







## **Organizing Committee**

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**RE: Fourth International Workshop on HIV Persistence during Therapy** 

I am delighted to announce the Fourth International Workshop on HIV Persistence during Therapy, scheduled for December 8-11, 2009 at Phillipsburg, St Maarten.

Since we launched this Workshop in 2003, the issue of "HIV Persistence & Reservoirs" has become more relevant, not only for the biologist but also for the clinician facing the problem of a long-term control of a persistent retroviral infection.

Because vaccine research is in the doldrums, more attention is paid to these reservoirs and to new therapeutic strategies capable of targeting HIV at this level. For the virologist, finding new biological markers to assess "residual disease" in clinical trials is the goal. For the immunologist, the study of "HIV Reservoirs" is crucial to understand, and improve, CD4 recovery. For the pharmacologist, designing new drugs against some cellular components is a promising avenue. For the clinician, new trials are necessary to evaluate the long-term impact of different anti-retroviral regimens on sanctuary sites according to their diffusion in these compartments (for example, assessing sub-clinical central nervous system alterations in patients receiving drugs with low brain diffusion...).

All these aspects of "HIV Persistence" will be discussed during the workshop. The program format of this new edition will continue to follow the past successes and will include one third State-of-the-Art presentations given by a panel of international experts, and two third new, unpublished data selected among submitted abstracts. Over the last 5 years, this meeting has been recognized as THE reference workshop on "HIV Reservoirs", bringing together a brilliant faculty and a group of researchers and clinicians of outstanding quality. Once again, covered topics will go from the basic "Animal Models of Retroviral Persistence" to the more practical aspects of "Intensification Trials", "Therapy at Acute HIV Infection", "Pharmacological Issues", "Immunological Issues", etc... Priority will be given, as usual, to the quality of the scientific data presented and the participants will have to submit an abstract to sign up to this workshop. This is a guarantee of quality, limiting the attendance to ~ 150 persons, i.e. those really working in the field throughout the globe.

The abstract book will again be published as a special issue of the "Global Antiviral Journal". On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we would like to ask for your support, which is essential for the success of this workshop. Informed Horizons, LLC (IHL) will serve as the Secretariat for the Fourth International Workshop on HIV Persistence during Therapy. Your contribution should be made payable to:

Informed Horizons, LLC 1631 Phoenix Boulevard, Suite 4 College Park GA 30349, USA

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or contact Kristen Morris, Secretariat, at +1 770 573 3020. To commit your support, please fax your completed fax-response form to: +1 770 997 2488.

We would like to express our gratitude for your generous support for the Fourth International Workshop on HIV Persistence during Therapy.

Kind regards,

Alain Lafeuillade, MD

Alain Cafenillad

On behalf of the Organizing Committee



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- · Special issue of "Global Antiviral Journal"



• Special issue of "Global Antiviral Journal"

