



## Partnership Hub

### SNAPSHOT

January 2015

#### In This Issue

[Special Announcement](#)

[WIPO Re:Search Statistics](#)

[Cornerstones of Collaboration](#)

[Member Spotlight](#)

[Highlighted Contributions](#)

[WIPO Re:Search in the News](#)

[Upcoming Global Health Events](#)

[BVGH Website](#)

[WIPO Re:Search Database](#)

#### *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](mailto:Phil.Stevens@WIPO.org) at WIPO.

## 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. 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

"WIPO Re:Search: Accelerating Anthelmintic Development Through Cross-Sector Partnerships", International Journal of Parasitology: Drugs and Drug Resistance

## Upcoming Global Health Events

Dates	Event Title	Location	Web Link
Jan. 9	7th Annual Center for Emerging & Neglected Diseases (CEND) Symposium	Berkeley, CA	<a href="#">Website</a>
Jan. 22-27	Keystone Symposium: Host Response in Tuberculosis	Santa Fe, NM	<a href="#">Website</a>
Feb. 22	Global Fungal Infection Forum	Seattle, WA	<a href="#">Website</a>

*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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