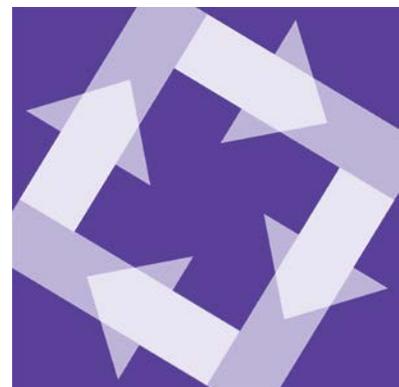
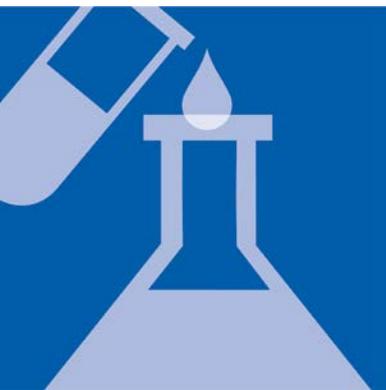


# IAS-ILF Annual Report 2012



## Looking back

# The IAS-ILF in 2012

## Executive Summary

The IAS-ILF carried out a number of activities in 2012, continuing to address the recommendations outlined in the Consensus Statement.

It began the year by organizing a successful affiliated event at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI 2012) on antiretroviral pharmacology in women and children. Later in the year, the IAS-ILF had a strong presence at the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) in Washington DC, where the treatment needs of children living with HIV were emphasized.



The IAS-ILF accelerated its efforts in advocating for more gender-sensitive HIV research by organizing a satellite session with experts in the field, as well as developing and distributing the “Red Card”, an advocacy tool that encouraged AIDS 2012 delegates to inquire about gender differences and similarities at abstract and poster presentations at the conference.



The IAS-ILF has been particularly instrumental this past year in influencing the HIV research community more broadly on understanding why sex and gender are critical elements in research, from design to publication of research findings.

In 2012, the IAS-ILF Advisory Group welcomed the addition of two new representatives from the community of people living with HIV – Heidi Nass and Rahab Mwaniki – and established a working group to lead the revisions of the IAS-ILF Terms of Reference to bring more clarity and transparency to its work.

*Celia Christie-Samuels, IAS-ILF Co-Chair, at the “Catching Children Before They Fall” satellite session at AIDS2012. © IAS/Deborah W. Campos.*

## CROI 2012

As part of the continuing effort to promote HIV research related to children and women, the IAS-ILF organized an affiliated event in conjunction with CROI 2012 in Seattle, Washington, USA. The objective of this full-day meeting was to highlight the current evidence on antiretroviral (ARV) pharmacology in both paediatric populations and women.

The morning session was devoted to neonates, children, adolescents and paediatric populations with special needs, including TB co-infection, malaria co-infection and malnourishment.

The afternoon session focused on women and girls, with emphasis on the unique ARV pharmacological considerations for adolescent girls, ARV interactions with hormonal contraception, and ageing. In both sessions, experts made a series of presentations, followed by roundtable discussions to identify the key challenges in future ARV pharmacological research and the clinical management of these overlooked populations.

Evaluation of the meeting highlights that the majority of the participants rated the presentations as falling within the range of good to excellent, and participants looked favourably upon the content and organization of the meeting.



*Nick Hellman, IAS-ILF Advisory Group member, at the "Prevention of Vertical Transmission" satellite session at AIDS2012. © IAS/Steve Shapiro*

A meeting report is being produced and will soon be published. A separate evaluation report of the meeting is already available.



## AIDS 2012

The IAS-ILF was very active at AIDS 2012 held in Washington DC, on 22-27 July 2012. The IAS-ILF organized three satellite sessions, the themes of which were decided upon following in-depth discussions at the March advisory group meeting held in Seattle and follow-up consultations. The three sessions are described in more detail here.

### Catching Children Before They Fall: Addressing Urgent Needs in Developing Drugs for Young Children Living with HIV, 22 July 2012

This satellite session, co-hosted by the IAS-ILF and DNDi, included a joint presentation by the industry members of the IAS-ILF on the technical challenges inherent in paediatric formulation development, from process chemistry all the way to clinical trial conduct.

The development of that presentation was facilitated by the contributions of Nick Hellmann (Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation/IAS-ILF Advisory Group). Presenters included representatives from Merck and ViiV Healthcare. The session was co-chaired by Celia Christie-Samuels (IAS-ILF Co-chair) and Bernard Pécoul (DNDi Executive Director).

### Prevention of Vertical Transmission and Beyond: How to Identify, Enroll and Retain Children in Treatment Programmes in Resource-Limited Settings, 22 July 2012

This session, co-organized by the IAS-ILF, UNICEF and MSH, was very well attended. It was chaired by Nick Hellmann and René Ekpini (UNICEF).

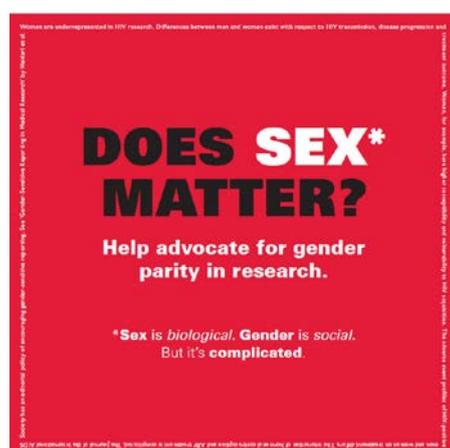
A range of topics relating to optimizing treatment for children in resource-limited settings were presented, including a talk by Erik Schouten on Option B+ implementation in Malawi. A dynamic discussion was moderated by Scott Kellerman, MSH's global technical lead on HIV/AIDS.

### Gender and Science: Shifting the Paradigm in HIV Research, 23 July 2012

This satellite, co-hosted with amfAR, was co-chaired by Shirin Heidari, Senior Manager of Research Promotion at the IAS, and amfAR's Director of Research, Rowena Johnston. Experts in gender and health research, notably Joy Johnson from Canada's Institute of Gender and Health and Londa Schiebinger from Stanford University, joined the discourse on HIV and gender.

The session included a dynamic panel discussion with Bryan Baugh from Janssen Therapeutics. The session was an interesting addition to what is often a gathering of HIV clinical researchers. The underrepresentation of women in research, including ARV clinical trials and HIV cure research, was highlighted.

Meeting reports from all three satellite sessions will soon be published on the IAS-ILF website.



## THE RED CARD

The IAS Secretariat developed an advocacy card, referred to as the "Red Card", for distribution at AIDS 2012. The objective of this card was to raise awareness of sex/gender considerations in HIV research throughout the conference venue and to encourage conference delegates to raise the card and ask presenting authors about any potential gender differences and similarities that they found in their research, and if results were not disaggregated by sex, why this was the case.

## ILF Advisory Group

Members of the ILF Advisory Group had the opportunity to attend two face-to-face meetings during 2012, where they discussed strategic activities and operations of the IAS-ILF.

In conjunction with CROI 2012 in Seattle, the advisory group welcomed two new members from the community of people living with HIV: Heidi Nass and Rahab Mwaniki. Furthermore, the group discussed and agreed on directions for use of social media (Facebook and Twitter) as channels for communication of IAS-ILF events.

The group also noted how industry has been given a voice through the IAS-ILF that goes beyond being just sponsors of conferences and meetings. Through the reach of the IAS, the ILF is able to strategically target various constituents. The advisory group discussed re-branding of the IAS-ILF logo to better make a connection between the ILF and IAS. At this meeting, the group also established a working group responsible for revision of the IAS-ILF Terms of Reference.

AIDS 2012 provided an opportunity to hold the IAS-ILF Advisory Group's second meeting of 2012. The IAS leadership was represented by Bernard Amahaya Kadasia, Director of Policy and Communications, who provided an update of IAS activities, underscoring the critical importance of the IAS-ILF to the mission of the IAS.

The group also discussed potential topics for CROI 2013. The affiliated event to be hosted by the IAS-ILF at CROI will likely focus on clinical research in women, and additional topics will be solicited by email.

The outgoing Industry Co-chair, Scott Purdon from ViiV Healthcare, was replaced by Sandra Lehrman from Merck, who will serve as co-chair until July 2013.

Between the face-to-face meetings, the IAS-ILF Advisory Group convened through teleconferences and emails, formally approving the new IAS-ILF logo and tagline and the revision of the IAS-ILF Terms of Reference.

At the end of 2012, the IAS-ILF has 172 Twitter followers and 39 Facebook fans. The IAS-ILF Secretariat launched a quarterly newsletter to provide more regular updates to the advisory group.

A review article based on the comprehensive literature review carried out for the consensus statement was published in the *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome* in 2012.



Top: Bryan Baugh, Janssen Therapeutics, speaking at the "Gender and Science" satellite session at AIDS 2012. © IAS/Ryan Rayburn. Below: "Prevention of Vertical Transmission" satellite session. © IAS/Steve Shapiro.

## IAS-ILF Mission

The mission of the Industry Liaison Forum is to accelerate scientifically promising, ethical HIV research in resource-limited countries, with a particular focus on the role and responsibilities of industry, namely pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies, as sponsors and supporters of research.

The IAS-ILF fulfills its mission by: identifying research gaps; promoting targeted research; identifying challenges and best practices; analyzing available data and evidence; disseminating information; consulting and convening stakeholders; providing industry expertise; and supporting capacity building for research and health delivery.

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