The State of the HIV Prevention Union: The Road from R4P

AVAC Webinar
November 6, 2014
HIV R4P 2014 Facts

• 1350 delegates
• 48 countries, 6 continents
• 300 scholarships
• 722 abstract presentations (30% by African researchers)
  – 177 oral and 545 poster abstracts
  – 30 oral abstract sessions
  – Two poster (morning and evening) and two poster discussion sessions
• All sessions webcast at http://webcasts.hivr4p.org
HIV R4P 2014 Scholars

The conference offered:

• **200** full scholarships to researchers & community members

• **100** partial scholarships to researchers and community members

• **28** HIV-focused journalist scholars

[Diagram showing the distribution of scholars by region: Africa (51%), Asia and Australia (28%), Europe (11%), North America (8%), South America (2%)]

Shaping the Science of Prevention

www.hivr4p.org #HIVR4P
Conference themes – in participants’ own (or borrowed) words

• “Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.”
  Jeanne Marrazzo (U of W) quoting Winston Churchill in a discussion of the lessons learned about trial conduct via “VOICE D” which engaged women from the trial, to understand low product use and why women didn’t discuss this at the site.

• “All breakthrough and no follow through”
  Glenda Gray (SAMRC/PHRU/HVTN) on the failure to implement strategies proven in research—highlighting the waste of investment if roll out doesn’t pick up pace.

• “HIV anywhere is HIV everywhere.”
  Chris Beyrer (Johns Hopkins University) on the need to be diligent, responsive and rights-based in prevention and treatment—reaching stigmatized, criminalized and under-served communities.

• “It’s the cute little Texas laboratory opossum.”
  Garnett Kelsoe (Duke University) in a session on B-cell and antibody research, explaining one of many incremental and technical but important developments, in this field, which is moving quickly but somewhat off the radar for many advocates.

• “We do not lie as a choice, but as a negotiation.”
  Yvette Raphael (JHESSA, AVAC Fellow) on women’s realities and how they impact research, life, sex, HIV prevention and more.
Conference themes – in bullet points

• The microbicide field has a wealth of insight into the gaps in communication, context and motivation that can exist between women and research is incredibly rich—and might not have emerged, had VOICE not provided a “wake-up call” to look closely at difficult issues.

• There is real progress in basic and early clinical science in antibody-based protection. It’s exciting, some of it is long term, some of it is coming soon to a clinical trial (possibly) near you!

• Innovation isn’t having impact in many places. From daily oral PrEP to TasP to VMMC—programs need to be resourced, driven by ambitious targets and providing real time data to help correct course.

• Health and human rights agendas need to (re)-integrate. From decriminalization of sex work to protections for people of all sexual orientation – biomedical prevention needs to engage and understand these barriers to impact.

• There is a long way to go in connecting research to the many realities of people, including women and girls, at risk of and living with HIV—and language matters a great deal.
If you missed any of it...

• Session webcasts at webcasts.hivr4p.org
• What'sUpHIV blog at whatsuphiv.blogspot.com
• Daily summaries at avac.org/hivr4p
• Social media archive at #HIVR4P
• Abstracts available in AIDS Research and Human Retroviruses at online.liebertpub.com/toc/aid/30/S1
• Posters at epostersonline.com/hivr4p2014/
• News from the conference at hivr4p.org/media-center/news
• HIV R4P 2016: 17-21 October, Chicago, IL