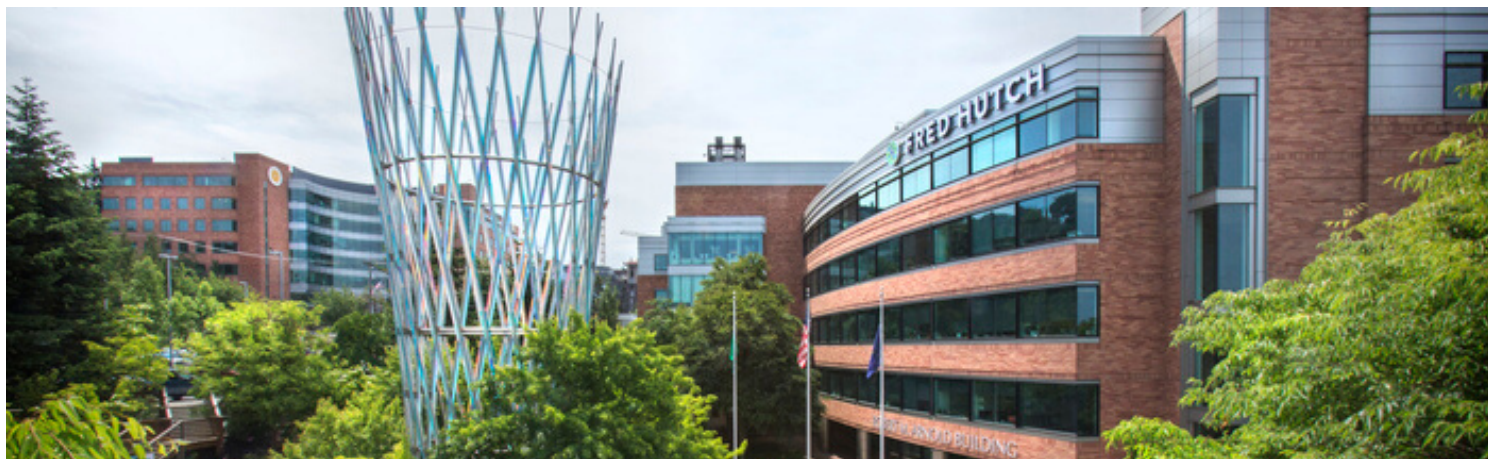


MARCH 2020

NEWSLETTER

Office of HIV/AIDS Network Coordination



Pictured: Fred Hutch campus, home of HANC offices and staff in Seattle, WA

HANC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us in recognizing the following HIV/AIDS Awareness Days this March:

Mar 10 *National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day*

This year's theme is HIV prevention starts with *Me: Ending the HIV Epidemic Together*.

Check out an [infographic](#) put together by the Women's HIV Research Collaborative (WHRC) in honor of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day!

Mar 20 *National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day*

The Legacy Project will host a webinar highlighting the importance of engaging with Native Americans and Native Alaskans in a culturally relevant and respectful way. See the **Webinars & Training** section for more details and [register now!](#)

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Do you have questions, comments, or content suggestions? Email the Editor, Milan Vu, at mhvu@fredhutch.org

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Network Presentations at CROI 2020



Several of the NIH HIV/AIDS networks will have a presence at the annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections ([CROI](#)) held from March 8 to March 11, 2020 at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Links to listings of presentations accepted by network can be found [here](#) on the HANC website.

Updates to C3PNO Virtual Data Repository



The Collaborating Consortium of Cohorts Producing NIDA Opportunities (C3PNO) is pleased to announce the launch of its updated “**Virtual Data Repository**”. The C3PNO Virtual Data Repository facilitates the sharing of HIV, substance use, clinical, and behavioral data as well as biospecimens collected by the NIDA longitudinal HIV cohorts with outside researchers. This latest update to C3PNO.org adds new search categories, more data, and research possibilities. [Click here](#) for more information.

If you have any questions about C3PNO, the Virtual Data Repository, or if you are interested in requesting data or specimens, please contact: c3pno.info@fstrf.org.

NETWORK ANNOUNCEMENTS



ACTG is pleased to announce that the network will make 28 presentations at [CROI 2020](#) (Boston, March 8-11), including two oral presentations, three themed discussions, and 23 poster presentations. Data on the impact of chronic antiretroviral therapy (ART) on a novel metric of the HIV reservoir, predictors of multidrug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) in resource-limited settings, findings from the first HIV cure trial that exclusively enrolled women, and interactions between contraceptives and TB drugs and the vaginal microbiome are highlighted in the oral presentations and themed discussions. Other insights on HIV cure, TB, sex differences, diagnosis of HIV during acute infection, and co-morbidities are highlighted through the ACTG offerings.

The studies being presented at CROI this year reflect the diversity of ACTG's research portfolio and demonstrate its commitment to addressing the full range of issues affecting people living with HIV.

For more information and a full listing of ACTG abstracts at CROI 2020, please [click here](#).

NETWORK ANNOUNCEMENTS



Updated Ethics Guidance for HIV Prevention Research

The HPTN has had a long-standing role in conducting HIV prevention research at the highest ethical standards. The HPTN Ethics Working Group first developed the [HPTN Ethics Guidance for Research](#) in 2003. The guide was updated in 2009 and again this year to meet changing conditions. HPTN Ethics Guidance for Research aims to facilitate the Network's mission by raising awareness of the associated ethical considerations, engaging all network members in a discussion about those factors, and promoting the integration of ethical considerations into the design and implementation of HIV prevention research.



Pictured: Drs. Jeremy Sugarman (L) and Brandon Brown (R).

Dr. Jeremy Sugarman, chair of the HPTN Ethics Working Group and Harvey M. Meyerhoff Professor of Bioethics and Medicine, at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics in Baltimore and Dr. Brandon Brown, 2015-16 HPTN Domestic Scholar and current associate professor in the School of Medicine at the University of California, Riverside, led the revision with extensive input from the HPTN Ethics Working Group. HPTN Leadership and the Executive Committee provided additional support.

NETWORK ANNOUNCEMENTS



The HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN), is investing in the next generation of HIV prevention researchers by providing African American and Latinx medical students with opportunities for independent research along with structured mentoring, project and salary funding, training, and professional development activities. This year we are excited to accept four students, listed below, who will be working with investigators at HVTN clinical research sites in South Africa and Malawi on HVTN 702 and HVTN 705/HPX2008 projects. Scholars are set to begin projects as early as May 2020.

Scholar: Tsion Andine - Howard University School of Medicine in Washington D.C.

Mentor: Nigel Garrett, MBBS, MRCP, MSc, PhD - CAPRISA eThekweni Clinical Research Site in Durban, South Africa

Project Title: *"Assessing the impact of implementing a point-of-care STI testing for Gonorrhoea, Chlamydia and Trichomoniasis in HVTN trials"*

Scholar: Palca Shibale, MS – University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle, Washington.

Mentor: Mitch Matoga, MBBS, MSc - University of North Carolina Project-Malawi (UNC Project) Clinical Research Site in Lilongwe, Malawi

Project Title: *"Prevalence of Hepatitis infection among high-risk women participating in a HIV vaccine trial in Lilongwe Malawi"*

Scholar: Jeremy Fagan, PhD -Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mentor: Janan Dietrich, PhD - Soweto Perinatal HIV Research Unit – Soweto, South Africa

Project Title: *"A multisite investigation of the factors affecting Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) uptake among trial participants of HVTN 705/HPX2008: The Imbokodo Study in South Africa"*

Scholar: Aliah Fonteh, MS - Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee.

Mentor: Candice Chetty-Makkan, PhD and Kathy Mngadi, MBChB, MPhil - The Aurum Institute Tembisa Clinic in Johannesburg, South Africa

Project Title: *"Evaluating participant anxiety while awaiting algorithmic HIV test results and evaluating possible vaccine-induced sero-positivity (VISP) social harms among women at a South African site in the HVTN 705/VAC89220HPX2008 trial"*

We are also pleased to announce the **HVTN Full Group Meeting** web-page is now live. The meeting will convene May 27th-29th. Please visit the meeting webpage at: <http://www.hvtn.org/en/about/hvtn-conferences/hvtn-full-group-meeting/registration.html> for registration and general meeting information.

(continued on next page)

NETWORK ANNOUNCEMENTS



Please note: the deadline for online registration is May 14th. An agenda is not available at this time, but it will be emailed and posted online when ready. The hotel link is also on the conference web-page to ensure everyone can book guest rooms at the HVTN rate. Only those attendees who are not funded by HVTN will need to book their own hotel. Invitations to the Full Group Meeting will be sent out in the coming weeks with the Travel Request link for those who will be funded by HVTN.



Two IMPAACT studies recently completed participant follow-up: [IMPAACT P1106](#), a study of ARV and TB medicines in low birthweight infants, and [IMPAACT 2002](#), a study of a novel mental health intervention among youth living with HIV in the U.S.

Two studies also recently completed accrual: [IMPAACT 2014](#), a study of doravirine in children and adolescents living with HIV, and [IMPAACT 2015](#), a study of the central nervous system reservoir in adolescents and young adults with perinatal HIV infection.



MTN is pleased to announce that the [REACH study](#) is nearly 80 percent enrolled. REACH (Reversing the Epidemic in Africa with Choices in HIV prevention), or MTN-034, is a Phase IIa study evaluating the use of Truvada as oral PrEP and the monthly dapivirine vaginal ring in cisgender young women and teens. REACH is enrolling young women and girls ages 16 to 21 at five clinical research sites in Kenya, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The MTN held its final annual meeting February 9-12 at the Crystal Gateway Marriot in Arlington, Virginia. Topics covered at the [2020 MTN Annual Meeting](#) included HIV prevention in pregnant and breastfeeding women and adolescents, an update on rectal microbicides, and a lively and fun debate about the future of topical products for HIV prevention. The meeting concluded with an awards ceremony and gratitude for all who have contributed to the MTN's research agenda for nearly a decade and a half.

MEETING CALENDAR

Mar 6-7

10th International
Workshop on HIV &
Women
(Boston, MA)

Mar 8-11

CROI 2020
(Boston, MA)

Apr 16-18

ACTHIV 2020
(Chicago, IL)

May 27-29

HVTN Full Group
Meeting
(Washington, DC)

May 30-June 3

HPTN Annual
Meeting
(Washington, DC)

June 7-10

Adherence 2020
(Orlando, FL)

June 8-12

IMPAACT Annual
Meeting
(Washington, DC)

June 15-21

ACTG Annual
Meeting
(Washington, DC)

July 5-7

HIV2020
(Mexico City, MX)

July 6-10

AIDS 2020
(San Francisco &
Oakland, CA)

For details and other
events, visit the
[HANC calendar](#)



WEBINARS & TRAINING

Upcoming Webinars

National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Discussion

March 20 @ 9AM PDT / 12PM EDT

In recognition of National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, the Legacy Project invites you to join us for a powerful webinar where Tyler Adamson and Harlan Pruden will highlight the importance of engaging with Native Americans and Native Alaskans in a way that's culturally relevant and respectful.

During this webinar, presenters will focus on the importance of community inclusion and consultation for providers and researchers engaging in partnership with Native Americans and Native Alaskans impacted by HIV and other health disparities. Presenters will share what individuals, communities, providers and researchers can do to work towards ensuring that Native Americans and Native Alaskans are included in biomedical and health systems research and care. [Register here.](#)

Training

DAIDS Applied Research Training Toolkits

Available on the *DART website*

The Division of AIDS (DAIDS) announced three new Tool kits in support of the DAIDS Applied Research Training (DART) event held in Johannesburg, South Africa in September 2019. Please visit the "Resources" tab on the [DART website](#) to access the new tool kits. In addition, a new segment of testimonials from DART participants and a video discussing the Unique Experiences of Fully Funded vs. Protocol Specific Sites is now available.

Newly released tool kits:

- Activity 14: Clinical Monitoring
- Activity 15: Clinical Monitoring Scenarios
- Activity 16: Quality Assurance/Quality Control Audience Response System

HANC Webinar Archives

Missed out on a webinar you wanted to attend? Visit the [HANC website](#) to view archived recordings of past webinars!



HANC PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Need to contact a HANC staff member? [Click here](#) to go to the About the HANC Staff page.

HANC Staff Situation Update

In accordance with Fred Hutch policies in response to the novel coronavirus situation in Washington state, HANC staff will be out of the office and working remotely through March 31st or until further notice. Work with HANC collaborators will continue with as few disruptions as possible.



Behavioral & Social Sciences

Greg Davis, HANC Project Manager

The Behavioral Science Consultative Group (BSCG) has started planning for its 2020 face-to-face meeting in Seattle, WA on May 4. The BSCG is putting together a two part webinar series on adherence support interventions. The BSCG's plan is to host one webinar in April and the other webinar in May. Once all presenters have been confirmed, an invite to the webinar series will be sent to all HANC collaborators.

The Youth Prevention Research Working Group (YPRWG) has begun drafting their proposal for a satellite session to submit to [HIVR4P](#) (Oct. 11-15 in Cape Town, South Africa).



Community Partners

Russell Campbell, HANC Deputy Director

We are excited to announce that Shonte Daniels is the new IMPAACT representative on Community Partners.



Cross-Network Coordination

Milan Vu, HANC Project Manager

The public listing of network CTU/CRSs is updated and available [here](#). This listing is updated on a bi-monthly basis.

The Data Management Center Working Group (DMCWG) discussed the ongoing Safety Data Reconciliation Policy pilot and updates on collection of protocol deviation reporting in A5359.

HANC PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

(Cross-Network Coordination, continued) The Site Coordinators Working Group (SCWG) discussed results from a group survey on software systems used at sites and a survey on DAIDS Learning Portal training management. The group also hosted members from the DAIDS Working Group on Age and Identity Verification to discuss updates to the draft Age and Identity Verification policy.



Laboratory Coordination

Tyler Brown, HANC Project Manager

The Lab Technologists Committee (LTC) held two conference calls to discuss LDMS end user validation updates, Annual ACTG Network Meeting planning, and a new upcoming series of LTC webinars focused on quality assurance. The LTC SOP

Working Group held four conference calls to continue developing procedures for barcode scanning and laboratory shipment evaluation.

The Virology Quality Assurance Advisory Board (VQAAB) held a conference call to discuss the VQA's goals for 2020, and review VQA proficiency testing panels for HIV RNA and qualitative HIV-1 nucleic acid.

The CPQA Cross-Network Clinical Pharmacology Forum (CNCPL Forum) held a conference call to discuss updates on proficiency testing and new technical guidance documents.

The Lab Focus Group (LFG) held a conference call to discuss the DAIDS Laboratory Event Escalation SOP, status updates on the upcoming GCLP v.4.1, and methods for improving cross-network communication about back-up laboratory changes.



The Legacy Project

*Brian Minalga and Louis Shackelford
HANC Legacy Project Team*

March 1: The latest Be the Generation newsletter on biomedical HIV prevention research is now available, featuring updates from the HPTN, HVTN, MTN, and HANC. Access to the newsletter is available in the "BTG News" section at the bottom of the [Be the Generation website](#).

March 10: The Women's HIV Research Collaborative commemorates National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day with [this infographic](#)! Check it out for recent advancements in HIV research focus on cisgender and transgender women.

March 18: Brian Minalga represents the Legacy Project at a NIAID meeting, "[Phylogenetic Monitoring of HIV Transmission Hotspots to End the HIV Epidemic](#)." Registration for the meeting is open, including for the live webcast.

March 20: The Legacy Project commemorates National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day with a webinar featuring Tyler Adamson and Harlan Pruden. [Register here](#).

ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERS

[Community Partners](#) (CP) is a cross-network body charged by the Network Leadership and the Division of AIDS (DAIDS) with promoting representation of the communities within which the National Institutes of Health (NIH) HIV/AIDS clinical trials networks conduct research.

ABOUT THE LEGACY PROJECT

The [Legacy Project](#) works nationally to increase awareness and support for HIV prevention and treatment clinical and behavioral research by addressing factors that influence participation of historically underrepresented communities.

The Legacy Project Work Group (LPWG) is comprised of members from HANC, CP, network operations centers, clinical research sites, community members, and DAIDS. The LPWG works to increase representation and engagement of African-Americans, Latinos and Native Americans in HIV prevention and therapeutic research in the U.S.

WORKING GROUP MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

In an effort to highlight the work of HANC and members involved in HANC working groups, we would like to introduce you to a few of our members from Community Partners and the Legacy Project Working Group:



Jacqueline Gray Miller

Jacqueline Gray Miller is new to CP and represents the HVTN. She volunteers with the 1917 Research Community Advisory Board at the University of Alabama in Birmingham (UAB). With a Master's Degree in Communication Management, she works to create dialogue. "My goal is genuine conversations to meet the needs of medical science and community," she said.

Curious, Jacqueline stumbled upon the 1917 Research Community Advisory Board. "Compensation for HIV-negative participants enticed me. During the intake I had a lot of questions. The coordinator suggested a visit to a community advisory board meeting. She said researchers and staff would be present too. A recovering television news producer, I was eager for such access. That was two years ago. Today, I'm still asking questions and now sharing what I learn."

Civic-minded, Jacqueline serves on the FBI Birmingham Citizens Academy Alumni Association Board. She is a graduate of Emerge Alabama which inspires women to run for public office. Yet, the small business owner and a college professor does not take life too seriously. "Yeah, no one makes it out alive anyway," the future comedian said.



Annet Davis

For the past 25 years, Annet has worked in HIV prevention trials at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn) for the HVTN & HPTN. As the Community Engagement Coordinator for the UPenn CTU site, she focuses on developing and collaborating with community organizations as well as educating service providers and their constituents about HIV biomedical prevention

research. Together, they have engaged vulnerable populations to participate in HIV prevention research trials.

Annet is also a Project Director at the UPenn School of Nursing, developing behavioral clinical HIV prevention interventions with girls aged 14-17 and women aged 18-24. Her research focuses on comorbid HIV, substance use, sexual risk behaviors contributing to HIV acquisition among adults and adolescent girls at increased risk for HIV acquisition. In addition, Annet is the UPenn HIV CTU CAB Coordinator, an active member on the HVTN Social & Behavioral working group (SBWG), a past Co-chair on the Women's HIV Research Collaborative (WHRC) and continues as an active member of the Legacy Project.

RESOURCES

Newsletters

Be the Generation Newsletter

The Be the Generation (BTG) project builds scientific literacy and community capacity to engage with biomedical HIV prevention research. *BTG News* is its quarterly newsletter publication on biomedical HIV prevention research, geared for community audiences who are interested in the HIV prevention research field. [Click here](#) to view current and past newsletters. Email btg@hanc.info to subscribe.

Behavioral Science Interest Group Newsletter

Interested in behavioral science? Join the Behavioral Science Interest Group (BSIG) and subscribe to the BSIG Newsletter. Email Greg Davis at gpdavis@fredhutch.org for more details.

Laboratory

CNICS Research Network

The CFAR Network of Integrated Clinical Systems (CNICS) provides peer-reviewed-open access to a rapidly evolving clinical research platform that prospectively collects patient data, including validated outcomes, longitudinal resistance data, and detailed PROs with readily available biological specimens. [Click here](#) for more information.

EQAPOL

The goal of the External Quality Assurance Program Oversight Laboratory (EQAPOL) is to establish a panel of fully characterized viruses from acute/early and chronic HIV infections. Viral Diversity samples are available to NIAID-approved laboratories, and products created for the EQAPOL Viral Diversity Program are available to order. [Click here](#) for more information.

Specimen Repository

The specimen repository is a collaboration between the ACTG, IMPAACT, and HVTN clinical trial networks to make available to investigators the large body of specimens collected for HIV research. [Click here](#) to visit the site and request specimens.

Network Publications

Several of the HIV/AIDS clinical trials networks and collaborators publish their own newsletters, covering a range of topics from network-wide news to community level events. Links to various network publications are on the *Newsletters* page of the HANC website. [Click here](#) for more information.

OCSO MOB Newsletter

Looking for the latest on site monitoring and regulatory compliance? Check out the Monitoring Operations Branch (MOB) Newsletter, produced by the DAIDS Office of Clinical Site Oversight (OCSO). [Click here](#) to find newsletter archives.

NIH Corner

C3PNO Virtual Data Repository

The C3PNO Virtual Data Repository facilitates the sharing of HIV, substance use, clinical data, behavioral, and biospecimens collected by the NIDA longitudinal HIV cohorts with outside researchers. [Click here](#) to learn more or email c3pno.info@fstrf.org to request data or specimens.

ClinRegs

ClinRegs is an online database of country-specific clinical research regulatory information designed to assist in planning and implementing international clinical research. [Click here](#) to explore ClinRegs.

NICHD Data and Specimen Hub (DASH)

NICHD DASH is a centralized resource for researchers to access data and biospecimens from NICHD-funded research studies for secondary analyses. [Click here](#) to explore DASH.

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WWW.HANC.INFO