INTRODUCTION & SIGNIFICANCE

Support our efforts and establish your reputation in HIV Pediatrics.

With this document, we would like to request your financial support and sponsor our efforts in confronting the urgency of HIV in Pediatrics. Your contribution will make a very much needed conference possible, and therefore aiding the field’s healthcare professionals.

There has been dramatic progress in prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) since the Global Plan to Eliminate New HIV Infections Among Children and Keeping their Mothers Alive was put into place in 2011. In 2014, fewer children were newly infected with HIV than ever before, and across the 21 Global Plan priority countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the number of new HIV infections among children each year has been cut by nearly half since 2009.

However, the work is far from finished. We remain far short of the Global Plan’s goal of a 90% reduction in new HIV infections among children by the end of 2015, and only 32% of children living with HIV are currently accessing antiretroviral therapy. Even with continued scale up of PMTCT, an estimated 1.9 million children living with HIV will be alive and in need of antiretroviral therapy by 2020. Without treatment, half of HIV-infected children will die by age 2 years, 80% by age 5 years. Additionally, rates of new HIV infections among adolescents – particularly girls and young women - are still unacceptably high, particularly in eastern and southern Africa. HIV is the leading cause of death in adolescents in Africa and the second leading cause of death in youth globally.

Research in pediatric, adolescent and maternal HIV infection is often a neglected area at major scientific HIV conferences, yet is critically needed to achieve an AIDS-free generation. Therefore, we have set up a highly focused International Workshop on HIV Pediatrics together with a group of experts in this field. This Workshop has been held annually in conjunction with the International AIDS Conference since 2009, bringing together between 150-250 global experts in pediatric, adolescent and maternal HIV research each year.

Reach global decision makers and share your vision.
THE WORLD’S LEADING EXPERTS

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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BROAD CONFERENCE GOALS

The ultimate goals of this conference are to stimulate research that will enable better treatment methods and strategies for infants, children, adolescents and mothers in developed and developing countries, to encourage young investigators in continue in the pediatric HIV research field, and to stimulate new partnerships between North and South investigators in pediatric HIV research. By posting all presentations made during the workshop on the Virology Education website, study results and state-of-the-art analyses are disseminated globally beyond the walls of the conference venue to the global community.

Broad purposes of the Workshop include

• To gather experts involved in pediatric HIV in an interactive workshop setting;
• To provide a platform for presentation, analysis, discussion and debate on the latest developments in the field;
• To analyze study findings and consider implications for service delivery, clinical care and future research;
• To encourage international and particularly North-South collaborations; and
• To provide an opportunity for junior investigators to engage with senior researchers, to present and discuss findings and developments in the fields of pediatric/maternal HIV.

PROJECTED CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

• Enhanced communication and collaboration between both junior- and senior-level, international researchers (from academia, government, and industry) and clinicians to promote the exchange of ideas, results, and technologies leading to successful translation into prevention and treatment of HIV.
• Dissemination of knowledge and data exchanged by conference participants beyond the audience of the live event, thus maximizing the impact for the growing biology of HIV research community.

Provide clinical leaders with the right educational tools for the daily practice.
WORKSHOP FORMAT

The workshop uses a number of different interactive formats for learning in addition to standard abstracts and plenary talks, including panel discussions, case presentations, debates and is organized on an annual basis prior to the biennially organized IAS or AIDS Conference. The Organizing and Scientific Committee represents diverse group of the top researchers in pediatric and maternal HIV infection from around the world, and begins to plan for the upcoming years meeting following completion of the current year.

In general, each session includes a plenary lecture or a set of related scientific overviews presented by invited speakers who are expert in the subject area, followed by oral abstract presentations in the same topic area. As alternatives to the standard plenary lecture and to provide opportunities to synthesize and share latest developments in the field and bring together individuals from different domains in an engaging interchange, the meeting includes at least one debate on the latest “hot topic” (for example, in 2016 on PrEP in adolescents; in 2015 a debate on birth HIV testing and another on viral load monitoring; and in 2014 a debate on Option B+), and also has included case presentations and panel discussions.

The debate format has been particularly attractive to participants in past years – the format is for the audience to provide an initial vote on the topic (pro or con), to have initial presentations by debaters, significant time for audience discussion, one-minute wrap-up from debaters, and repeat voting on the topic – with the “winner” being the debater pro or con who changed the most minds on the topic between the initial and final votes. In 2016, there will be a debate on the use of PrEP in sexually active adolescents.

While the program for 2017 has not yet been developed as the 2016 meeting has not yet occurred), the topics that are addressed in each meeting include:

Antiretroviral treatment of pediatric HIV infection, including an update on newer drugs. It is likely that the 2017 meeting will have a specific session with a focus on long-acting antiretroviral agents or an update data on newer drugs in children such as dolutegravir and tenofovir alafenamide.

Implementation science research in management of pediatric HIV infection and mother-to-child HIV transmission. It is likely that the 2017 meeting will have a focus on meeting the pediatric “90-90-90” (diagnosis-treatment-viral suppression) WHO goals or implementation of viral load monitoring in children.

Emerging issues in PMTCT. In the past year, there has been an increasing focus on birth HIV testing and use of point-of-care tests, and optimal prophylaxis for PMTCT in infants at high risk of infection, and it is likely that 2017 meeting will provide a focus on these topics. Another potential topic for 2017 would be newer data on antiretroviral drugs in pregnancy and during breastfeeding.

Prevention and treatment of HIV in adolescents (perinatally and behaviorally infected). At the 2015 meeting in Vancouver, we had a panel of HIV-infected youth discuss issues related to their HIV care with the audience. At the 2016 meeting, plenary talks will include talks on adolescent transition to adult care from resource-rich and resource-limited settings, and a debate about use of PrEP in adolescents. Potential focuses for the 2017 meeting include implementation of strategies for prevention of HIV acquisition in adolescents, particularly young women. Another potential topic might be newer approaches to identification of infected youth, such as home- or self-testing (potentially including a debate on self-testing in youth).

Complications of HIV and their management. These include both metabolic complications as well as neurodevelopmental aspects of HIV. The 2017 meeting may have a plenary of case presentations in these areas with a panel of discussants from resource-rich and resource-limited countries to highlight potential differences and similarities in approaches.

Co-infections and management in HIV-infected children. In 2016, we will have a plenary discussing treatment of drug-resistant tuberculosis. The 2017 meeting may include a session on new tools for diagnosis of tuberculosis in children; or if there are emerging data on newer hepatitis C drugs in children, a 2017 session may be devoted to this.
OPEN ACCESS MATERIALS

Enduring information presented at the summit will be freely retrievable and widely disseminated to reach thousands of virtual participants beyond the walls of the conference center.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ONLINE

Infectious Diseases Online is a premier online platform offering scientific materials in special topical areas and proceedings of conferences. By accessing the website, visitors have full access to:

- Abstract Books
- Meeting Reports
- Workshop Presentations
- Webcasts

All the data on Infectious Diseases Online is organized by workshop and date, making the materials highly organized and easy to find. The extensive website also allows insight on all the workshops’ fundamental data, providing an overall impression of the event’s community & integrity, such as:

- Visibility of the sponsor[s]
- Date & Location of the previous event
- Video and/or images of the previous event

Information presented at the summit will be freely and widely disseminated to reach thousands beyond the walls of the conference.
SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

WHY SUPPORT US?

As a sponsor of this conference, you will have exclusive access to experts from different disciplines, including paediatricians, adolescent specialists, virologists, immunologist, pharmacologist, obstetrician/gynaecologists, epidemiologists, policy-makers, and other interested researchers in search of the latest advancements and information. The meeting also provides a forum for exchange between pediatric HIV researchers and representatives from pharmaceutical companies on new drugs and formulation needs.

Supporter benefits include:

- Extensive visibility to a highly targeted, expert audience via the conference’s promotional campaign, on-site exposure during the event, press and media coverage, and post-event information dissemination.
- Unique one-on-one networking opportunities during the event.
- Exhibiting opportunities and complimentary passes to the event.
- NATAP & iBase Coverage (where relevant).

PRE-EVENT PROMOTION

As a conference supporter, your organization will receive extensive exposure, enabling you to reach out to thousands of targeted researchers, clinicians, patients, and scientists. These channels include targeted print and email campaigns, as well as web advertising.

Your support delivers to you:

Branding as a supporter on the event website, to which traffic is driven by:

- Your company name & logo strategically positioned on the homepages of relevant partners.
- Traffic from the Virology Education website, which receives thousands of visitors.
- Your logo placed in newsletters delivered to thousands opt-in subscribers.
- Digital mentions posted on several calendars, which will link to the event website.

Contact us for a tailored package that better suits your goals.

ONSITE BENEFITS

You will benefit as a supporter from many on-site marketing and networking opportunities at the event, including:

- Branding for your organization via on-site signage throughout the conference.
- Highlighted position in the conference program distributed to all attendees.
- Promotion option to display marketing materials such as pamphlets, flyers, postcards, and other materials on the marketing table (subject to approval).
- Complimentary passes to the event to increase your networking opportunities with attendees (quantity of complimentary passes dependent on level of support).

Help us provide the future clinical leaders with the right educational tools for the daily practice.
CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION GRANTS

SPONSOR FULL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Engage and attract the attendance of healthcare professionals

You can help give multiple healthcare professionals and investigators the opportunity to attend, present their research and be educated on best practices at this conference. Your contribution will help defray costs for registration, travel and accommodation for grantees and foster their ability to form valuable professional networks and develop vital collaborations. Conference participation grant applications will be solicited, selected and awarded by an expert Grant Review Committee.

Your support will be acknowledged in the program book and on a special acknowledgement board onsite.

Please note that the GOLD, PLATINUM and DIAMOND support levels include a number of free slots for Healthcare Professionals, which will reduce the costs for conference participation grants. Contact us for a tailored proposal based on the number of conference participation grants you are willing to provide.
Virology Education is the leading provider of state-of-the-art medical programs within the field of infectious diseases. With nearly 20 years of experience, we are committed to delivering highly acclaimed and CME accredited medical education workshops and conferences consistently. Our solid network of KOL’s and rich database of HCP’s enable us to develop high-profile programs specifically tailored to the educational needs of the medical community.

For more information, to sponsor our workshops, or to request a tailored proposal, please contact:

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Your financial support will aid HCPs with access to more and better options for optimal care.