

HIV ePharmacotherapy Network Announcement:
**Associate Editor, International Affairs and Research Scholar for the International
Center for HIV/AIDS Pharmacotherapy Research and Training**

The UB HIV ePharmacotherapy Network is pleased to formally announce that Dr. Chiedza Maponga has accepted the position as visiting Research Scholar and Associate Editor, responsible for the International Affairs section of the network. Dr. Maponga is the Chairman of the School of Pharmacy of the University of Zimbabwe and he has completed an HIV Pharmacotherapy Fellowship (in International Affairs). Dr. Maponga is a member of the ACTG Pharmacology Committee.

The major goal of this position is to establish sustainable local and international collaboration in research and information dissemination within the UB HIV ePharmacotherapy Network focusing on the developing countries, particularly in Africa. Activities will be centered on network initiatives including the International Perspectives in HIV Pharmacotherapy and on the recently established International Center for HIV/AIDS Pharmacotherapy Research and Training (ICHAPRT).

What is ICHAPRT?

ICHAPRT is an initiative of the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in collaboration with the University of Zimbabwe School of Pharmacy. ICHAPRT seeks to establish methods that have been successful in developed countries and through formalized training and education initiatives, transfer these approaches to developing countries. Examples of such areas include the promotion of sustainable access to essential drugs (antiretrovirals and drugs for opportunistic infections) in developing countries, as well as clinical pharmacology and applied pharmacotherapy research covering topics such as adherence to therapy, clinical pharmacokinetics, adverse drug reactions, drug interactions and pharmacogenomics. The collaborative program also aims to provide long term support for the development of research infrastructure that enhances the capacity of the developing country institutions to conduct relevant research on practical and affordable pharmacotherapy interventions in the management of HIV/AIDS in local populations.

Mission of ICHAPRT

To highlight emerging issues in developing countries and participate in research and information dissemination activities aimed at

- Promoting rational distribution and use of HIV/AIDS and other essential drugs in resource limited settings through research in pharmacoconomics, pharmacogenomics, pharmacoinformatics and pharmacoepidemiology
- Providing therapeutic precision assurance in resource limited settings through
 - the promotion of access to good quality drugs by means of pre and post-marketing quality surveillance systems aimed at detecting substandard and counterfeit products
 - the promotion of patients' adherence to therapy
 - the provision of therapeutic drug monitoring, drug interaction, and adverse drug reaction monitoring services, and

- the conduct of innovative clinical research in the areas of applied pharmacotherapy, drug therapy management, pharmacokinetics, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics.

Priorities of ICHAPRT

Key priorities of the ICHAPRT include

- Collaboration of institutions that have established programs in drug procurement, medication adherence support, and management of HIV-infected patients to facilitate implementation of similar initiatives in resource poor settings
- Promotion of intellectual and technology transfer through sequential visits between the collaborating institutions to allow for rapid implementation of shared pharmacotherapy initiatives
- Collaboration among individuals with common areas of research interest to foster an interactive environment that stimulates grant submission and innovative research methods
- Didactic and research training for doctoral and post-doctoral candidates seeking to pursue careers in pharmacotherapy research
- High quality drug development (pre-clinical, Phase I-III) environment and a clinical infrastructure for optimizing the therapeutic use of pharmacologic agents during the post-approval period (Phase IV)
- Clinical research in an ethical manner focusing on the protection of human subjects, with operating procedures that conform with international standards for the conduct of clinical trials and analytical laboratory programs in accordance with Good Laboratory and Clinical Practice, and
- Exchange of research ideas through a regular seminar program with presentations by faculty as well as national and international visiting scholars.
- Development of international programs in automated medication dispensing and access to pharmacoinformatics programs

Responsibilities of the Visiting Scholar

- Maintaining the International Perspectives section of the ePharmacotherapy Website by developing it into a publication site for international affairs
- Developing relevant associations with strategic organizations such as the UNAIDS, WHO, CDC, USAID, that are involved in funding HIV/AIDS activities
- Representing the Department and presenting at important conferences, seminars and workshops on international HIV/AIDS
- Networking with HIV/AIDS research networks that are involved internationally such as IACTG, HPTN, CIPRA
- Travel between the USA, Zimbabwe and other countries in the developing world particularly Africa to establish HIV medication programs similar to the Buffalo programs
- Participate in the conduct of clinical pharmacology studies in resource limited settings in Africa
- Coordinate pharmacology laboratory training and competency documentation

- Provide coordination and communication with pharmaceutical industry for planning clinical drug trials
- Coordinate the integration of antiretroviral dispensing, robotics-based programs and ARV monitoring.
- Develop a course in International HIV Pharmacotherapy and explore the prospect of sending UB Students on Elective attachments in resource limited settings overseas
- Develop a course in International HIV Pharmacotherapy and explore the prospect of sending UB residents on Elective attachments in resource limited settings overseas
- Coordinate communications among relevant websites that are focusing on resource poor countries.