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JAIDS: Transitions, Evolution, and Impact

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Transitions

JAIDS unique three discipline editorial structure serves the intertwined continuum of basic, translational, clinical, and population science to inform and adapt to the rapidly changing landscape of HIV research. David Ho MD, Scientific Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center and the Irene Diamond Professor at the Rockefeller University in New York, as Editor-in-Chief for Basic Sciences has promoted publication of high impact science that informs translational and clinical investigations. His network of internationally renowned colleagues serve as contributors, reviewers and editorial board members. With prodigious responsibilities as a researcher and administrator, David is stepping down as Editor-in-Chief for Basic Science. We and the publisher Wolters Kluwer are indebted for his high impact on the success of JAIDS. A second area of transition involves streamlining our “implementation and operations research” (IOR) track. JAIDS was the first to create a dedicated focus on IOR in response to the WHO goal of ending the epidemic as the global community expands treatment and prevention for all, guided by the WHO 90% know their HIV status, 90% access treatment and care and 90% achieve viral suppression framework, and rolls out antiretroviral-based prevention strategies such as PrEP. Accordingly, we are bringing this investigation area into the mainstream of JAIDS processes. Our colleagues Drs. Stefano Vella, Carlos del Rio, Thomas Quinn, Nancy Padian, Jeff Stringer and Francois Dabis who assisted JAIDS in defining potential IOR submissions will continue to apply their depth of expertise on the JAIDS editorial board roster. IOR articles will now be included in our print journal as well as online as we restructure how content is made more accessible to our readership. The editors and the publisher thank them for their continued contributions to JAIDS.

Evolution

At a time when an endless proliferation of new medical “research” journals fills our email inboxes with invitations and fraud is well documented for many of these “pay to publish”

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No Conflicts.

operations, JAIDS and Wolters Kluwer are committed to a scientific publishing enterprise built upon the integrity of scientist editors who guide an unmatched peer review process. With Dr. Ho's transition JAIDS' joint editors-in-chief continue the journal's tradition of high impact publication of submissions drawn from basic, translational, clinical, population and implementation and operations science. Authors will submit through the JAIDS Editorial Manager website selecting the topical portal that best fits their scientific discipline. Internally the editors-in-chief will guide the peer review process that benefits from an illustrious Editorial Board recently updated with emerging leaders in the field of HIV research. When published, JAIDS will now tag articles by their primary research discipline, rather than forcing them into former section categories, a change that will facilitate reader access to papers most relevant to their own work, and authors in communicating their work most effectively to the field.

Impact

In the changing landscape of HIV research JAIDS leadership in publishing impactful science is premised on attracting research submissions at the cutting edge that advance the field. The joint editors-in-chief present below the topic areas that we feel represent this cutting edge as a guide to authors. Of particular interest to the editors are submissions aligned with the Office of AIDS Research high priority research areas. As such the field is beyond descriptive analyses that redundantly identify challenges to achieving the overarching goal of HIV elimination and urge "urgent" intervention. Rather JAIDS is interested in studies that contribute new knowledge that fundamentally advance the solution, whether in the basic, translational, clinical, population or implementation arena. For example of interest are basic studies targeting the biology of HIV transmission, immuno-pathogenesis, the role of the host microbiome and genetic factors including studies that integrate these techniques into clinical and population research (e.g. molecular epidemiology). HIV cure research drives a basic research agenda with significant intersection with clinical and translational research as strategies to understand and eliminate persistent viral reservoirs and engage novel clinical and cohort strategies linked to basic laboratory application, a major interest of JAIDS. Basic research extends beyond the laboratory to clinical and population settings and includes application of novel methods of behavioral research to gain fundamental insights to the barriers to uptake and adherence to treatment and preventative approaches to guide innovative implementation science interventions. Beyond descriptive studies are the application of methods for formally testing interventions and their impact whether in classic randomized trials or evolving variations conducted at the population level, JAIDS is interested in publishing the evidence that documents the impact of preventative strategies including therapeutic and biologic interventions and formal evaluation of strategies to extend these approaches to public health scale up. JAIDS has a strong commitment to publishing results of therapy trials and translational studies of emerging treatments with improved pharmacokinetics and toxicity profiles and their adaptation to clinical practice and extension to the global HIV treatment response. Linked to this goal are basic behavioral, population and implementation research studies to optimize achievement of the WHO 90-90-90 paradigm. Studies to advance the treatment and prevention of HIV-associated comorbidities (cancer, metabolic, neurologic, cardiovascular) and coinfections especially TB are of central

interest to JAIDS. Basic and population research to gain fundamental insights concerning health disparities based on race, gender identity, and sexual practice and surrounding psycho-social and stigma barriers are also emphasis areas for JAIDS.

Future

The new cover of JAIDS proclaims a vital commitment to high impact, high quality publication of cutting edge science informed by the integrity of peer review. Highlighted are processes to streamline the time from submission to publication employing the fast paced tools of publish before print, a hybrid open access strategy and a more vibrant structure to facilitate reader access to content.

We close with a heartfelt appreciation for the immense contributions of our close colleague David Ho to JAIDS and, of course, to the entire HIV research enterprise. His work has helped us understand, in depth, the biology of HIV and the immune system and has led directly to treatment advances that have saved the lives of millions worldwide. JAIDS wishes David continued success in his ongoing research and expects to retain him in our circle of close friends and colleagues.