

## INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

**“An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.”**

Benjamin Franklin

Twenty years after the discovery of the virus that causes AIDS, this deadly disease has become *the* worst epidemic in medical history.

From its inception, the Institute of Human Virology has held firm to a philosophy that it will take commitment, compassion and a sense of community to wage an effective war against the virus that causes AIDS. The IHV is a collective body bound by a single desire to change the course of history. Its researchers, clinicians and epidemiologists advocate a non-conventional approach, one designed to accelerate AIDS advances through a unique organizational structure that houses under one roof an astonishing array of laboratory scientists, physicians and epidemiologists. **so far, the results speak for themselves.**

Already, in its first seven years of operation, five scientific concepts have progressed from IHV laboratories to human testing and 21 patents have been awarded for innovative inventions and ideas. The Institute is one of just 10 founding centers worldwide that comprise the exclusive NIH-sponsored HIV Vaccine Trials Network and is also a member of the Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Group. Patients here have access to cutting-edge trials that often aren't available elsewhere. With three separate clinics, physicians have a community presence and reach patients who otherwise

would go untreated. IHV researchers, meanwhile, have developed the first AIDS vaccine candidate that, in the laboratory, shows an ability to neutralize antibodies across multiple clades and has pioneered an oral vaccine delivery system utilizing salmonella bacteria that not only are more cost effective to produce, but easier to transport and administer to the waiting world.

Founded in 1996, the IHV was the first center in the world to combine the disciplines of basic science, clinical care and epidemiology, animal models and vaccine development, in a concerted effort to cut delays and speed the pace of progress. The Institute is comprised of a staff of about 250, including 40 senior scientists with decades of experience and expertise in viral research. That is an assembly you won't see in any other scientific center devoted to AIDS research.

The IHV, with funding, will push to move forward in new directions and expand current efforts. For example:

- Operational research to tailor treatment and prevention programs to the global communities they serve. What works in the U.S. won't automatically work elsewhere.
- Development of a pediatric vaccine to prevent HIV infection from mother-to-child via breastfeeding, one of the fastest growing modes of HIV transmission.
- Development of a single vaccine that works against the multiple strains of HIV. To date, the IHV's laboratory data is the most promising seen anywhere. (*PNAS*, August 2002)
- International training and partnerships to provide those regions hardest hit the resources they need to provide a solid foundation to treat and prevent this deadly disease.

Future AIDS advances will depend on philanthropy and funding. As it has for the past 20 years, laboratory research is ongoing and progress continues to be made. But to halt the transmission of HIV will take all of us. Our shared vision for a world without AIDS cannot become reality without commitment, compassion and a sense of community.

The IHV's mission is to halt HIV and end an epidemic. Its work will be conducted in laboratories, clinics and in the field. Via teamwork and in partnerships. With the support of fellow scientists and at the bequest, spoken and unspoken, of AIDS patients everywhere. The world waits. And the clock is ticking.

The IHV's work will continue. How quickly will depend on you.

**for more information on the institute of human virology or to make a contribution towards the institute's research call 410-706-8614.**



Jennie Hunter-Cevera, President, University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute; David Ramsay, President, University of Maryland, Baltimore; Donald Wilson, Dean, University of Maryland School of Medicine; Edmund F. Notebaert, President and CEO, University of Maryland Medical System

“The Institute emulates the best aspects of a free society...bold and inspired leadership, a common cause of unsurpassed value, and a commitment to that cause by individuals representing professionals and lay people, primarily motivated not by personal profit but by altruism and the health and well-being of those in dire need.”

Tim Moynahan

*IHV Board of Advisors*

“The results of philanthropy are always beyond calculation.”

Miriam Beard

*“A History of Business,” 1938*



In the United States, an HIV diagnosis no longer is a death sentence, but patients are developing a resistance to drugs. Globally, in areas where medication isn't readily available, entire villages are rapidly being lost to the pandemic. In parts of Africa, up to 40 percent of adults are infected and as many as one in three children will be before their very first birthday. In Botswana, 15-year-old boys face a 90 percent chance of dying of AIDS.

