



Invitation

Panel Discussion: A New Combined Model for Financing R&D for Neglected Diseases

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What: An innovative research and development (R&D) funding model for neglected diseases, including HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, built on the recommendations of the recent WHO Expert Working Group on R&D Financing (EWG), will be introduced and discussed at this parallel session alongside the 63rd World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland.

Partners from three organizations – The George Institute, The International AIDS Vaccine Initiative and Novartis – have followed the EWG recommendations by working together to combine the best aspects of their individual R&D funding proposals into a stronger proposal aimed at funding research and development for neglected diseases products in a more efficient, effective and coordinated way. The new proposal covers a wide range of diseases and products and is focused on Product Development Partnership (PDP) funding, but also includes funding for neglected diseases where no PDP exists.

The model will be of interest to donors looking for a simpler solution, as well as to neglected disease product developers seeking more secure long-term funding to carry new neglected diseases products forward.

It will debut in conjunction with recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) on proposals for new and innovative sources of funding to stimulate R&D. These recommendations address concerns that advances in R&D to address neglected diseases are not reaching those most in need. As a result, global health experts and advocates are increasingly focused on the relationship between innovation and public health and the need for financing and coordination of R&D for neglected diseases.

When: Monday May 17, 2010
7PM – 9PM CET
(Refreshments will be served)

Where: Hôtel Intercontinental
Chemin du Petit-Saconnex, 7-9
Genève, Switzerland

Who: The Global Health Council and the Global Forum for Health Research will co-host a discussion on the new funding model, and the importance of solving the problem of R&D funding for neglected diseases so that developing nations have access to advances in healthcare that they desperately need.

Influential leaders from industry, government and philanthropic organizations dedicated to the fight against neglected diseases will participate, including:

Panelists:

- Dr. Mary Moran, Director of Health Policy at The George Institute
- Holly Wong, Vice President, Public Policy International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)
- Dr. Paul Herrling, Head of the Novartis Institutes for Developing World Medical Research
- Dr. Hannah E. Kettler, Program Officer, Global Health Policy and Finance, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Dr. Solomon Nwaka, Lead discovery for drugs for infectious tropical diseases at WHO-TDR

Co-Moderators:

- Anthony Mbewu, Executive Director of the Global Forum for Health Research
- Dr. Jeffrey L. Sturchio, President and CEO, Global Health Council

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