

IAPAC Awarded Grant by OPEC Fund for International Development

Multidisciplinary Care Team Initiative Set for December 4, 2011, Launch in Addis Ababa

WASHINGTON, DC (December 1, 2011) – The OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) has awarded the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care (IAPAC) a grant that will supplement other grant funding secured in support of a Multidisciplinary Care Team Initiative (MCTI). The target countries for the three-year initiative include Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda, and Rwanda.

In its first year, the initiative will determine the differential impact of a multidisciplinary care team (MCT) approach to patient management as compared to the current standard-of-care approach as it relates to patient retention in HIV care and treatment. The initiative will be formally launched during an IAPAC consultative meeting on December 4, 2011, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, immediately preceding the start of the 16th International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa (ICASA).

In announcing the grant award, OFID Director-General Suleiman J. Al-Herbish said, “I seize this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to IAPAC for its efforts to improve the quality of care provided to all people living with HIV/AIDS and to extend my best wishes for fruitful cooperation.”

“We are grateful to OFID and other donors for their investment in MCTI,” said IAPAC President José M. Zuniga, PhD, MPH. “Through this initiative we hope to evaluate the MCT approach, the performance of MCT teams, and their subsequent effects on care processes and patient health outcomes. We aim to improve access to and quality of care for people living with HIV/AIDS and to deliver evidence to stakeholders, decision-makers, and donor agencies around how to make more efficient use of the existing health workforce in countries facing significant human resources for health scarcities.”

The IAPAC meeting in Addis Ababa will feature discussions about MCTI’s focus, activities, and future directions by key regional and international stakeholders, including clinicians, medical and nursing school officials, government representatives, multilateral organizations, and donor agencies. A post-meeting report will be posted at www.iapac.org.

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The International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care (IAPAC) represents more than 17,000 physicians and allied health care professionals in over 100 countries. Its mission is to improve the quality of prevention, care, treatment, and support services provided to men, women, and children living with HIV/AIDS. Visit www.iapac.org for more information about IAPAC and its global activities.