

~ *Bugs Life* ~  
Infectious News

# ISS INFEKSIESIEKTES SENTRUM CID CENTRE FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES



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☞ CID, Faculty of Health Sciences, Tygerberg, Stellenbosch University

#### CID founding Members:

- Prof Elizabeth Wasserman
- Prof Mark Cotton
- Dr Jantjie Taljaard
- Dr Gert van Zyl
- Dr Neil Cameron
- Dr Hans Prozesky
- Prof Marietjie de Villiers
- Dr Christa de Vries

#### *Who and what is CID*

CID is a multidisciplinary entity that researches the prevention and management of infections and infectious diseases on a regional and national basis in the South African community. The purpose is to provide a science-based service relating to the prevention, diagnoses and treatment of infectious diseases. The centre will transfer its scientific knowledge and skills base through the provision of a wide range of formal (on under- and post-graduate level) and informal teaching and training programmes. **CID integrates the following disciplines as collaborative functional areas on a shared service and academic platform:** The functional area of adult infectious diseases, pediatric infectious diseases, infectious diseases pathology, infection prevention and control, public health aspects of infectious diseases, social and ethical aspects of infectious diseases and molecular biology of infectious diseases, as a basic science support the clinical sciences.

#### *CID Founding Members*

**Prof Elizabeth Wasserman** is Head and Professor: Medical Microbiology. She has extensive experience in medical and health sciences education. She has published widely and has presented numerous papers at conferences. CID was her initiative. Her latest publications: *J Clin Microbiol.* 2008 Jul; 46 (7):2471 Clinical rationale for treatment of endocarditis caused by methicillin-susceptible *Staphylococcus aureus* developing nonsusceptibility to daptomycin and *Sex Transm Infect.* 2008 Jul 2 Escalation in the relative prevalence of ciprofloxacin resistant gonorrhoea among men with urethral discharge in two South African cities - association with HIV Seropositivity.



**Prof Mark Cotton** is professor in Paediatrics and the director of KID-CRU (Children's Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Unit). With Elizabeth and Jantjie, they established the CID. He also established an infectious diseases service and Family Clinic for HIV at Tygerberg Hospital. He is a technical consultant for the WHO on pediatric HIV Classification, antiretroviral and tuberculosis guidelines and also for Provincial and National Guideline Committees. He is interested in all aspects of clinical infectious diseases.



**Dr Jantjie Taljaard** is a senior consultant: Internal Medicine & Head: Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine Tygerberg Academic Hospital, University of Stellenbosch. With Elizabeth and Mark, he established the CID. He is president of Infectious Diseases Society of Southern Africa (IDSSA), and member of the HIV Clinicians Society of Southern Africa. His latest publications: JJ Taljaard, *et al.* The Namibian poliomyelitis outbreak and its consequences for South Africa. *S Afr Fam Prac J.* 2006 Vol 48, No 7. and I Eshun-Wilson *et al.* Healthcare worker associated tuberculosis at Tygerberg Hospital. Submitted for publication.



**Dr Gert van Zyl** is a specialist in the Department of Medical Virology, NHL, Tygerberg. His research interest is HIV-treatment, Antiretroviral resistance, Epidemiology of virus diseases, Rapid HIV-antibody tests and general viral diagnosis. He is reviewer of the *Journal of Virological Methods*. He is involved in under- and post-graduate training and teaching. His latest publication: Van Zyl *et al.* Zidovudine with nevirapine for the prevention of HIV mother-to-child transmission reduces nevirapine resistance in mothers from the Western Cape, SA. *J Med Virol.* 2008; Jun80 (6):942-6.



**Dr Neil Cameron** is part of the academic staff of the Division of Community Health, Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences. The division aims to contribute to the improvement of the Health status of communities, through the diagnosis of those systematic conditions that affect the health of communities and the population as a whole. Neil is a public health physician has a special interest in infectious diseases. He was Director of Communicable Disease Control at the National Department of Health in Pretoria from 1992 – 2000. His special interests are the control of infectious diseases and student teaching. He is chairman of the Board of TADSA, an NGO supporting community based management of tuberculosis.



**Dr Hans Prozesky** is a senior consultant in internal medicine. He specialized in Adult Infectious Diseases. He is one of the founder members of the Infectious Diseases Clinic in Tygerberg Hospital, where they have a standard HIV antiretroviral rollout clinic including PMTCT, a clinic for complicated infectious diseases problems (including HIV and TB), and a dedicated clinic for primary immunodeficiencies. His research interest is HIV treatment and opportunistic infections.



**Prof Marietjie de Villiers** is Professor in Family Medicine and Deputy Dean: Education, at the Faculty of Health Sciences of Stellenbosch University. She has served as member of the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and the Medical and Dental Professions Board (MDB) since 1999 and as Vice-Chairperson of the latter since 2004. Prof de Villiers is the Chairperson of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Committee of the HPCSA. She has extensive experience in medical and health sciences education. She has published widely and has presented numerous papers at conferences, and serves as referee for international peer-reviewed journals.



**Dr Christa de Vries** is the coordinator of CID. She completed her doctorate degree at the Georg-August University, Göttingen Germany. She worked as Research Scientist, Max Planck Institute of Experimental Medicine, and the Institute für Biochemie und Molekulare Zellbiologie, Georg-August University, Göttingen Germany. She was acting manager for Research development and Support Division at the Faculty of Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University and Director of a Biotechnology company. She completed the MBA *cum laude* at Stellenbosch University.



## CID Objectives

- **Research:** Enhancing the understanding of infections and infectious diseases in our communities in respect of their pathogenesis, epidemiology, prevention, treatment and care.
- **Teaching and training:** Providing a platform for formal under- and post-graduate programmes in various aspects of infection and infectious diseases. The teaching and training platform will also serve as a launch pad for short and informal courses to health professionals.
- **Service:** Providing services in the areas of diagnosis, management and infection control and prevention.

**Prof Jean Nachega** is the director of CID and has been appointed Professor Extraordinary in the Department of Medicine, Division of Internal Medicine at the Faculty of Health Science, Stellenbosch University. He is Associate Scientist at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of International Health, Disease Prevention and Control Program, Baltimore, Md, USA. He has a PhD in Pharmacology. He research interested is ARV adherence. His latest articles are: [NACHEGA JB, et. al. Effectiveness of Efavirenz- versus Nevirapine-based HAART in HIV-infected African Adults. AIDS. In Press](#), and BA O, O' REGAN, [NACHEGA JB](#), COOPER C, ANEMA A, RACHLIS B, MILLS EJ. HIV/AIDS in African Militaries: An Ecological Analysis. *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*. 2008. 24(2), 88-100



**Prof Wolfgang Preiser** is Professor and Head: Division of Medical Virology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University / National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS). Amongst his research interests are the development of novel methods for virological laboratory diagnosis, particularly in HIV-infected patients. Currently, antiretroviral drug resistance and testing-related issues are his main focus, including laboratory methods, their evaluation and improvement, and operational and epidemiological questions. He also has a keen interest in tropical and emerging viral diseases. He served as advisor to the World Health Organisation (WHO) on SARS. He is author of numerous original scientific papers published in internationally recognised journals, review articles, book chapters and books.



**Prof Ben Marais** is pediatrician at the Tygerberg Children's Hospital and Acting Director of Ukwanda Centre for Rural Health, Stellenbosch University. He is chairman of the childhood TB working group of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) and Member of the Editorial Board of PLOS One. He was awarded for Research Excellence at Stellenbosch University. He reviews for *inter alia Acta Paediatrica, Archives of Diseases in Childhood, BMC Infectious Diseases, British Medical Journal, Bulletin of the World Health Organization (WHO), Clinical Infectious Diseases, International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Journal of Infection, Journal of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Journal, Pediatrics Pediatrics International, The Lancet*. He latest articles: Marais BJ, Volmink J. HIV: mother-to child transmission. *BMJ Clin Evid* 2008; 1: 909 and [Marais BJ](#). Tuberculosis in children. *Ped Pulmonol* 2008; 43: 322-329.



**Prof Rob Warren** is Professor in the Department of Medical Biochemistry, Stellenbosch University. His research interests focus on the disease dynamics of the *M. tuberculosis* epidemic in two vastly different communities, the evolution of the *M. tuberculosis* genome, the global spread of defined *M. tuberculosis* strains, the development of new epidemiological markers, the diagnosis of MDR TB, the population structure of *M. tuberculosis* strains in the host and the identification of mechanisms leading to drug resistance. He has published over 90 papers and hold 5 patents. He is a core member of the DST/NRF Centre of Excellence in Biomedical Tuberculosis research. His publication Warren, R. M., T. C. Victor, E. M. Streicher, M. Richardson, N. Beyers, N. C. van Pittius, and P. D. van Helden. 2004. Patients with active tuberculosis often have different strains in the same sputum specimen. *Am.J.Respir.Crit Care Med*. 169:610-614 is a must read!



**Prof Jimmy Volmink** is the Deputy Dean for Research at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Co-director of the South African Cochrane Centre at the Medical Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa. He has previously held appointments as Professor and Chair of Primary Health Care at the University of Cape Town and as Director of Research and Analysis at the Global Health Council in Washington DC. Prof Volmink's main research interest is the evaluation of the effects of interventions and this has led to important contributions in fields as diverse as Infectious Diseases, Cardiovascular Disease and Nutrition. He has published more than 100 articles in peer reviewed journals, edited two books and authored numerous chapters in several others. A recent article of Prof Volmink *et. al.* was published in *PLOS Medicine* Jul 2007, 4: 7. Patient Adherence to Tuberculosis Treatment: A Systematic Review of Qualitative Research.



**Prof Shaheen Mehtar** is Head of Academic Unit for Infection Prevention and Control at Tygerberg Hospital. She has special interest in Infection Prevention and Control, management of infection, the emergence and transmission of healthcare facility based antibiotic resistant bacteria. A further interest is the behavioural psychology of healthcare workers with IPC practice and health systems that would improve this behaviour. She is interested in transmission of infection in the community and therefore involved in two large studies: one in Correctional Services studying the transmission of sexually transmitted disease including HIV, hepatitis B and TB. The other study is the impact of copper on the environment in the primary healthcare clinics.



**Dr Helena Rabie** is a pediatrician and specialist in Infectious diseases. She has a special interest in pediatric infectious diseases. She is the director of South to South, an International Columbia AIDS Program with the aim of training African Healthcare Workers to better manage children affected by HIV. Helena is a Consultant Paediatrician at the Tygerberg Children's Hospital. She works mainly with children infected by HIV and Tuberculosis. Together with supportive medical staff she assists with the management of patients at all levels and has an interest in establishing community based care for HIV infected Children.



**Mr Jimmy Ledwaba** is Chief Director – Health Programmes for Western Cape Health. This portfolio covers PHC Programmes, HIV & AIDS, STIs & TB; and Public health Directorates. He oversees the development of annual performance plans for these programs. He has a Masters Degree in Public Health which included majors in Health Systems Management, Development Planning & Management, Health Economics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health & Disaster Management, Population Development & Social Development, Health Law & Ethics, Financial Management, District Development & Management, Facility Planning & Management and Systems Research, Monitoring & Evaluation.



**Dr Jo Barnes** is member of the interdisciplinary Health Sciences. She has received many awards for her work into the effects of river pollution on community health. She has been associated for nearly forty years with many aspects of scientific and health research, from techniques of writing and editing scientific papers, to the gender issues in provision of health services, effects of AIDS and abuse on children, the epidemiological effects of smoking, water pollution and agricultural chemicals, the re-use of agricultural waste water and domestic grey water, and biological hazards during disasters and emergencies.

