessions. A dedicated IUSTI symposium was held, and several lectures were delivered by IUSTI representatives, including Dr. David Lewis, Dr. Janet Wilson, Dr. Kees Rietmeijer, Dr. Magnus Unemo, Dr Maria Eugenia Escobar, Dr Miguel Tilli.



A special symposium on the elimination of vertical transmission in Mercosur countries also took place, featuring representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay.



The local team, led by Dr Maria Luiza Bazzo, did a great work to prepare a great congress. The congress served as a key opportunity to highlight IUSTI's ongoing efforts in Latin America and to encourage new researchers and professionals in the region to become members of the organization.

