A Note from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

Warm wishes for the New Year! 2014 was an exciting and fruitful year at BVGH. We established a total of 37 new partnerships between WIPO Re:Search Members and recruited an additional 16 Members. Two manuscripts highlighting several WIPO Re:Search collaborations were written and published in peer-reviewed journals. BVGH organized a private meeting between WIPO Director General, Dr. Francis Gurry, and biopharmaceutical executives during the 2014 BIO International Convention, where he also gave a keynote presentation to open the intellectual property Convention track. In November, WIPO hosted the WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting at Pfizer’s headquarters in New York. We fully expect 2015 to be even more exciting and impactful!

BVGH is finalizing the 2014 Partnership Hub Report. The report, which analyzes our 2014 activities and the Consortium’s achievements to date, will be available in mid-January. The second WIPO Re:Search Partnership Stories booklet will be completed and published in 2015. Ujwal Sheth, Program Manager, BVGH, will be developing summaries of WIPO Re:Search collaborations and contacting Members for input and approval.

I am pleased to welcome BVGH's newest team member, Roopa Sriram. Roopa brings both laboratory and public health program experience to BVGH.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH
Special Announcement

Do you have an intellectual property asset of relevance to neglected disease research? If you would like to contribute this asset to the WIPO Re:Search Database, please email Phil Stevens at WIPO.

WIPO Re:Search Statistics

![Agreements and Members](chart)

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Dr. Regina Appiah-Opong, Head, Department of Clinical Pathology, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR), and Dr. Sue Kraemer, Faculty, The School of STEM, University of Washington Bothell (UWB), will co-develop and co-implement a bioinformatics research course for UWB students. The course will examine single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in CYP genes, specifically comparing Caucasian vs. African vs. African American populations. The goal of the analysis is to ascertain which CYP polymorphisms are prevalent in West African and/or Ghanaian populations. These data will improve the understanding of population variations of these enzymes and the potential differences in malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV drug metabolism amongst these populations.
Member Spotlight

Dr. Olaoluwa Pheabian Akinwale is the Director of Research (Neglected Tropical Diseases) and Head of the Molecular Parasitology Research Laboratory at the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research. Her laboratory focuses on the epidemiology of schistosomiasis, lymphatic filariasis, and onchocerciasis. In order to further her epidemiological studies of schistosomiasis, Pheabian is interested in identifying biomarkers and developing a point-of-care diagnostic.

Highlighted Contributions

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) to the WIPO Re:Search Database.

**Novel Anti-Mycobacterial Compositions and Their Use for the Treatment of Tuberculosis and Related Diseases (ID: 641)**

The US NIH has a number of novel anti-mycobacterial compositions that can significantly improve the treatment of mycobacterial infections. These newly-discovered anti-mycobacterial compounds, which are analogs of thiatetracosanoate, have demonstrative efficacy against mycobacterial infections and are relatively nontoxic. They may be given alone or in combination with standard anti-mycobacterial drugs and are valuable as antiseptics as well as therapeutics.

**Lymphatic Filariasis-Pre-patent Stage Diagnostic (ID: 785)**

Wuchereria bancrofti, the major causative organism of lymphatic filariasis, is a filarial nematode estimated to infect 120 million people worldwide. The World Health Organization has targeted this disease for eradication. However current technology fails to recognize pre-patent infections, a necessity for successful eradication of the disease. This immunoassay detects Wuchereria bancrofti infection with no cross reactivity with other closely related filariae.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

WIPO Re:Search in the News

Have you read BVGH's latest WIPO Re:Search journal articles? Click the links below to read our two newest publications.
"WIPO Re:Search: Catalyzing Collaborations to Accelerate Product Development for Diseases of Poverty", Chemical Reviews


Upcoming Global Health Events

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 9</td>
<td>7th Annual Center for Emerging &amp; Neglected Diseases (CEND) Symposium</td>
<td>Berkeley, CA</td>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 22-27</td>
<td>Keystone Symposium: Host Response in Tuberculosis</td>
<td>Santa Fe, NM</td>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>Global Fungal Infection Forum</td>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
<td>Website</td>
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Are you attending a global health event? Do you have a Research Request to highlight in the Snapshot? We want to hear from you! Please send feedback and suggestions via email.

WIPO Re:Search Pharmaceutical Members

*known as EMD in the US and Canada
**Known as Merck in the US and Canada
Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

Hopefully you have had the chance to read the 2014 Partnership Hub Annual Report, which we sent out recently. If you haven’t read it yet, click on the link below to download a copy.

We are encouraged and excited about the successes we have seen over the first three years of WIPO Re:Search. Our Members are engaged and committed to advancing research and development of products for neglected tropical diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis. Through collaborations our Members can achieve much more than they could accomplish alone; several Members have obtained promising results and are advancing their products along the development pipeline.

Last month I traveled to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for an African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI) stakeholders meeting and to Johannesburg, South Africa for a meeting organized by Merck KGaA regarding schistosomiasis. During my trip, I met with scientists and leaders from many African countries and Member organizations. Everyone was very interested in learning about our programs including WIPO Re:Search and the partnerships that could be facilitated.

I am pleased to welcome our two newest Members, the Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai, and the Guangzhou Institutes of Biomedicine and Health, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH
Special Announcement

The 2014 Partnership Hub Annual Report is now available. Download your copy [here].

WIPO Re:Search Statistics

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click [here].

Click [here] to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

MSD* will provide Professor Alan Cowman, Dr. Justin Boddey, and Dr. Brad Sleebs, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, with a targeted set of compounds to screen against Plasmodium vivax and Plasmodium falciparum.

Last summer, Dr. Ellis Owusu-Dabo, Scientific Director, Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine
hosted David Obadina and Will Secor, both undergraduate students at Northeastern University. During their six-month visit, David and Will studied the biology of parasites common to Ghana, in particular the characterization of household midges in Buruli ulcer patients and PCR of common pathogens in children with fever, respectively.

David and Will were selected and recommended for this experience by Dr. Richard Wamai, Assistant Professor, African American Studies, and Dr. Michael Pollastri, Associate Professor, Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Technology. Click here to read about David’s experience and here to read about Will’s experience in Ghana.

*known as Merck in the US and Canada

New Member Announcement

We are pleased to announce that the Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai and the Guangzhou Institutes of Biomedicine and Health (GIBH), Chinese Academy of Sciences, have joined WIPO Re:Search.

Located in Guangzhou, China, the GIBH is home to the Center for Infection & Immunity, which consists of five labs: Pathogen Biology Lab, Immunological Biology Lab, Viral Immunology Lab, Vaccine and Biological Pharmaceuticals Lab, and Bacteriology Lab. Researchers within the Center study the interaction between infectious agents, host-pathogen interactions, malaria and helminth immunology, and the development of high-affinity T cell receptors (HATs) to treat viral infections.

Chartered in 1963, the Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai is home to the Arnhold Global Health Institute, a new, institution-wide interdisciplinary program. Research at the Institute includes the study of host-pathogen interactions of RNA viruses, including dengue. The Experimental Therapeutics Institute (ETI) leverages the insights made by other researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine to develop novel drugs. Small-molecule drug discovery, therapeutic antibodies, and structure-based drug design are some of the core capabilities of the ETI.

Partnership Hub Central

Jennifer Dent attended the International Scientific Conference on Neglected Tropical Diseases: Female Genital Schistosomiasis and its Impact on HIV/AIDS that was organized by Merck KGaA. During the meeting Jennifer met with a number of scientists from Merck KGaA as well as researchers from across the African continent who are focused on schistosomiasis research and product development. She also interacted with policy leaders working to strengthen health care systems across Africa.
The Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) will be hosting its Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health 2015 in Manila, Philippines. The Forum will promote the role of research and innovation in improving health while encouraging representatives from low- and middle-income countries to participate in defining the post-Millennium Development Goals global health research agenda. For more information, click here.

Highlighted Contributions

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by Novartis to the WIPO Re:Search Database.
Novartis-GNF Anaerobic Mycobacterium tuberculosis dataset (ID: 1862)
Growing evidence suggest that the presence of a subpopulation of hypoxic, non-replicating, phenotypically drug resistant mycobacteria is responsible for the need for lengthy anti-tuberculosis treatment. Respiratory functions were demonstrated to be a weakness of these bacteria. Here we describe the development of a hypoxic model optimized to identify compounds targeting the mycobacterial respiratory functions and ATP homeostasis in a whole-cell screen. The model was adapted to a 1536-well plate format and successfully used to screen over 600,000 compounds. Nine hundred compounds were confirmed to reduce intracellular ATP level in a dose-dependent manner. The screen also identified 155 non-cytotoxic scaffolds with anaerobic activity against hypoxic, non-replicating M. tuberculosis. These ATP homeostasis disruptors are valuable to the understanding of the biology of persistent mycobacteria.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

WIPO Re:Search in the News

*Intellectual Property Watch* interviewed Tom Bombelles and Anatole Krattiger, WIPO, about WIPO Re:Search and its future prospects. Click [here](#) to access the article.

In a recent interview with Christiane Amanpour, Bill Gates gave credit to WIPO Re:Search Founding Members, Pfizer and GlaxoSmithKline, for bringing vaccine prices down and paving the way to reduced child deaths. Click [here](#) for more.

Upcoming Global Health Events

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<tr>
<td>Mar. 8-13</td>
<td>Gordon Research Conference - Tropical Infectious Diseases: Challenges, Opportunities and Successes</td>
<td>Galveston, TX</td>
<td><a href="#">Website</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 22-25</td>
<td>4th Conference on Protein Kinases of Parasitic Protozoa: Targeting Signaling Pathways in Parasites</td>
<td>Haifa, Israel</td>
<td><a href="#">Website</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 16-18</td>
<td>British Society for Parasitology Spring Meeting 2015</td>
<td>Liverpool, UK</td>
<td><a href="#">Website</a></td>
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*Are you attending a global health event? Do you have a Research Request to highlight in the Snapshot? We want to hear from you! Please send feedback and suggestions via [email](mailto:).*

WIPO Re:Search Pharmaceutical Members
A Note from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

Last month during a trip to Australia, WIPO Director General, Francis Gurry, met with WIPO Re:Search Members at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI). Francis discussed WIPO Re:Search and ideas were shared of how regional groups could become more actively engaged in the Consortium.

This month's Snapshot includes a new section, "Funding Announcement", which is pulled from BVGH's FundFinder program. This section will highlight a new funding opportunity relevant to WIPO Re:Search Members and targeting neglected disease R&D. I hope this section is helpful to our Members who are constantly searching for new funding to support their important NTD programs. Please share your feedback with BVGH on the Snapshot's content as well as any content ideas you may have.

Roopa Ramamoorthi will be representing WIPO Re:Search and BVGH at the upcoming "Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) 2015 Annual Meeting". If you will be attending the conference, plan to meet with Roopa and view the poster she will present.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH
Special Announcement: WIPO Director General's Meeting with Members

Last month, WIPO Director General, Dr. Francis Gurry, met with scientists and administrators from three Australian WIPO Re:Search Members: the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), Murdoch Childrens Research Institute (MCRI), and Eskitis Institute at Griffiths University, as well as IP Australia. During the event, which was held at WEHI, Francis spoke about WIPO Re:Search, encouraged Member scientists to participate in collaborative research projects, and explored ideas of how Australian Members could be more engaged. By day's end, attendees agreed that their institutes could play a leadership role in strengthening the Asian-Pacific region's participation in WIPO Re:Search.
WIPO Re:Search Statistics

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

An agreement between the Centre Pasteur du Cameroun and PATH was recently finalized. In the first stage of this collaboration, Paul LaBarre, Senior Technical Officer, PATH, will share PATH's optimized non-instrumented nucleic acid amplification (NINA) platform with Dr. Lawrence Ayong, Head, Malaria Research Group, Centre Pasteur du Cameroun. Lawrence will assess the compatibility of this novel technology with a loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) assay for Plasmodium gametocyte carriage that he recently developed.

Tom Bombelles, Head, Global Health, and Anatole Krattiger, Director, Global Challenges Division, WIPO, represented WIPO Re:Search and presented the Consortium's value to companies at the "World Pharma Licensing Congress", which was held at the London Stock Exchange last month. Also in attendance were representatives from WIPO Re:Search Sponsor Members, Pfizer, Merck KGaA, and Novartis.

**Partnership Hub Central**

Last year, a graduate student from the laboratory of Dr. Wellington Oyibo, Associate Professor, College of Medicine, University of Lagos, spent two months at Stanford University, working with Dr. Jesse Waggoner, Instructor of Medicine, and Dr. Benjamin Pinsky, Assistant Professor of Pathology and Medicine, to identify the common causes of febrile illness in Lagos, Nigeria. These data were then applied towards the development of a customized, multiplexed PCR-based diagnostic specific to the most common
pathogens in Lagos.

As part of this continuing collaboration, Wellington and Roopa Ramamoorthi recently visited Ben's lab. During the visit, Ben and Wellington discussed their ideas on moving the collaboration forward and discussed publishing their results. The two also considered jointly applying for research grants.

Funding Announcement

Research on the vulnerability of preventive chemotherapy of helminth infections to emergence of drug resistance: quantitation of the variability of parasite/host response to drugs

This funding award is accepting proposals for the statistical analysis of parasite concentrations/numbers from individuals before and
after anthelmintic treatment. The objective of the analyses should be to characterize the response distribution prior to long term exposure to preventive chemotherapy.

**Funding Amount:** Up to 300,000 USD  
**Funder:** World Health Organization/TDR  
**Deadline:** April 12, 2015  
**Eligibility:** Open to individual researchers or collaborative groups globally

### Highlighted Contributions

Featured this month is a contribution submitted by McGill University to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](#).

#### Rapid Malaria Detection Diagnostic (ID: 1981)

This technology is a unique system for detecting *Plasmodium* infection. The approach relies on the detection of a strong third harmonic signal generated when hemozoin is excited with ultra-short laser pulses centered at approximately 1200 nm. The system is able to detect very low numbers of infected red blood cells (10 attomolar [aM]) and requires minimal sample preparation. The technology would be an improvement over the existing clinical method of measuring parasitemia levels using giemsa stains of blood smears. Click [here](#) for more information about this technology.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact [Roopa Ramamoorthi](#) or [Ujwal Sheth](#).

### WIPO Re:Search in the News

During an [interview](#) with *BW | BusinessWorld*, WIPO Director General, Dr. Francis Gurry, described WIPO Re:Search as a demonstration of how IP creates a balance between innovation and societal needs.

The novel antiviral of Seattle-based WIPO Re:Search Member, Kineta, was the topic of a recent news [video](#).

WIPO issued a [press release](#) announcing BVGH's 2014 Partnership Hub Report. WIPO Director General, Francis Gurry stated "we are very pleased with the level of engagement and interest in WIPO Re:Search by the various providers and users. We are hopeful that these positive results will continue to grow in the coming years and lead to outcomes to alleviate the huge burden of neglected tropical diseases on already vulnerable populations."

### Upcoming Global Health Events

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<tr>
<td>Apr. 25-29</td>
<td>Kinetoplastid Molecular Cell Biology Meeting</td>
<td>Woods Hole, MA</td>
<td><a href="#">Website</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12-17</td>
<td><strong>Keystone Symposium - &quot;The Arthropod Vector: The Controller of Transmission&quot;</strong></td>
<td>Taos, NM</td>
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Are you attending a global health event? 
Do you have a Research Request to highlight in the Snapshot?

We want to hear from you! Please send feedback and suggestions via email.

WIPO Re:Search Pharmaceutical Members

*known as EMD in the US and Canada
**known as Merck in the US and Canada

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Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members,

Pharmaceutical company Provider Members are an essential component of WIPO Re:Search. One of BVGH and WIPO’s goals for 2015 is to recruit more of these companies to WIPO Re:Search. Last month, BVGH sent out hard copies of our 2014 Partnership Hub Report to the CEOs, CMO/CSOs, and heads of CSR of 16 biopharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Included in these packages was a letter, co-signed by WIPO Director General, Francis Gurry, encouraging the companies to participate in WIPO Re:Search. We have already begun receiving responses from this outreach. If you know of a company with assets of relevance to WIPO Re:Search and an interest in global health, please let Roopa Sriram know and she’ll send our 2014 Report to the company’s decision-makers.

This past month BVGH facilitated the 90th WIPO Re:Search agreement! Congratulations to all our Members on this splendid achievement!

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH

Special Announcement

Will you be attending the 2015 BIO International Convention? If so, stop by the sub-Saharan Africa
pavilion that BVGH is organizing. Several WIPO Re:Search Members will be exhibiting at the pavilion. For more information, please email Katy Graef.

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

![Agreements: 90, Members: 93]

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

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**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

Four new agreements were finalized last month, including:

**Pfizer** provided Dr. Alexis Kaushansky, a senior scientist at Seattle BioMed, with a compound targeting a host protein. Alexis will test this compound against liver-stage malaria.

A scientist from the **Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research** (WEHI) provided Dr. Horacio Bach, Adjunct Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, **University of British Columbia** (UBC), with recombinant *Plasmodium vivax* proteins involved in the parasite’s entry into red blood cells. Horacio will use his phage display technology to produce antibodies against the proteins, which the WEHI scientist will subsequently test for their ability to block *P. vivax* entry into red blood cells.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

Roopa Ramamoorthi presented a poster describing WIPO Re:Search and several collaborations at the
6th Annual Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Conference held in Boston, MA. While at the meeting, Roopa spoke with researchers from Emory University, Stanford University, and the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) about current and potential WIPO Re:Search collaboration opportunities.

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**Funding Announcement**

**E.W. "Al" Thrasher Awards**

The Thrasher Research Fund is open to applications that address significant health problems that affect children in large numbers and offer the potential for practical solutions to these problems. Such solutions should be innovative and have the potential for broad applicability with low financial and/or technical barriers to implementation. Hypothesis-driven research is preferred over exploratory, hypothesis-generating research. Projects with a shorter distance to clinical applicability are given priority.

**Funding amount**: Based on the budgetary needs of the project  
**Funder**: Thrasher Research Fund  
**Deadline**: Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The Fund has two grant cycles per year.  
**Eligibility**: The Fund is open to applications from institutions worldwide. There are no citizenship or residency requirements.

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**Member Spotlight**

Founding Provider Member GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and collaborators published an article in Scientific Reports, a Nature Publishing Group journal, that describes a whole-cell phenotypic analysis of its 1.8 million compound diversity library. This library was screened against T. brucei, T. cruzi, and L. donovani in parallel. Potent hits from these screens were assembled into three anti-kinetoplastid sets, which can be provided to lead discovery programs. Click [here](#) to read the paper.

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month is a contribution submitted by Eisai to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](#).
E5700: a squalene synthase inhibitor (ID: 427)

Through exploratory research for a treatment for hypolipidemia, E5700 was found to be a novel squalene synthase inhibitor with inhibitory activity of hepatic cholesterol biosynthesis in rats. It was also reported that E5700 possesses activity against *Leishmania amazonensis*, *Toxoplasma gondii* tachyzoites, and *Trypanosoma cruzi*.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

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**Upcoming Global Health Events**

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<td>May 12-17 Keystone Symposium - “The Arthropod Vector: The Controller of Transmission”</td>
<td>Taos, New Mexico</td>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 24-28 14th Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine (CISTM14)</td>
<td>Quebec City, Canada</td>
<td>Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 15-18 2015 BIO International Convention</td>
<td>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</td>
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*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada*
Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members,

It’s hard to believe we are almost half way through the year! BVGH is making good progress toward achieving our 2015 WIPO Re:Search objectives and deliverables. We recently reviewed and altered how we count WIPO Re:Search agreements. This change resulted in a few agreements shifting from two separate agreements into one advancing agreement. Due to this change, the number of agreements has decreased to 86. We believe this more accurately captures not only our Members’ research endeavors, but will correctly capture the proportion of research projects that advance to new stages of development. If you have any questions about how we are counting agreements or ideas to make our statistics more meaningful, please contact Katy Graef.

I am pleased to welcome our newest Member, the University of Bamenda.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH

Special Announcement

Congratulations to Sanofi and Novartis for winning the 2015 Patents for Humanity award for medicine! This year’s award recognizes Novartis and Sanofi’s anti-tuberculosis and anti-malaria efforts, respectively.

WIPO Re:Search Statistics
To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

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**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

Researchers from the University of Calgary and PATH published the results of their WIPO Re:Search collaboration. Through this collaboration, the researchers evaluated the use of PATH’s non-instrumented nucleic acid amplification (NINA) heater with a LAMP-based malaria diagnostic assay, using patient samples from Ethiopia. Click here to read the paper.

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**New Member Announcement**

We are pleased to announce that the University of Bamenda has joined WIPO Re:Search.

Located in the heart of Cameroon, the University of Bamenda is one of eight state universities in the country. Research occurring at the University includes evaluating drug regimens for tuberculosis and analyzing transmission of the causative agent of onchocerciasis.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

Jennifer Dent attended the 2015 Milken Institute Global Conference in Los Angeles, CA. During the event, which included sessions on accelerating medical research, mHealth, and the economic impact of the Ebola virus disease crisis in West Africa, Jennifer met with representatives from Pfizer, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Sanofi, The Milken Institute, and executives from various industries with an interest in collaborating to improve global health.

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**Funding Announcement**
Indo-U.S. Vaccine Action Program

The goal of the Vaccine Action Program (VAP) is to support collaborative, vaccine-related research projects that ultimately reduce the burden of infectious diseases of importance in India, the U.S., the South Asian region, and globally. Applications are encouraged from organizations/institutions that propose to conduct vaccine-related research through U.S./Indo collaborations on the following: dengue, influenza (including avian influenza), malaria, enteric diseases, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis. Basic, translational, clinical, or epidemiological vaccine research may be proposed. Clinical trials will not be supported by this initiative.

**Funding amount:** Up to $50,000/year for two years  
**Funder:** US National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
**Deadline:** Applications are due on Feb 16th, Jun 16th, and Oct 16th annually until May 2016.  
**Eligibility:** Open to US-based organizations or an Indian organization collaborating with a US-based researcher

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by Pfizer to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](https://www.wipo.int/express/en/research/database/).

**Nucleic acid construct (ID: 961)**

Pfizer has provided patents and patent applications relating to a nucleic acid construct useful for expressing vaccine antigens.

**Nucleic acid-coated particles (ID: 941)**

Provided are patents and pending patent applications relating to nucleic acid-coated particles useful for the delivery of DNA-based vaccines.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

WIPO Re:Search was mentioned in the [*2015 Special 301 Report*](https://www.usitc国际贸易.com/sections/sp301/sec301_2015.pdf), which was published by the United States Trade Representative. The Report highlights WIPO Re:Search as one of two “innovative mechanisms that enable government and private sector rights holders to donate or license pharmaceutical patents […] in support of public policy goals.” Click [here](https://www.wipo.int/express/en/research/database/) to download the full Report.
### Upcoming Global Health Events

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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>2015 BIO International Convention</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Gordon Research Conference: Translating Malaria Research to the Field</td>
<td>Girona, Spain</td>
<td><a href="#">Website</a></td>
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*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada*
Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

The BVGH team is looking forward to meeting with Members and engaging potential new funding Members at the 2015 BIO International Convention in Philadelphia next week. The Convention is the largest biotechnology partnering event in the world with more than 16,000 participants. This year BVGH will host the first sub-Saharan Africa pavilion. Four of our WIPO Re:Search Members from Africa will be represented and will explore partnering opportunities at the Convention.

Three new WIPO Re:Search agreements were finalized last month, bringing the total number of partnerships to 89. Twelve agreements have been established in 2015. BVGH is well on its way to meeting its 2015 deliverable of establishing 20 new partnerships. For a full update on our WIPO Re:Search activities in 2015, please be on the lookout for our half-year report, which will be distributed next month.

If you are attending this year’s BIO International Convention, please be sure to visit our sub-Saharan Africa pavilion.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH
Attending the 2015 BIO International Convention? If so, stop by BVGH’s sub-Saharan Africa pavilion* (booth #1719) to speak with researchers from Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe. Four WIPO Re:Search Members will be exhibiting: African Institute of Biomedical Science & Technology (AiBST), Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR), and Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research.

Please also attend BVGH’s two panel sessions: Africa’s Leading Economies Welcome Industry Partnerships and Global Emergency Case Study: Ebola.

* The sub-Saharan Africa pavilion is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Pfizer, Takeda, Johnson & Johnson, MSD, Celgene, BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) and SCYNEXIS, Inc.

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

![Agreements: 89 Members: 94](image)

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

---

**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

Mathurin Tejiokem, Senior Scientist, Epidemiology and Public Health, Centre Pasteur du Cameroun, was awarded a fellowship to attend the International Vaccine Institute’s (IVI) 15th Annual IVI International Advanced Course on Vaccinology, which took place last month in Seoul, South Korea. The course, which was a comprehensive review of vaccines, aimed to mold its attendees into vaccinology leaders in their respective communities.
"The 15th Annual IVI International Advanced Course on Vaccinology held in Seoul was really interesting to me as it helped me with different vaccinology aspects, particularly vaccine development. It was also an opportunity to initiate some connections with other public health specialists and researchers." - Mathurin Tejiokem
Dr. David Griggs, Director of Cellular and Molecular Biology, Center for World Health & Medicine (CWHM), presented a poster at Digestive Disease Week 2015. David’s poster, entitled, “Pharmacologic Evaluation of Clinical Neutral Endopeptidase Inhibitors in a Rat Model of Acute Secretory Diarrhea,” described the results of CWHM’s screens of Pfizer and Sanofi’s compounds.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

WIPO has organized a roundtable event during the United Nations’ Global Compact +15: Business as a Force for Good conference, which will be held later this month in New York. The roundtable session will convene representatives from several WIPO Re:Search Members to discuss public-private partnerships. The recommendations formed during this roundtable will be submitted to the UN for inclusion in its conference report.

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**Funding Announcement**

**Development of Assays for High-Throughput Screening for Use in Probe and Pre-therapeutic Discovery (R01)**

The purpose of this call is to stimulate the development of assays for high throughput screening (HTS) relevant to processes and diseases specific to the mission of the NIH divisions with the intent of using the assays to screen for small molecule compounds that show desired properties as probes for use in advancing knowledge about the relevant target, identifying new targets, or serving as pre-therapeutic leads.

**Funding amount:** Application budgets are not limited, but reflect the actual needs of the proposed project

**Funder:** US National Institutes of Health (NIH)

**Deadline:** October 5th, 2015

**Eligibility:** Any individual(s) with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to carry out the proposed research

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by the University of Ibadan to the WIPO Re:Search
**Medicinal plants in treatment of parasitic diseases (ID: 2763)**
Researchers at the University of Ibadan have expertise working with natural products and medicinal plant extracts to identify novel compounds to treat parasitic diseases.

**Parasitology Expertise (ID: 2781)**
The University has strong research experience with parasitic diseases such as human African trypanosomiasis (HAT) and schistosomiasis.

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

BVGH published an article entitled, “Repurposing pharma assets: an accelerated mechanism for strengthening the schistosomiasis drug development pipeline,” in a special issue of *Future Medicinal Chemistry* dedicated to schistosomiasis. The issue, which includes articles by WIPO Re:Search Members, *FioCruz*, *Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research* (WEHI), *University of California, San Francisco* (UCSF), and *Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute* (Swiss TPH), also includes a special “Ask the Experts” section that features interviews with Tom Bombelles, WIPO; Jennifer Dent, BVGH; Matthew Todd, The University of Sydney; and Jackie Fine, David Olsen, and Ken Gustavsen, *MSD*. Click [here](#) to view the special issue’s table of contents.

*Known as Merck in the US and Canada.*

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**Upcoming Global Health Events**

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<tr>
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<td>Gordon Research Conference: Translating Malaria Research to the Field</td>
<td>Girona, Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 6-10</td>
<td>9th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health</td>
<td>Basel, Switzerland</td>
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Oct. 25-29  American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene 64th Annual Meeting  Philadelphia, PA Website

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Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members,

With half of 2015 completed, BVGH is tabulating our WIPO Re:Search partnering, recruiting, and communications activities. Keep an eye out for our 2015 Partnership Hub Mid-Year Report, which we will be distributing next week.

We have shared our report highlighting the first sub-Saharan Africa pavilion at the 2015 BIO International Convention, which included representatives from WIPO Re:Search Members Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), African Institute of Biomedical Science & Technology (AiBST), and Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR). If you have not read the report, visit BVGH’s website to see some highlights of the Convention or download a copy of the report here.

I am pleased to welcome our two newest Members, Cheikh Anta Diop University and Supporter Member, Operation ASHA.

Please join me in welcoming Paddy Shivanand and Matthew Tan, our two newest team members, to BVGH. Paddy will be joining Roopa Ramamoorthi and Ujwal Sheth in facilitating collaborations between WIPO Re:Search Members. Matthew will be leading our WIPO Re:Search communications efforts.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH

Special Announcement

Pfizer's participation in WIPO Re:Search was featured today on the Pfizer 365 website.
WIPO Re:Search Statistics

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

The Michael Pollastri laboratory at [Northeastern University](#) provided Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) with data from compound-screening assays obtained against cutaneous leishmaniasis. Based on these data, DNDi is assessing the compounds against a pan-kinetoplastid panel.

New Member Announcement

We are pleased to announce that [Cheikh Anta Diop University](#) has joined WIPO Re:Search.

Cheikh Anta Diop University, also known as the University of Dakar, is one of the oldest academic establishments in French-speaking Africa. Research at its Faculty of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Odontology includes malaria immunology, modeling microbial survival and growth, *Leishmania* biology, schistosomiasis, and *Plasmodium* co-infections.

Partnership Hub Central

The External Relations Division at WIPO hosted WIPO Re:Search Members [Pfizer](#), [Institut Pasteur de Tunis](#), and [Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research](#) (NMIMR) at the [United Nations Global Compact +15: Business as a Force for Good](#). WIPO’s guests, which also included Johnson & Johnson/Janssen and the University of Pennsylvania, participated in a roundtable discussion of how WIPO Re:Search is addressing global health concerns. The recommendations from this and other
Following her participation at the UN Global Compact meeting, Dr. Regina Appiah-Opong, Head, Clinical Pathology Department, NMIMR, traveled to the University of Washington, Bothell (UWB) to meet with Dr. Sue Kraemer, Faculty, The School of STEM, UWB. Earlier this year, Regina and Sue initiated a WIPO Re:Search collaboration to identify polymorphisms in the CYP genes of West African and Ghanaian populations. During her visit to UWB, Regina gave a lecture to Sue’s undergraduate students and a departmental seminar.

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**Funding Announcement**

**Humboldt Research Fellowships**

The Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung Foundation grants research fellowships to scientists and scholars from abroad with above-average qualifications to sponsor long-term research stays at research institutions in Germany. The purpose of the research fellowships is to carry out a research project, chosen by the research fellows themselves, in cooperation with an academic host who must provide the...
Funding amount: $87,700 USD maximum

**Funder:** Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung Foundation

**Deadline:** Applications are accepted year-round

**Eligibility:** International post-doctoral scientists and researchers who completed their doctorate less than 12 years ago may apply.

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**Member Spotlight**

The Malaria Host-Pathogen Interaction Center (MaHPIC) is a systems biology endeavor, initiated by investigators from Emory University, the University of Georgia, the Georgia Institute of Technology, and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The MaHPIC is developing large datasets and integrated approaches for the study of malaria. The team investigates *Plasmodium* infections in non-human primates, and humans across a variety of endemic settings around the world, to understand the changes in biological pathways and networks underlying the development and recovery from disease. Longitudinal studies of infections in NHPs involve the analysis of clinical, parasitological, and immunological responses, as well as transcriptomics, proteomics, lipidomics, and metabolomics, while aiming to create comprehensive molecular descriptions and mathematical models that relate *Plasmodium* infection and the disease parasite causes. Data produced by MaHPIC’s investigators are being made available to the broader scientific community concomitant with publications. To learn more click [here](#).

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](#).

**Plasmodium vivax malaria vaccine antigens (ID: 2181)**

WRAIR has developed and patented a novel hybrid molecule containing both Type 1 (VK210) and Type 2 (VK247) *Plasmodium vivax* repeats. This molecule (VMP001) induces a potent immune response to both Type 1 and Type 2 sporozoites in animal models. In addition to the repeat region, the recombinant molecule contains the N- and C-terminal regions of CS protein including several T and B cell epitopes.

**Codon harmonization technology (ID: 2161)**

Codon harmonization combines bioinformatics, protein chemistry, and genetic engineering to produce novel re-coded gene sequences for expressing recombinant antigens. Codon harmonization addresses several problems inherent to expressing proteins in heterologous hosts such as protein folding and insolubility. Codon harmonization engineers recombinant genes with the best approximated codon usage frequencies in the gene’s native host and adjusts these for use in a heterologous host. WRAIR
has applied this technique to several malaria parasite genes including Pf MSP1-42 3D7, Pf MSP1-42 FVO, Pf MSP1-42 CAMP-FUP, Pf LSA1, and PfCelTOS.

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

BVGH published an [article](#) on open innovation in the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Medicines Development Sciences*. The article, “Open Innovation to Bolster Research and Development for Neglected and Emerging Infectious Diseases,” featured WIPO Re:Search and research collaborations involving MSD*, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), the University of British Columbia (UBC), Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH), GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), the Center for World Health & Medicine (CWHM), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Institut Pasteur de Tunis, PATH, and Centre Pasteur du Cameroun.

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**Upcoming Global Health Events**

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<tr>
<td>Oct. 26-28</td>
<td>2nd Annual Cost Action Meeting on Antiparasitic Chemotherapy</td>
<td>Belgrade, Serbia</td>
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Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members,

It's August and summer is in full swing here in Seattle. The BVGH team is hard at work identifying new collaboration opportunities for WIPO Re:Search Members. Please email Roopa Ramamoorthi, Ujwal Sheth, or Paddy Shivanand if you are interested in exploring a new partnership or need access to compounds, data, know-how, or expertise to advance your research.

In order to engage more research institutes in South East Asia, WIPO has organized a special WIPO Re:Search session at the COHRED 2015 Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health, which will be held in Manila, Philippines later this month. Email Katy Graef if you will be attending the Forum and would like to discuss potential WIPO Re:Search collaborations.

This month’s Snapshot features additional data in the “WIPO Re:Search Statistics” section: WIPO Re:Search collaborations established in 2015, by disease. Each month the Snapshot will feature a different statistic about Consortium collaborations, Members, or communication efforts. Please share your feedback with BVGH on the Snapshot as well as any content ideas you may have.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH
**Special Announcement**

WIPO will be hosting a WIPO Re:Search special session during the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) 2015 Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health on August 25th. Anatole Krattiger, WIPO, and Katy Graef, BVGH, will be presenting an overview of WIPO Re:Search.

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

![Agreements](image1) ![Members](image2)

92 Agreements

96 Members

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

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**2015 WIPO Re:Search Collaborations by Disease**

- Malaria (8)
- Rabies (1)
- Chagas disease (3)
- Leishmaniasis (1)
- Other disease (2)

---

**Partnership Hub Central**

Jennifer Dent described WIPO Re:Search and its achievements to date during a presentation at Becton, Dickinson and Company’s (BD) Global Health Annual Meeting in Vancouver, Canada. While at the meeting, Jennifer spoke with representatives from BD and the University of Maryland.

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**Funding Announcement**
**Awesome Foundation Grant**

This grant supports innovative projects that represent bright promises for goodness.

**Funding amount:** $1,000 USD maximum  
**Funder:** The Awesome Foundation/The Harnisch Foundation  
**Deadline:** Year-round  
**Eligibility:** Open to individuals or organizations

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**Member Spotlight**

The Seattle Structural Genomics Center for Infectious Disease (SSGCID) is a joint collaboration between the Center for Infectious Disease Research (CID Research, formerly Seattle BioMed), Berylium, the University of Washington (UW), and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). Its primary mission is to determine the 3D-structure of protein targets for select agents and emerging and re-emerging pathogens. Researchers are encouraged to nominate pathogen proteins, including those that are known or potential drug targets, vaccine antigens, virulence determinants, or other targets of biological interest, to the SSGCID for structure determination. The SSGCID has a selection of expression plasmids and purified proteins that researchers may order free-of-charge. The structures of 789 proteins have been solved by SSGCID since 2007.
Highlighted Contributions

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by Sanofi to the WIPO Re:Search Database.

Artesunate samples for R&D purpose (ID: 1364)
Sanofi can provide Members with information about combination artesunate-amodiaquine, including clinical and pharmacological data, as well as samples for R&D purposes. Artesunate-amodiaquine is used to treat malaria. The combination drug consists of two blood schizonticides with independent modes of action and different intraparasitic biochemical targets.

Meglumine Antimonate samples for R&D purpose (ID: 1401)
Sanofi can provide meglumine antimonate samples for R&D purposes, as well as clinical and pharmacological data. Meglumine antimonate is used to treat visceral and cutaneous leishmaniasis.

Upcoming Global Health Events

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<tr>
<td>Aug. 24-27</td>
<td>COHRED 2015 Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health</td>
<td>Manila, Philippines</td>
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Our mailing address is:
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Dear WIPO Re:Search Members,

Autumn is fast approaching and BVGH is busy making arrangements for the season’s packed agenda. We are preparing for our participation in the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) 64th Annual Meeting, the 2015 American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Annual Meeting and Exposition – where I will be giving the plenary lecture in the opening global health session – and the 2015 WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting. If you will be attending any of these meetings, please reach out to us and schedule a time to meet and discuss your research and partnering interests.

Last month we were pleased to hear the US FDA’s decision to add Chagas disease and neurocysticercosis to the list of PRV-eligible diseases. These diseases are included in WIPO Re:Search. On August 19th AbbVie purchased a PRV for over $350 million from United Therapeutics Corporation – demonstrating the significant value these vouchers can provide to NTD product development organizations.

I am pleased to welcome our newest Supporter Member, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, to WIPO Re:Search.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH
**Special Announcement**

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) added Chagas disease and neurocysticercosis to the list of designated tropical diseases whose product applications may result in the award of a priority review voucher (PRV). Currently, there are no products available that effectively treat either of these devastating diseases. This important decision recognizes the need to fill product development pipelines for Chagas disease and neurocysticercosis. Click [here](#) to learn more about the FDA’s ruling.

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

![Agreements and Members](Image)

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

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**Cornerstones of Collaboration**
GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) will provide Dr. Stênio Fragoso, Head, Laboratory of Trypanosomatid Molecular Biology, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), with a targeted set of compounds from its Tres Cantos Anti-Kinetoplastid Set (TCAKS). Stênio will be assessing the effects of these compounds on *T. cruzi*.

Dr. Alyssa Barry, Laboratory Head, Population Health and Immunity Division, Walter + Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI) will determine the sequence variation of a *P. falciparum* red blood cell-binding protein within a set of malaria patient samples provided by Dr. Aida Badiane, Assistant Professor, Laboratory of Parasitology-Mycology, Cheikh Anta Diop University. Aida and Alyssa will determine whether there is a correlation between the malaria patients’ immune responses and the red blood cell-binding protein sequences.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

Anatole Krattiger, WIPO, and Katy Graef, BVGH, presented an overview of WIPO Re:Search at the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) 2015 Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health. The WIPO Re:Search special session’s opening remarks were delivered by Andrew Hodges, First Secretary – Economic, Australian Embassy to the Philippines. During the 2015 Forum, Anatole and Katy discussed WIPO Re:Search with representatives from several South East Asian research institutes.

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**BVGH FundFinder Featured Funding Announcement**

**Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships**
Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships provide opportunities to people from some developing countries to study at selected education institutions outside Australia. The purpose of the scholarships is for people to gain knowledge and skills which will help the development of their home country. Currently, scholarships are offered to people from the Pacific to study at Pacific tertiary institutions in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa, and New Caledonia.

**Funding amount:** entitlements cover a return airfare from your home country to the country of study, academic and other compulsory fees, an establishment allowance, and a living allowance  
**Funder:** Australian Government - Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
**Deadline:** deadlines vary by country  
**Eligibility:** restricted to individuals from Pacific countries

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**Member Spotlight**

Researchers from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) published the results of their collaboration. Through this collaboration, catalyzed by WIPO Re:Search, the researchers evaluated a set of avermectins for their potential use as a Buruli ulcer therapy. Click [here](#) to read the paper.

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to the [WIPO Re:Search Database](#).

**Expertise on pathogen-host interactions for drug targets, vaccines candidates and diagnostic biomarkers (ID: 2122)**  
The Singapore MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART) Center Infectious Disease program is a cutting-edge research program that studies host-pathogen interactions at the cellular and molecular levels. The program focuses on infectious diseases that are of particular concern in Singapore and the rest of Asia. The SMART Center Infectious Disease program could be of value to WIPO Re:Search Members interested in leveraging this expertise to identify and study drug targets, vaccine candidates, and diagnostic biomarkers for NTDs, tuberculosis, and malaria.
**Multiscale regenerative technologies providing expertise for liver stage malaria (ID: 2123)**

The MIT Laboratory for Multiscale Regenerative Technologies focuses on the applications of micro- and nanotechnology toward tissue repair and regeneration. Specifically, the Laboratory studies the interactions between hepatocytes and their microenvironment, and has obtained a grant to develop models for liver stage malaria. These expertise and models could be useful to WIPO Re:Search Members studying and screening drugs targeting liver stage malaria.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding these technologies, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) published a blog written by BVGH about dengue fever and the need for initiatives such as WIPO Re:Search.

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**Upcoming Global Health Events**

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October 2015

Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Fourth WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting on October 29th. WIPO will be hosting the meeting at their headquarters in Geneva. If you are interested in attending, please see details below and contact Tom Bombelles for more information.

Last week the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to Dr. William Campbell, Dr. Satoshi Ōmura, and Dr. Youyou Tu for their research and contributions to the development of novel therapies for filarial diseases (ivermectin) and malaria (artemisinin). This is extremely exciting news and shines a light on the entire neglected infectious disease community, including the work of the WIPO Re:Search consortium. I want to thank all of you for your dedication to developing safe, effective, and affordable products for all neglected tropical diseases.

BVGH will be launching the 2014-2015 WIPO Re:Search Partnership Storybook at the Annual Meeting. The Storybook highlights over 20 WIPO Re:Search partnerships and features the impact we are having on African research organizations. Keep an eye out for an electronic copy over the coming weeks.

I am pleased to welcome Takeda Pharmaceutical Company to WIPO Re:Search. Takeda is the ninth leading biopharmaceutical company to join the Consortium and brings important new contributions to share with our Members.

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Annual Meeting and Exposition will open with a session titled,
“Global Health: Tackling the Unmet Medical Needs”. I will present a plenary talk and feature the work we are doing in WIPO Re:Search. Paddy Shivanand will be attending the AAPS meeting with me so please reach out to either of us if you would like to schedule a meeting.

Ujwal Sheth will be attending this year’s American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Contact Ujwal if you are attending and would like to meet.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH

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**Special Reminder - Member Surveys**

If you haven’t completed a WIPO Re:Search Member survey, there is still time. Please click [here](#) to take the User & Provider Member survey and [here](#) to take the Supporter survey.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Katy Graef.

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**Special Announcement**

WIPO will be hosting the 2015 WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting* at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland on October 29th. Dr. Peter Hotez, President, Sabin Vaccine Institute, will be giving the meeting’s keynote presentation.

This year’s Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the WIPO/WTO/WHO Workshop of Patentability Criteria (October 27th) and the WHO/WIPO/WTO Trilateral Symposium (October 28th).

*Please note that Annual Meeting attendance is limited to WIPO Re:Search Members.

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**
To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Eisai has agreed to provide Dr. Jim McKerrow, Dean, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dr. Larissa Podust, Associate Professor, and Dr. Jair Siqueira-Neto, Assistant Adjunct Professor, University of California, San Diego (UCSD), with a squalene synthase inhibitor. Jim and Jair will assess the effect of the inhibitor – either alone or in combination with another inhibitor – against T. cruzi and Leishmania.

New Member Announcement

We are pleased to announce that Takeda Pharmaceutical Company has joined WIPO Re:Search.
Takeda Pharmaceutical Company joined WIPO Re:Search on August 19, 2015. Takeda was founded in 1781 and is headquartered in Osaka, Japan. With its mission to “strive towards better health for people worldwide through leading innovation in medicine,” Takeda is an ideal WIPO Re:Search Member.

Takeda contributes to global health through the Takeda Initiative – a ten-year grant program supporting the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria to build healthcare capacity in Africa. Takeda is developing a tetravalent dengue fever vaccine, which is in Phase II clinical trials, and participates in the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund).

Takeda is considering possible cooperation ideas including provision of compound libraries, consultation and support, hands-on research activities, manufacturing technology, data, and know-how that may fit WIPO Re:Search purposes. Based on the needs of WIPO Re:Search Members, Takeda and BVGH are currently working together to evaluate Takeda’s assets and identify potential WIPO Re:Search Database contributions.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

Jennifer Dent attended the Wellbeing for All: Innovation for Society’s Biggest Health Challenges meeting organized by Novartis. The event, which officially launched the Novartis Access initiative, coincided with the UN General Assembly and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Jennifer met with individuals from **Medicines for Malaria Venture** (MMV), the Access to Medicine Foundation, **PATH**, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and **Novartis** during the meeting.

WIPO organized a WIPO Re:Search briefing to WIPO Member States during the 55th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO. The briefing event featured remarks from Prof. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa, Head, ANDI Centre of Excellence for Onchocerciasis Drug Research, **University of Buea**; Mr. Martin Bernhardt, Vice President, **International Institutions**, **Sanofi**; and Mr. Simon Holt, **Global Head Public Policy**, **Novartis**.
Funding Announcement

Fogarty Emerging Global Leader Award
The purpose of the Fogarty Emerging Global Leader Award is to provide research support and protected time to a research scientist from a low- or middle-income country (LMIC) with a junior faculty position at an LMIC academic or research institution. This intensive, mentored research career development experience is expected to lead to an independently funded research career. LMIC scientists from any health related discipline that propose career development activities and a research project that is
relevant to the health priorities of their country is invited to apply.

**Funding amount:** Up to $105,000 USD per year, for a maximum of five years  
**Funder:** US National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
**Deadline:** December 16, 2015  
**Eligibility:** Applicant must be an LMIC citizen and have held an academic junior faculty position or research scientist appointment at an LMIC academic or research institution for at least one year.

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**Member Spotlight**

The United States Patents & Trademark Office (USPTO) is accepting applications for its Patents for Humanity prize. This competition awards innovators that use their patented technologies to address global challenges in five areas, including medicine. Applicants will be judged on one of two sets of criteria: humanitarian research – awarded to organizations that increase the availability of their technology to others performing humanitarian research – or humanitarian use.

Winners receive recognition at a public awards ceremony and a certificate to accelerate certain matters before the USPTO. Sanofi and Novartis were awarded this year’s prize for medicine. Applications for the 2016 Patents for Humanity are due by **December 4, 2015**.

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month is a contribution submitted by Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) to the WIPO Re:Search Database.

![DNDi logo](image)

**Antiprotozoal activity profiling of approved drugs: a starting point toward drug repositioning (ID: 3021)**

DNDi has assembled data from screens of 100 registered drugs against *Leishmania donovani*, *Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense*, *Plasmodium falciparum*, and *Trypanosoma cruzi*. These data have been made freely available to third parties for use anywhere in the world.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthy or Ujwal Sheth.

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

WIPO and BVGH co-authored a [Global Challenges Brief](#) that summarized the structure of WIPO Re:Search and described a selection of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
WIPO Re:Search was featured in a Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) BIotechNow blog about the 2015 International Day of Charity. Click here to read the post.

The activities and outputs of WIPO Re:Search were noted in the 2015 Report of the Director General to the WIPO Assemblies.

Upcoming Global Health Events

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<td>American Society of Tropical Medicine &amp; Hygiene 64th Annual Meeting</td>
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<td>Jan. 24-28</td>
<td>Keystone Symposium: “Drug Discovery for Parasitic Diseases”</td>
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*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada
November 2015

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Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

It has been just four years since WIPO Re:Search was established and we are already celebrating our 100th Member. We are excited by the Consortium’s growth and successes. In four years, BVGH has established 95 research collaborations spanning 13 diseases. Of these collaborations, 48 are still ongoing and eight have advanced to the next stage of development.

BVGH presented these achievements and our objectives for 2016 at this year’s WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting, which was held in Geneva, Switzerland. The second edition of BVGH’s WIPO Re:Search Partnership Stories was officially released during the Annual Meeting. The storybook features 26 collaborations and messages from Dr. Francis Collins, Director, US National Institutes of Health (NIH); Dr. Francis Gurry, Director General, WIPO; and James Greenwood, President & CEO, Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO). If you have not downloaded your copy of the storybook yet, please click here.

I am pleased to welcome our newest Member, Medical Research Institute – Alexandria University (MRI), to WIPO Re:Search.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
Special Reminder - Member Surveys

If you haven’t completed a WIPO Re:Search Member survey, there is still time. Please click here to take the User & Provider Member survey and here to take the Supporter survey. The survey deadline is December 15, 2015.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Katy Graef.

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Special Announcement

WIPO Director General, Francis Gurry, joined Mauritius President Ameenah Gurib-Fakim and Senegal Prime Minister Mahamad Boun Abdallah Dionne in highlighting how intellectual property (IP) incentivizes innovation and creativity and how well-developed IP systems can help Africa boost its economic growth at the African Ministerial Conference 2015: Intellectual Property (IP) for an Emerging Africa. Click here to read more about the conference.
To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Researchers from Stanford University and the University of Lagos published the results of their WIPO Re:Search collaboration in the Journal of Clinical Microbiology. Through this collaboration, the researchers evaluated the sensitivity and specificity of a malaria multiplex nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) using serum and plasma samples from febrile Nigerian patients. Click here to read the article.

New Member Announcement

We are pleased to announce that the Medical Research Institute – Alexandria University (MRI) has joined WIPO Re:Search.

The Medical Research Institute – Alexandria University (MRI) was established to address health problems of concern to Egypt. The Institute integrates research, education, and clinical care to provide standardized, science-based solutions to healthcare needs. Scientists at MRI focus on several diseases of relevance to WIPO Re:Search including schistosomiasis and fascioliasis.
**Partnership Hub Central**

BVGH presented at and attended several key global health and pharmaceutical R&D meetings during the last week of October. Jennifer Dent gave a plenary talk that featured several WIPO Re:Search collaborations at the 2015 American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Annual Meeting and Exposition. Ujwal Sheth represented BVGH at the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) 64th Annual Meeting where she met with WIPO Re:Search Members. Jennifer and Katy Graef presented BVGH’s WIPO Re:Search achievements for 2015 and its 2016 goals at the 2015 WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting.

Jennifer presented a plenary talk at the 2015 AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition
Dr. Peter Hotez, President, Sabin Vaccine Institute, gave the 2015 WIPO Re:Search Annual Meeting keynote address.

**BVGH FundFinder Featured Funding Announcement**

**Connect Africa Scholarships**

The Connect Africa Scholarships aim to leverage the recently-expanded KwaZulu-Natal Research Institute for Tuberculosis and HIV (K-RITH) research facilities in Durban, South Africa to offer young African scientists (undergraduates, postgraduates, post-doctoral research fellows, and junior faculty) the chance to further develop as researchers. The scholarships provide opportunities to gain international exposure, learn new techniques, attend conferences and scientific courses, take part in teaching opportunities, build new scientific research collaborations, and develop global and intra-Africa partnerships by providing travel grants to K-RITH and other international sites.

Two categories of scholarships will be awarded: Intra-Africa and Intercontinental. The Intra-Africa Award is open to scientists who wish to travel to K-RITH and affiliated sites in KwaZulu-Natal. The Intercontinental Awards are open to scientists based at K-RITH and affiliated sites who wish to travel outside of Africa.

**Funding amount:** Scholarships of up to $2,000 USD typically awarded  
**Funder:** KwaZulu-Natal Research Institute for Tuberculosis and HIV (K-RITH)  
**Deadline:** Applications are accepted on a rolling basis  
**Eligibility:** Open to young African scientists

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Roopa Sriram.
Member Spotlight

The Infectious Disease Research Institute (IDRI) recently published an article in BMC Infectious Diseases describing IDRI’s Leishmania Antigen Detect™ ELISA test for visceral leishmaniasis. The Leishmania Antigen Detect™ ELISA demonstrated >90% sensitivity using urine samples from visceral leishmaniasis patients. This new diagnostic can be used to detect antigens during acute Leishmania donovani infection and monitor parasite clearance upon cure. IDRI is interested in further refining its test using additional visceral leishmaniasis urine samples from endemic regions. If you have samples you are interested in sharing, please email Katy Graef.

Highlighted Contributions

Featured this month is a contribution submitted by the University of British Columbia to the WIPO Re:Search Database.

Methods for Synthesizing Vinyl Sulphones (ID: 3001)

The University of British Columbia is willing to share its efficient and affordable regioselective methods for the synthesis of vinyl sulphones – in particular, methods for synthesizing (E)-vinyl sulphones for use in the synthesis of the protease inhibitor, K777, and various analogs thereof. Compounds prepared by these methods may be useful for the treatment of cancers and infectious diseases including Chagas disease and other diseases caused by Trypanosoma parasites. These compounds may also be useful for treatments requiring the inhibition of polo-like kinase 1 (Plk1), MAP kinases, and cysteine proteases.

K777 has been shown to be safe and efficacious in animal models of acute and chronic Chagas disease.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

WIPO Re:Search in the News

Intellectual Property Watch published an overview of a WIPO Re:Search event that was organized alongside the WIPO General Assembly.

Upcoming Global Health Events

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Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

The end of 2015 is upon us – and what a year it has been. We started the year by establishing a collaboration between the University of Washington (UW) and the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR). WIPO Director General, Dr. Francis Gurry, met with three Australian WIPO Re:Search Members in February and I met with WIPO Re:Search Members at the 2015 Milken Institute Global Conference in April. The second half of 2015 began as we established our 90th WIPO Re:Search collaboration. Two new leading biopharmaceutical companies – Takeda Pharmaceutical Company and Janssen, the Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson – joined in the fall. The year came to a close as we surpassed 100 Members and published our second biennial WIPO Re:Search storybook. The outcomes and impacts of these and our other efforts in 2015 are expected to result in new, exciting opportunities in 2016.

I am pleased to welcome Janssen to WIPO Re:Search. Janssen is the tenth company to join the Consortium and brings a strong commitment to improving global health along with important new assets and contributions to share with our Members.

All of us at BVGH wish you a happy holiday season and wonderful New Year!

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.
Special Announcement

Are you preparing a manuscript based on the results of your WIPO Re:Search collaboration? If so, please help to raise awareness of the Consortium by acknowledging WIPO Re:Search in your article. Please let Katy Graef know when the article is published and we will feature it in an issue of the Partnership Hub Snapshot.

WIPO Re:Search Statistics

To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Cornerstones of Collaboration

Dr. Justin Boddey, Laboratory Head, Division of Infection and Immunity, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI) gave a seminar on the biology of malaria at MSD* last month. During his visit, Justin discussed recent drug discovery data and next steps of his collaboration with MSD. Justin and his colleagues at WEHI have been screening a targeted set of MSD compounds against Plasmodium falciparum.

Left to right: Charles Garlisi (MSD), Tanweer Khan (MSD) David B. Olsen (MSD), Chris J. Culberson (MSD), and Justin Boddey (WEHI)

Dr. Jair Lage de Siqueira-Neto, Assistant Adjunct Professor, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of California, San Diego (UCSD), will produce a set of Trypanosoma cruzi antigens that Dr. Daniel Ratner, Associate Professor, Department of Bioengineering, University of Washington (UW), will incorporate into a silicon chip-based Chagas disease diagnostic.

*Known as Merck & Co., Inc. in the US and Canada
New Member Announcement

We are pleased to announce that Janssen, the Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson, has joined WIPO Re:Search. As part of shared ambitions to spearhead innovative research, Janssen is joining WIPO Re:Search and its Members to advance global efforts against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and other pressing health challenges.

Janssen is working to address unmet medical needs in oncology, immunology, neuroscience, infectious diseases and vaccines, and cardiovascular and metabolic diseases. As part of its portfolio of medicines targeting infectious diseases, Janssen is developing new antibiotics, such as for multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), and novel applications of its medicines in areas such as prophylaxis and long-acting injectable formulations for HIV. Janssen is working to make its pentavalent vaccine, Quinvaxem® (DTwP-HepB-Hib), which protects children against five deadly childhood infections, available through a simplified injection system developed by Janssen in partnership with Beckton, Dickinson and PATH.

As a signatory of the London Declaration on NTDs, Janssen is developing novel therapies, including reformulated flubendazole to combat elephantiasis and lymphatic filariasis, as well as chewable mebendazole against intestinal worms. Through Children Without Worms, the company is donating up to 200 million doses of mebendazole annually to over 30 countries through 2020.

In joining WIPO Re:Search, Janssen will help support the development of promising therapies in collaboration with WIPO and BVGH, in conjunction with the Consortium’s Members. This partnership builds on the company’s existing efforts to advance research into NTDs, including its founding membership as part of the Macrofilaricide Drug Accelerator against adult parasitic worms. As part of WIPO Re:Search, Janssen will contribute its capabilities in R&D to help advance health outcomes for patients and communities globally.

Partnership Hub Central

Jennifer Dent moderated a panel session on the development of scalable and sustainable health innovations at the 5th African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI) Stakeholders Meeting. The Meeting fostered discussions about partnerships and financing for transformative, accessible, and sustainable health technologies in Africa.

Tom Bombelles, Head, Global Health, WIPO, met with the Wellcome Trust and UK Intellectual Property Office to brief the organizations on WIPO Re:Search and its progress and achievements.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Funding Announcement
**Drug Development Fund**

Due to significant government and private sector support over the past two decades, Korea has emerged as a hub for world-class research in Asia. To further strengthen its leadership on the international stage, the government of the Republic of Korea launched the Korea Drug Development Fund (KDDF) in September 2011. Our vision is to transform Korea into the global leader for new drug development using three core strategies. We will focus on the creation of successful drug development business models, while developing human resources for sustainable growth and build effective partnerships between government, industry, and academia.

**Funding amount**: No limit, but amount should be aligned with project costs

**Funder**: Korea Drug Development Fund (KDDF)

**Deadline**: Applications are accepted Monday through Friday on the 4th week of even-numbered months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec).

**Eligibility**: The principal institute and principal investigator must be Korean, but international partners are welcome.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Roopa Sriram.

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month is a contribution submitted by the University of California, Berkeley to the WIPO Re:Search Database.

**Mycobacterial sulfation pathway proteins and methods of use (ID: 1961)**

The University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) is willing to provide mycobacterial sulfation pathway nucleic acid compositions, proteins, and related polypeptides. Methods of inhibiting growth and/or virulence of a pathogenic mycobacterium and methods of treating disease conditions associated with a pathogenic mycobacterium – particularly by administering an inhibitor of a mycobacterial sulfation pathway protein – may also be provided. UC Berkeley is also willing to provide genetically modified mycobacteria having a defect in a sulfation pathway enzyme gene. Click here to learn more.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Ujwal Sheth.

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**Global Health News**

Pfizer CEO, Ian C. Read, posted a blog on LinkedIn that highlighted the importance of corporate philanthropy and described Pfizer’s efforts to eliminate trachoma.
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