HIV/AIDS. June 2011 marked the 30th anniversary of HIV/AIDS, a truly global pandemic. New international partnerships have developed to combat the disease. The world has forged new inroads into government and private donor commitments, human rights, and treatment advances. Global Health Centers have formed at many universities. See “Reflections on 30 years of AIDS”, an historical review by De Cock, Jaffe and Curran, EID 17: 1044-1048, 2011. At this year’s ISSTDR meeting in Quebec, the 2011 recipient of the Parran award, Dr. Thomas C. Quinn will deliver a lecture entitled “The 30 Year War Against HIV/AIDS: Have We Reached The Tipping Point?”

GONORRHEA. In memoriam: John W. Tapsall 1945-2010, Sexual Health Medicine leader, whose laboratory was the WHO collaborating Centre for STD. Dr. Tapsall was the Coordinator of the WHO Western Pacific Region Gonococcal Antimicrobial Surveillance Program. Since 1981 he led the bacteriology section of the Microbiology Department of the South Eastern Area Laboratory Service based at Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney, Australia.

This last year has brought the International STI world to the stark realization that we now have gonorrhea isolates that are resistant to cefixime and now to ceftriaxone. See:


CHLAMYDIA. High chlamydia and gonorrhea incidence and reinfection among performers in the Adult Film Industry. Goldstein et al STD 38: 644-648. Lower bounds for annual cumulative incidences of CT and GC among adult film industry performers in Los Angeles, CA were estimated to be 14.3% and 5.1% respectively. The reinfection rate in one year was 26.1%. Control strategies are needed. Since the legalization of adult (X-rated) film production, it is estimated that 2000-3000 performers are employed by ≈200 production companies.

MYCOPLASMA GENITALIUM. Nice review was recently published by Weinstein and Stiles in Sexual Health 8: 143-158, 2011.

TRICHOMONAS. We now have an FDA cleared molecular NAAT assay for trichomonas, Gen-Probe, April 2011.

WELCOME to attendees of the 19th ISSTDR, Quebec, 2011 meeting! We hope to see you at the 12th IUSTI World Congress, November 2-5, 2011, New Delhi, India.
The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) series is prepared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Often called “the voice of the CDC,” the MMWR series is the agency’s primary vehicle for scientific publication of timely, reliable authoritative, accurate, objective, and useful public health information and recommendations. MMWR readership predominantly consists of physicians, nurses, public health practitioners, epidemiologists and other scientists, researchers, educators, and laboratorians.

The MMWR Surveillance Summaries provide a means for CDC programs to disseminate surveillance findings, permitting detailed interpretation of trends and patterns based on those findings.

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Sexual Identity, Sex of Sexual Contacts, and Health-Risk Behaviors Among Students in Grades 9-12—Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance, Selected Sites, United States, 2001-2009.

Sexual minority youths are youths who identify themselves as gay or lesbian, bisexual, or unsure of their sexual identity or youths who have only had sexual contact with persons of the same sex or with both sexes. The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) monitors priority health-risk behaviors and the prevalence of obesity and asthma among youths and young adults. YRBSS results from surveys conducted during 2001-2009 in seven states and six large urban school districts indicate that sexual minority students, particularly gay, lesbian, and bisexual students and students who had sexual contact with both sexes, are more likely to engage in health-risk behaviors than other students. For more information visit http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6007.pdf
In recent months, ASHA has been monitoring and leading advocacy efforts to address screening recommendations related to Pap and HPV testing. The USPSTF, the ASCCP and the Institute of Medicine Panel on Preventive Services for women are all currently examining evidence to inform their recommendations, and ASHA spoke during the public comment periods of the IOM meetings in both November and March. Reflecting ASHA’s broader sexual health focus, ASHA’s statements included comments not only on HPV but also the broader range of women’s health issues being advocated by our colleagues—including coverage of contraception and intimate partner violence.

In addition to its advocacy efforts, ASHA has also worked on raising awareness of HPV and cervical cancer prevention through education efforts aimed at different audiences, including underserved women and healthcare providers. This spring, ASHA launched a new project specifically designed to educate and motivate women about Pap tests, cervical cancer vaccines, and other prevention measures to help reduce the impact of cervical cancer on women in our state, North Carolina. With input from women in North Carolina, ASHA developed a visual “map” that uses largely visual images to depict cervical cancer prevention strategies and includes information on prevention resources in North Carolina. This innovative product, available in English and Spanish, was designed to address the need for prevention materials appropriate for low English literacy and limited English proficiency audiences. ASHA distributed the map across the state as well as through the ASHA website.

More recently, ASHA has been working on a series of videos on HPV and cervical cancer prevention to be distributed online through both ASHA websites and other video distribution channels. The first of three videos, aimed at healthcare providers and focused on counseling patients on HPV, launched this spring. Two additional videos are under development, with one featuring answers to frequently asked questions for healthcare providers and a second offering information for parents regarding HPV vaccination. All videos will be featured on the ASHA website as well as other Internet video channels.

Update provided by: Amy Huang

http://ncc.prevent.org/members.aspx

The NCC Members area has documents available for download, such as the Research Briefs pictured on the right.

http://www.chlamydiaresourceexchange.org/

The Chlamydia Resource Exchange is a completely free, web-based resource library providing centralized access to multi-media public awareness and education materials on sexual health issues, including chlamydia, HIV/AIDS, and other STDs. All of the materials can be downloaded and tailored to meet your organization’s needs.
ASTDA Announces 2011 Award Recipients

The American Sexually Transmitted Diseases Association (ASTDA), an organization devoted to the control and study of sexually transmitted diseases, will present the 2011 winners of the ASTDA Recognition Awards on July 13th at the 19th International Society for STD Research (ISSTD) conference in Quebec City, Canada. ASTDA’s three prestigious achievement awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding scientists at different stages of their careers.

"In conferring these annual awards, the ASTDA strives to recognize high-impact, high-quality research in the field of sexually transmitted infections. The awardees this year made our job very easy, as all embody the commitment, intellect, and collegiality that are the hallmarks of our field," said Jeanne Marrazzo, MD, MPH, Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington and ASTDA President.

The Thomas Parran Award, presented to a member for long and distinguished contributions in the field of STD research and prevention, will be presented to Thomas C. Quinn, MD, MSc, Senior Investigator, Chief of the International HIV/STD Research Section of the Laboratory of Immunoregulation, and Associate Director for International Research at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health. In addition, Dr. Quinn is a Professor of Medicine, Pathology, International Health, Epidemiology, and Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Johns Hopkins University. He is the founding Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health, past President of the ASTDA, a member of the Institute of Medicine of the US National Academies of Science, and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Quinn’s research has involved investigations on the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and clinical features of HIV/AIDS in more than 26 countries. His initial investigations documented the importance of STDs in facilitating the sexual transmission of HIV/AIDS both domestically and internationally. He demonstrated the unique importance of viral kinetics in the transmission of HIV perinatally and among discordant couples, with the subsequent design and application of interventions, including male circumcision and antiretroviral therapy, to prevent transmission of HIV. Through viral sequencing he has mapped the molecular evolution of the HIV epidemic on a global basis, linking virologic changes to the spread of HIV and demonstrating the inherent pathogenesis of various HIV subtypes. Dr. Quinn has been committed to the implementation of clinical care programs for HIV and STDs in developing countries and was a co-founder of the Academic Alliance for AIDS Care and Prevention in Africa.

The ASTDA Achievement Award is presented for a single recent major achievement in the field of STD research and prevention, or to a member at mid-career to acknowledge an outstanding body of research in sexually transmitted diseases. The 2011 Achievement Award will be presented to Connie Celum, MD, MPH, who is a Professor of Global Health and Medicine and Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Washington. Dr. Celum’s research focus is HIV epidemiology and prevention trials of candidate biomedical interventions including HSV-2, pre-exposure prophylaxis, and combination HIV prevention. Dr. Celum was the Principal Investigator of a recently completed trial of HSV-2 suppression for prevention of HIV acquisition, and a trial of HSV-2 suppression in HIV+ partners in serodiscordant couples to reduce transmission and disease progression. The HSV-2/HIV trials were conducted in 20 sites in the US, Peru, Botswana, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. She is the Principal Investigator of an ongoing trial of pre-exposure antiretroviral prophylaxis among HIV serodiscordant couples in 9 sites in Kenya and Uganda. In recognition that no single strategy will be fully protective, Dr. Celum is leading a collaborative effort to develop and evaluate a combination HIV prevention package in Uganda and South Africa, using the platform of home-based HIV testing with facilitated linkages to male circumcision, ART, and PMTCT.

The ASTDA Young Investigator Award, presented to an outstanding investigator in the field of STD research who is no more than five years beyond fellowship training, will be presented to Rebecca Brotman, PhD, MPH. Dr. Brotman is Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Public Health at the Institute for Genome Sciences at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Brotman has integrated her background and training in epidemiology and genomics to more effectively understand bacterial vaginosis (BV). The focus of her research is the behavioral and biological factors associated with the acquisition, remission, recurrence and persistence of BV. Dr. Brotman’s work has been instrumental in establishing that the vaginal microbiota is a highly dynamic environment, with rapid fluctuations. She has also conducted prospective studies of feminine hygiene practices, establishing the risk of BV causally associated with vaginal douching and the determinants for why women douche, the results of which are critical to developing douching intervention and prevention programs. She has advocated to medical and scientific communities to value the importance of bacterial vaginosis research in the obstetric and gynecologic health of women. She has helped her colleagues understand how lifestyle factors – hygiene, nutrition, sexual activity – can influence scientific research, and to help them continually redesign more effective research to improve women’s health.

For more information about the awards or about ASTDA, please see its website, www.astda.org
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is our great honor to announce the 12th IUSTI-World Meeting and the 35th National Conference of IAS STD & AIDS at the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India from 2-5 November 2011. The Local Organizing Committee and International Scientific Committee attempt to create an enlightening scientific program that is relevant for all parts of the World.

In spite of cultural and racial differences, the problems and challenges in the field of Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV are similar. This congress aims to bridge the gaps and bring diverse points of view to a common platform, so that all can benefit from each other’s experiences.

New Delhi, the national capital of India, is famous for its culture, tradition and effervescent history. Delhi is the third largest city in India and now the most preferred city in terms of investments, industrialization, Information Technology, Healthcare, Real Estate, etc.

New Delhi is the blend of old and new. The contrast between the two is very much visible by the culture, lifestyle and tradition. Old Delhi still has the influence of Mughals with monuments, mosques and forts all through the complicated streets. Old bazaars and food are some of the specialties of Old Delhi. Whereas New Delhi is completely different with lifestyle and city’s British Rule in India.

The beautiful city of Delhi with its enhanced infrastructure awaits you with a warm welcome at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Built in 1956, Vigyan Bhawan is located in one of the most beautiful locations in Delhi near the President’s Estate and India Gate at the Maulana Azad Road. It has been the venue for many historically noteworthy conferences and summits attended by distinguished world leaders and dignitaries.

It has caucus facilities, which include computer controlled conference systems with concurrent interpretation system up to eight languages. An in-house TV linked with satellite; communication facilities of E-mail, Fax are the key highlights of this great structure. Local Area Network with PCs, video recording and large screen video projections are also other facilities available for day-to-day conferences.

We look forward to seeing you in New Delhi in November 2011 for a wonderful experience.

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Vinod K. Sharma  
Co-Chair

Dr. Somesh Gupta  
Co-Chair
September 23-25, 2010
Tbilisi, Georgia

IUSTI Latin-America
Curitiba, Brazil

May 18-21, 2011
13th International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI) Congress

We are delighted to announce that from 15-17 October 2012, internationally renowned scientists, clinicians and young researchers will meet at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia. All have one passion—the study, management and prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STI). This is the 13th International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI) congress and welcomes the five IUSTI regions (Africa, Asia Pacific, European, Latin America and North America) to share information on the medical, scientific, social and epidemiological aspects of sexually transmitted infections and their control.

Asia is home to over half of the world’s population and nearly half of the curable STIs in the world. It has a number of the largest and fastest growing economies with a rapidly changing demography that are actively planning health care developments. Learning from other regions will assist each other towards IUSTI common goals.

This Congress will be an excellent opportunity for specialists and trainees in sexual health, HIV medicine, public health, microbiology, epidemiology and behavioural science from the northern and southern hemispheres to share skills and experience. Participants will be able to discuss the latest advances and progress in the STI field from the varied viewpoints of clinical practice, STI biology, laboratory detection, public health epidemiology, sexual behaviour and research into STI-HIV interactions. The scientific programme will contain many internationally respected speakers and will ensure a state-of-art, evidence-based and cutting-edge Congress.

The meeting will be both the World IUSTI congress and the Australasian Sexual Health Conference. It will also be held back-to-back with the Australian HIV/AIDS Conference which will run from the 17-19 October 2012.

Take this opportunity to discover Australia and the wonderful experiences on offer from the cities of Melbourne and Sydney to the outback at Ayers Rock and the Great Barrier Reef. Melbourne has been voted one of the worlds most liveable cities and is celebrated for friendly locals, cultural creativity, fine wine and dining and world-class meeting facilities.

We look forward to welcoming you in Melbourne.

Christopher Fairley
Conference Convenor on behalf of the organising committee

http://www.iusti2012.com/

26th IUSTI-Europe Congress
10th BADV Congress
September 8-10, 2011
Riga, Latvia

The Scientific Committee welcomes the submission of abstracts from worldwide experts in dermatovenerology.

Please note that only ELECTRONIC submission will be accepted. Faxed or mailed abstracts will not be reviewed. Please send abstracts to abstracts@iusti-europe2011.com

Deadline for abstract submission is July 15,

http://www.iusti-europe2011.org/

2012 National STD Prevention Conference

Save the date:
March 12-15, 2012
Minneapolis, Minnesota

For more information, contact Penny Loosier, Conference Coordinator, at Penny.Looseier@cdc.hhs.gov and Brenda Kelley, Assistant Conference Coordinator, at Brenda.Kelley@cdc.hhs.gov

http://www.iusti-europe2011.org/
Recent Publications:


Weinstein SA and Stiles BG. A review of the epidemiology, diagnosis and evidence-based management of *Mycoplasma genitalium*. Sexual Health 2011; 8: 143-158. Mycoplasma genitalium is attracting increasing recognition as an important sexually transmitted pathogen.

Temkin E, et al. A Qualitative Study of Patients’ Use of Expedited Partner Therapy. Sex Transm Dis 2011; 38: 651-656. In-depth interviews of patients who accepted expedited partner therapy revealed how they made decisions about expedited partner therapy and what they did with the medication packets.


Gaydos CA, et al. Will Patients “Opt In” to Perform Their Own Rapid HIV Test in the Emergency Department? Ann Emerg Med 2011; 58: S74-S78. The feasibility and accuracy of existing point-of-care HIV tests performed by an untrained patient compared with the routinely used HIV point-of-care test offered to patients in two urban emergency departments was evaluated.

Hood JE and Friedman AL. Unveiling the hidden epidemic: a review of stigma associated with sexually transmissible infections. Sexual Health 2011; 8: 159-170. This review summarizes the literature related to STI stigma and offers practical approaches to counter STI-associated stigma through multi-level efforts.

