

BVGH Partnership Hub Snapshot



November 2019

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

Seizing upon the power of global partnerships and innovation forms the heart of WIPO Re:Search's mission to improve health around the world. Collaboration — especially partnerships across sectors and geographies — is essential to addressing neglected tropical diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis, which know no boundaries and affect billions of people across the globe. BIO Ventures for Global Health (BVGH) staff continually establish and nurture critical global partnerships, having formalized relationships with research institutions in 42 countries and counting across six continents.

This month, I am pleased to announce our newest WIPO Re:Search Member from Latin America, [Institut Pasteur de Montevideo](#), our first Member in Uruguay. This recruitment is part of our ongoing efforts to expand WIPO Re:Search activities in Latin America. The addition of Institut Pasteur de Montevideo to the Consortium exemplifies how WIPO Re:Search finds the centers of excellence needed to accelerate neglected disease R&D in partnership with our Member companies **Eisai**; **GSK**; **Johnson & Johnson**; **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**; **MSD***; **Novartis**, **Pfizer**, and **Takeda**.

Our friends at **IFPMA** feature [WIPO Re:Search](#) and the public-private partnership activities of our Member companies and organizations in their new knowledge hub, [Global Health Progress](#). This excellent resource shows how global partnerships such as WIPO Re:Search are supporting the Sustainable Development Goals.

This month, BVGH's Joseph Hargan-Calvopiña and Noah Hunthausen will be attending the [ASTMH Annual Meeting](#) in National Harbor, Maryland. Please email [Joseph](#) or [Noah](#) if you would like to schedule a time to meet at the conference to discuss WIPO Re:Search partnering opportunities.

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

*Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent*

President and CEO, BVGH



WIPO Re:Search Statistics



Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
Click [here](#) to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

New Member Announcement

Welcome Institut Pasteur de Montevideo — our first Member from Uruguay!



The [Institut Pasteur de Montevideo](#) (IP Montevideo) in Uruguay is one of the most recent affiliates of the Institut Pasteur International Network, composed of 33 independent centers located on five continents and united by the same values. Dedicated to scientific research in biomedicine, IP Montevideo comprises high-tech scientific platforms in areas such as genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics, and molecular and cellular biology. It serves as an international education center with courses on the latest biological knowledge and state-of-the-art technologies, with laboratories open to young scientists' research projects. Additionally, IP Montevideo promotes start-ups for the development of biotechnological applications.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Takeda and IDRI Advance Leishmaniasis Drug Discovery Efforts



After the Infectious Disease Research Institute (IDRI) received positive screening results from the originally shared MAP kinase inhibitors, Takeda is resupplying hit compounds in continued support of their leishmaniasis drug discovery efforts.

Partnership Hub Central

Eisai, GSK, and Johnson & Johnson Featured in Panel at ECTMIH

During the [11th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health](#) (ECTMIH) in Liverpool, UK, BVGH hosted a panel session titled “Neglected Disease R&D Through the Lens of a Public-Private Partnership Model.” Panelists from academic organizations in the US and UK highlighted how the sharing of intellectual property assets can accelerate innovation for neglected disease R&D. They discussed their collaborations with pharmaceutical company Members through WIPO Re:Search.

Dr. Audrey Odom John spoke about her collaborations with **Johnson & Johnson** and **GSK** focused on malaria drug discovery. Dr. Paul Jackson discussed how the **Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson** have leveraged BVGH’s network in order to establish

successful collaborations around neglected infectious diseases through WIPO Re:Search. Professor Alister Craig discussed his collaboration with **Eisai Co., Ltd.**, relating to novel therapeutic targets for cerebral malaria. Dr. Jose Gomez-Marquez highlighted his work in diagnostics through the Little Devices Lab at **MIT**. Dr. Peter Hotez shared insights regarding vaccine development for diseases of poverty.

This month, BVGH will promote the power of public-private partnerships and the sharing of intellectual property assets for neglected disease R&D at the [ASTMH Annual Meeting](#) in National Harbor, MD. We look forward to meeting with investigators interested in exploring cross-sector collaborations to advance their research. To set up a meeting, please contact Joseph Hargan-Calvopiña at jhargan@bvgh.org or Noah Hunthausen at Nhunthausen@bvgh.org.

WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Studies K13 Mutations in Cameroon

Artemisinin resistance has been documented in Southeast Asia, and there is significant concern that such resistance may spread to Africa. Researchers have identified *Plasmodium falciparum* K13 mutations as molecular markers of artemisinin resistance in Southeast Asia. BVGH connected Dr. Fang Huang at the **National Institute of Parasitic Diseases** and Dr. Carole Eboumbou at the **Centre Pasteur du Cameroun** through WIPO Re:Search to study K13 mutations in three epidemiologically distinct regions in Cameroon. The collaborators recently published a paper that details the mutations identified from the analysis of 175 blood samples and concludes that “non-synonymous K13 mutations are still rare and highly diverse” in Cameroon. [Read the paper in PLoS ONE.](#)

WIPO Re:Search Featured in Global Health Progress

WIPO Re:Search Member organization **IFPMA** has launched [Global Health Progress](#), a knowledge hub that highlights cross-sector industry contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A goal of Global Health Progress is to drive new and existing collaborations to support the SDGs, with a particular focus on SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. With a knowledge hub of over 200 collaborations, Global Health Progress features [WIPO Re:Search](#) and the public-private partnership activities of our Member companies and organizations.



From left to right: Joseph Hargan-Calvopiña, Peter Hotez, Alister Craig, Paul Jackson, Audrey Odom John, Jose Gomez-Marquez

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

EDCTP Career Development Fellowships 2019



The purpose of this [call for proposals](#) is to support early to mid-career researchers (“fellows”) by providing them an opportunity to train and develop their clinical research skills. The objectives are: (1) to promote retention of postdoctoral researchers and postgraduate medical researchers in the research field of sub-Saharan Africa; and (2) to equip the fellows to establish themselves as independent researchers with ability to initiate their own research teams at host institutions in sub-Saharan Africa.

Call Budget: €3.25 million

Expected Number of Grants: 16-20

Organization: EDCTP

Deadline: November 27, 2019

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [EDCTP Preparatory Fellowships: Joint Call with the Africa Research Excellence Fund \(AREF\)](#) – Deadline: November 27, 2019
- [The AAS African Postdoctoral Training Initiative \(APTI\)](#) – Deadline: December 1, 2019
- [NIH Accelerating Discovery of Efficacious Pre-erythrocytic Stage Malaria Vaccines](#) – Letter of Intent Due: December 17, 2019; Application Deadline: January 17, 2020
- [EDCTP Senior Fellowships Plus 2019](#) – Deadline: February 1, 2020
- [EDCTP Clinical Research and Product Development Fellowships \(CRDF\) – Joint call with WHO/TDR, the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases 2019](#) – Deadline: February 28, 2020

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Cathy Manner](#).



Upcoming Global Health Events

Dates	Event Name	Location
Nov. 21-22, 2019	2nd International Conference on Tropical and Infectious Diseases	Bali, Indonesia

Nov. 20-24, 2019	<u>ASTMH Annual Meeting*</u>	National Harbor, MD, USA
Dec. 4-6, 2019	<u>1st International Conference on NTDs in Africa</u>	Nairobi, Kenya
Dec. 8-12, 2019	<u>Keystone Symposia: Helminths: New Insights from Immunity to Global Health</u>	Cape Town, South Africa
Jan. 16-20, 2020	<u>Keystone Symposia: Tuberculosis: Immunity and Immune Evasion</u>	Santa Fe, NM, USA

**BVGH anticipated to attend*



*Known as EMD in the USA and Canada | **MSD is a trademark of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ, USA.



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