Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

The global health landscape continues to evolve. Progress has been made in tackling some infectious diseases, yet others are still having a devastating toll on families, communities, and low-and-middle income country economies. BVGH closely monitors the changing disease landscapes and product pipelines, and going forward, we will focus our WIPO Re:Search partnering activities on establishing collaborative research and development (R&D) projects that address the most pressing neglected infectious disease needs.

In April 2017, to mark the fifth anniversaries of the World Health Organization (WHO) Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) Roadmap and the London Declaration on NTDs, the WHO will host the Second Global Partners’ Meeting on NTDs and Uniting to Combat NTDs will host the NTD Summit. Both events will convene key global health players to discuss progress made, future perspectives, and actions required to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) target (3.3) of ending the NTD epidemics by 2030. BVGH plans to attend these events to learn about and subsequently align our partnering to these important partners and strategies. By shaping our interactions with Members to fit these global initiatives, BVGH will ensure that WIPO Re:Search is filling R&D gaps, meeting the most urgent needs, and having the greatest impact.

The 2016 WIPO Re:Search Partnership Hub Annual Report is now available. Click here to download a copy. If you would like a hard copy of the report, please reach out to Erica Jones and we will send one or more copies to you in the mail.

I am pleased to welcome our three newest Members, the Brazilian Biosciences National Laboratory (LNBio), the Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology, and Monash University.

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
**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**

*Alnylam* will design and synthesize optimized siRNAs for Dr. Floriano Paes Silva, Laboratory of Experimental and Computational Biochemistry of Drugs, *Fiocruz*, to conduct gene validation studies via RNAi in his drug discovery efforts against *Schistosoma mansoni*. 
The Center for Infectious Disease Research (CIDR) and the Seattle Structural Genomics Center for Infectious Disease (SSGCID) have agreed to attempt to solve the structure of the *Schistosoma mansoni* 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl coenzyme A reductase (SmHMGR) for Dr. Conor Caffrey, Nematode and Trematode Core Director, Center for Discovery and Innovation in Parasitic Diseases, University of California, San Diego (UCSD). Dr. Caffrey has been exploring the druggability of SmHMGR using HMG CoA reductase inhibitors (statins) provided by MSD, known as Merck & Co., Inc. in the United States and Canada.

---

**New Member Announcement**

We are pleased to announce that the Brazilian Biosciences National Laboratory (LNBio), Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology, and Monash University have joined WIPO Re:Search.

**LNBio Brazilian Biosciences National Laboratory**

Founded in 2009, the Brazilian Biosciences National Laboratory (LNBio) is dedicated to cutting-edge biotechnology, healthcare, and life sciences research and development. Along with its other programmatic areas, LNBio scientists focus on understanding the molecular mechanisms of pathogenicity and virulence, drug development for parasitic and bacterial diseases, and host-pathogen interactions.

**Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology**

The Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology located in Jakarta, Indonesia, is focused on advancing basic and applied research into biomedicine, biodiversity, biotechnology, and biosecurity. The Institute’s infectious disease research program focuses on dengue and malaria including mechanisms of antimalarial resistance, antimalarial natural products drug discovery, malaria vaccine development, host response to dengue virus infection, and dengue vaccine clinical trials.

**Monash University**

Monash University was established in Melbourne, Australia in 1958 as a tertiary education institution focused on science and technology research. University faculty members study an array of diseases including malaria, Chagas disease, and tuberculosis. Its Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has expertise and infrastructure to support drug candidate optimization, drug delivery, and medicinal chemistry.
On February 3rd, WIPO organized the “WIPO Re:Search and Global Health Lunch Briefing for Ambassadors”, co-hosted by WIPO Assistant Director-General Minelik Getahun and Egyptian Ambassador Amr Ramadan, featuring a special guest, Dr. John Reeder, Director of the WHO-hosted Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR). The objective of the lunch was to update representatives from over 20 countries on WIPO Re:Search activities, encourage support for the Consortium’s activities around the 2017 World Health Assembly, and inform them of the second round of WIPO Re:Search training sabbaticals focused on the Asia-Pacific region.

From left to right: John Reeder, Director, TDR; Ambassador Amr Ramadan (Egypt); WIPO Assistant Director-General Minelik Getahun; Edward Kwakwa, Director, Dept. of Global Challenges and Traditional Knowledge, WIPO; and Ambassador Sabrina Dallafiör Matter (Switzerland)

**BVGH FundFinder Featured Funding Announcement**

**E-Asia Joint Research Program (JRP)**
The e-Asia Joint Research Program aims to develop a vibrant and collaborative research community in science and technology, to promote innovation in the Eastern Asian region, and to contribute to the region’s economic developments. Through multilateral collaboration for medical research and development in the field of health research, the aim of the joint call is not only to contribute to development of regional science, but also to overcome public and medical problems in East Asia in the near future. The e-Asia JRP invites research proposals focusing on infectious diseases and cancer research. Multilateral collaborations must involve scientists from at least three of the following countries: Cambodia, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, Russia, the USA, and Vietnam. Funding provided is intended to enhance capacity of the applicants to collaborate, however funding may also cover some of the local research costs that are necessary for the collaboration.

**Funding amount:** Not specified

**Funder:** Co-funded by the Cambodian Ministry of Health, Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development, New Zealand Health Research Council, Philippine Department of Science and Technology, Russian Foundation for Basic Research, NCI/NIH, NIAID/NIH, and Vietnam Ministry of Science and Technology

**Deadline:** February 28, 2017

**Eligibility:** Scientists based in Cambodia, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, Russia, the USA, and Vietnam are eligible to apply.
Member Spotlight

The Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) 15th Call for Proposals is now open. This year MMV is currently welcoming research proposals in three areas:

- **Novel families of molecules in the hit-to-lead or lead optimization stages without G6PD deficiency liabilities that either:** kill or reactivate hypnozoites for use as part of a P. vivax radical cure or have activity against sexual stage V gametocytes and evidence of transmission blocking in a standard membrane feeding assay.

- **Novel chemical series with EC50 <500nM and that have one or more of the following key features:** a known, novel mechanism of action; an inability to select resistant mutants in vitro; activity at more than one lifecycle stage; or a long half-life and confirmed in vivo efficacy.

- **Novel approaches for screening**

Applications are due by March 24, 2017.

Highlighted Contributions

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

**The Chemical Information System (CIS) (ID: 2162)**
The Chemical Information System (CIS) is a research and management tool developed by the Department of Chemical Information. CIS use and function has evolved from a relatively simple inventory system to a powerful, integrated, cheminformatics research and management tool.

The Suite for Automated Global Electronic bioSurveillance (SAGES) is a collection of modular, flexible, freely-available software tools for electronic disease surveillance in resource-limited settings. One or more SAGES tools may be used in concert with existing surveillance applications or the SAGES tools may be used en masse for an end-to-end biosurveillance capability. This flexibility allows for the development of an inexpensive, customized, and sustainable disease surveillance system. The ability to rapidly assess anomalous disease activity may lead to more efficient use of limited resources and better compliance with World Health Organization International Health Regulations. Click [here](#) for more information.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Ujwal Sheth.
WIPO Re:Search in the News

The International Society for Neglected Tropical Diseases (ISNTD) is celebrating global advocacy initiatives and five years of the London Declaration on NTDs during its ISNTD Festival 2017. The ISNTD Festival 2017 aims to bring creative industries together for global health and change. As part of its program, the Festival will be showcasing various mass media campaigns, films, and photos focused on raising awareness of NTDs. The WIPO Re:Search video describing former WIPO Re:Search sabbatical participant Dr. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa’s research sabbatical at Novartis and his onchocerciasis drug discovery will be showcased at the Festival.

The Festival will be held on February 23, 2017 at the Barbican Centre, London, UK. More information is available on the event website.

Upcoming Global Health Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Web Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>ISNTD Bites: vector-control solutions for NTDs &amp; global health</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
<td>Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19-22</td>
<td>Neglected Tropical Diseases Summit</td>
<td>Geneva, Switzerland</td>
<td>Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22-25</td>
<td>27th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>Vienna, Austria</td>
<td>Website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada