

BE THE GENERATION

TO END THE HIV EPIDEMIC

FROM THE EDITOR

I'm writing this letter during Black History Month for an issue to be released during Women's History Month. These months are home to National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and National Women and Girls HIV Awareness Day, respectively. Importantly, these months celebrate women, girls, and Black people in recognition that the opposite is often the case: women, girls, and Black people are often sidelined, villainized, and refused equality. Every year these and many other observance days and months are celebrated based on the understanding that addressing the unique needs of particular groups is how we improve wellbeing for everyone.

These awareness days and their inclusive approach that recognizes the variety of needs across groups feel especially imperative against the backdrop of current affairs. In these times my belief in what Be the Generation is about is reaffirmed. *We can be the generation to end the HIV epidemic* - implicit in this statement is that we work together on behalf of each other. Being the Generation is about how ending the HIV epidemic takes all of us, not just researchers or people living with HIV in isolation. It's about how ending the HIV epidemic includes all of us. That means the effort must meaningfully involve all groups who are potentially impacted - which is everyone. It also means effort must be made to proportionally include groups who are overrepresented in the epidemic and underrepresented in research. When we don't do this, we end up with lifesaving and life-changing products that are out-of-reach to those who need them the most. Restricted access to prevention and treatment products is not only unethical and directly harmful to those with limited access; it also undermines the effort to end the epidemic for everyone.

Some previous clinical trials have done a beautiful job of intentionally including different groups to improve access to the study product. The HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) series of studies on long-acting injectable cabotegravir (CAB-LA) is a wonderful example. These studies involved thousands of participants including cis men who have sex with men, transgender women and men, and adolescents across more than a dozen countries and led to approval of the first long-acting injectable

FROM THE EDITOR, CONTINUED

for HIV prevention! This Women and Girls HIV Awareness Day, we might also like to celebrate the PURPOSE 1 and PURPOSE 2 studies, which enrolled a combined total of over 8,500 cisgender adolescent girls, young women, cisgender men, and transgender people, with results demonstrating some of the highest HIV prevention efficacy in the history of HIV research!


These studies produced critical information that can make an enormous impact on the epidemic, and we only know this information because the research was designed with priority populations in mind. This type of approach - research that responds to public health needs of priority populations - will be how we can come together to Be the Generation to end the HIV epidemic.


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Dr. Jennifer Jao Named IMPAACT Network Co-Chair

The IMPAACT Scientific Leadership Group (SLG) is pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Jennifer Jao as the new IMPAACT Network Co-Chair. Dr. Jao will serve alongside Dr. Sharon Nachman in guiding the Network's critical work to achieve its mission.

2025 Early Career Investigator Recipients

The IMPAACT Network is excited to announce the newest recipients of the Early Career Investigator (ECI) program award! Through the ECI program, these investigators will build research skills, support IMPAACT's mission, and complete a project using data from IMPAACT studies. Please join us in congratulating our awardees:

Grace Miriam Ahimbisibwe, MBChB, MSc (MU-JHU, Uganda):

Assessing the Effects of Immune Suppression of Pregnancy on the HIV Latent Reservoir in African Women with HIV Participating in P1078

Michelle Ann Bulterys, PhD, MPH (UC San Diego, USA):

Family Matters: The role of social factors on infant outcomes in the PROMISE Study

Denis Kimbugwe, MBChB (MU-JHU, Uganda): *Systemic inflammation in pregnant and postpartum mothers with HIV and their children: relationship with child growth*

NETWORK NEWS

HIV PREVENTION TRIALS NETWORK (HPTN)



HPTN HIV Prevention
Trials Network

No updates at this time.



NETWORK NEWS

HIV VACCINE TRIALS NETWORK (HVTN)

HIV VACCINE
TRIALS NETWORK

No updates at this time.

HANC RESOURCES

OFFICE OF HIV/AIDS NETWORK COORDINATION (HANC)



hanc
HIV/AIDS Network Coordination

RESOURCES

Be the Generation website: the best place to go for trustworthy information on HIV prevention research. Features sections on PrEP, U=U, microbicides, HIV vaccine research, inspiring videos from researchers and community members, and even a quiz to test your knowledge of HIV prevention research.

The H=H Podcast: The podcast that centers on the 'Human' in 'HIV.' This podcast is sponsored by the HANC Legacy Project and presents content on the human side of research, featuring scientists, community members, and affirming communities disproportionately affected by HIV.

Webinar Library: a collection of webinar recordings on topics such as HIV & race, HIV & women, HIV genetic sequencing, HIV & aging, outreach & marketing, Native Americans & HIV, microbicides research, pregnancy & lactation in HIV research, HIV in the Latinx community, community engagement, Monkeypox, and more.

Transgender Training Resources Homepage: the Division of AIDS at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has put all its amazing resources related to research with transgender people in one place. All resources are free; you just need to create a free account if you don't have one already.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 1: Women's History Month begins

March 10: National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

March 20: National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

March 31: International Transgender Day of Visibility

April 10: National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

April 10-12: Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit in Atlanta, GA

May 7-9: HVTN Annual Meeting in Washington, DC

May 18: HIV Vaccine Awareness Day

May 19: National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

May 31-June 4: HPTN Annual Meeting in Washington, DC