



# **CIPHER ROADMAP AIDS 2020:** *Virtual*

**6-10 July 2020**



## CIPHER GRANTEES

**Alain Amstutz**



**Nationality** Switzerland  
**Institution** Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute  
**Year Awarded** 2018  
**Research site** Lesotho  
**Project focus** Self-testing in and differentiated care in adolescents

**Millicent Atujuna**



**Nationality** Uganda  
**Institution** Desmond Tutu HIV Centre/Foundation  
**Year Awarded** 2018  
**Research site** South Africa  
**Project focus** Poverty and ART adherence and retention in care

**Sirinya Teeraananchai**



**Nationality** Thailand  
**Institution** The HIV Netherlands Australia Thailand Research Collaboration  
**Year Awarded** 2018  
**Research site** Thailand  
**Project focus** Service delivery to youth along the HIV cascade

**Elona Toska**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**

Albania  
University of Cape Town, South Africa

**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

2018  
South Africa  
Improving HIV outcomes for adolescent mothers

**Ceri Evans**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**

United Kingdom  
Zvitambo Institute for Maternal and Child Health Research, Harare

**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

2019  
Zimbabwe  
Characterizing CMV infection in HIV-affected mothers and children

**Tongdiyen Jasper**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**  
**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

Nigeria  
Human Virology Institute, Nigeria  
2019  
Nigeria  
Caregiver peer support for viral suppression among children

**Sarah Skeen**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**  
**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

South Africa  
Stellenbosch University  
2019  
South Africa  
Promoting uptake of HIV testing of young children

**Tamsin Phillips**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**  
**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

South Africa  
University of Cape Town, South Africa  
2020  
South Africa  
Strengthening the PMTCT cascade with routine data

**Merrian Brooks**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**  
  
**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

United States  
Botswana UPenn Partnership,  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
2020  
Botswana  
Meeting the mental health needs of adolescents living with HIV

**Arnold Sadio**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**

Cameroon  
Centre Africain de Recherche en  
Épidémiologie et en Santé Publique/  
University of Lomé

**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

2020  
Togo  
Improving street adolescents' access  
to HIV testing and SRH care in Togo

**Désiré Dahourou**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**

Burkina Faso  
Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la  
Santé

**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

2020  
Burkina Faso  
Improving mental health and HIV  
treatment outcomes among adolescents  
living with HIV in West Africa

**CIPHER FELLOW**

**Janan Dietrich**



**Nationality**  
**Institution**

South Africa  
Wits Health Consortium, University of  
the Witwatersrand

**Year Awarded**  
**Research site**  
**Project focus**

2019  
South Africa  
Exploring viral suppression among  
adolescent girls and young women

Meet all CIPHER [grantees](#) and [fellows](#) and learn more about their project.

The CIPHER Grant Programme and Growing the Leaders of Tomorrow Fellowship Programme are made possible with the generous support of Founding Sponsor ViiV Healthcare and Janssen. Its content is guided by experts in paediatric and adolescent HIV convened by the IAS.



## KEY PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

### Pre-conferences

#### **6th Workshop on Children and Adolescents HIV-Exposed and Uninfected**

*Wednesday 1 July, 15:00 – 18:15 CEST*

The 6th Workshop on Children and Adolescents HIV-Exposed and Uninfected brings together clinicians, scientists, advocates, implementers and policy experts to better understand the short- and long-term health and developmental disparities of this population with a goal of facilitating collaborations to translate evidence into action. This year the workshop will interrogate the evidence, both mechanistic and epidemiologic, in relation to adverse birth outcomes in this population and discuss unique perinatal epidemiologic methods considerations in evaluating adverse birth outcomes. The workshop will also explore ethical considerations for evaluation of medium to long-term outcomes in children and adolescents HIV-exposed and uninfected, with bioethicists sharing frameworks for considering maternal and child/adolescent interests. [Read more.](#)

#### **AIDS 2020 Youth pre-conference**

*Tuesday 30 June – Friday 3 July*

San Francisco and Oakland Youth Force is one of the international AIDS Society's youth forces and aims to be the driving force behind an inclusive and meaningful youth program while representing young voices. SFOYF organizes a youth centric Pre-Conference which covers a myriad of topics that are relevant, selected and facilitated by young people. The broad agenda which reflects the array of topics relevant for young people affected by HIV/AIDS globally, is designed to provide a safe space for sharing, capacity building, and empowerment of adults and youth who participate.

As 2020 is a pivotal year in the HIV epidemic, the Pre-Conference agenda will include both the lessons learned and ways forward, including scientific advancements. The agenda reflects the resilience theme of the AIDS 2020 Virtual conference by recognizing past achievements, discussing future practices and empowering participants in becoming and remaining resilient into the next decade. [Read more.](#)

### **AIDS 2020: Virtual Conference**

#### **CIPHER Grant Programme - Award ceremony**

*Wednesday 8 July, 22:37 CEST (scheduled during the plenary session taking place from 22:00 – 23:00 CEST)*

#### Plenary Session

Following a competitive selection process, four early-stage investigators will be awarded a CIPHER Grant.

The CIPHER Grant Programme provides a unique opportunity for young researchers to become principal investigators on a grant to study key research questions in paediatric and adolescent HIV. The programme is promoting the next generation of investigators by awarding grants up to US\$150,000 for two years to address crucial gaps in paediatric and adolescent HIV research that impede optimal HIV diagnosis, treatment and service delivery for infants and children affected by HIV in resource-limited settings. Read more about programme [here.](#)



## **CIPHER Grant Programme - Launch of new round**

*Thursday 9 July, 9:37 CEST (scheduled during the plenary session taking place from 9:00 – 10:00 CEST)*

### **Plenary Session**

CIPHER is pleased to launch a new round of the grant programme. The 2020/2021 round will focus on service delivery for HIV and related co-infections for paediatric and adolescent populations in resource-limited settings, including research on:

- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on HIV and related co-infections service delivery
- Community interventions to improve outcomes along the HIV cascade.

Applications will open on 1 October 2020. Applications submitted in both English and French will be accepted. To encourage more applications from young investigators in West and Central Africa, 50% of funds will be awarded to francophone applicants. Early-stage investigators, who have completed their terminal research degree within the past 10 years and who would serve, for the first time, as the primary principal investigator for a non-training research grant, are eligible to apply. [Read more.](#)

## **CIPHER GRANTEES AND FELLOWS ENGAGEMENT AT AIDS 2020**

### **Symposium moderation**

2017 CIPHER Grantee Wipaporn Natalie Songtaweessin. The very long and winding road for young people living with HIV: Stories and solutions from youth to youth [*Pre-recorded session available on demand*]

### **Workshop facilitation**

2018 CIPHER Grantee Millicent Atujuna. Vulva puppets, home mapping and teapots: how to enhance biomedical research and understand the context of HIV prevention through innovative and interactive qualitative methods. [*Date to be confirmed*]

### **CIPHER Grantees visual poster presentation**

2013 CIPHER Grantee Rebecca Hodes. Pill-takers and superheroes: Image preferences for an antiretroviral therapy adherence pictogram among young people living with HIV. Co-authored with colleagues at the University of Cape Town. [*Available online during the conference*]

2014 CIPHER Grantee Tavitiya Sudjaritruk. Antibody responses to tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccination among perinatally HIV-infected Thai adolescents stable on combination antiretroviral treatment. (PEB0317) [*Available online during the conference*]

2014 CIPHER Grantee Tavitiya Sudjaritruk. Safety and immunogenicity of live-attenuated Japanese encephalitis vaccination among perinatally HIV-infected Thai adolescents stable on combination antiretroviral treatment (PEB0318) [*Available online during the conference*]

2016 CIPHER Grantee Amara Ezeamama. Frequency of detectable HIV viremia and immune suppression episodes as determinants of neurocognitive dysfunction in Ugandans with chronic HIV infection. (PEB0170) [*Available online during the conference*]



2016 CIPHER Grantee Amara Ezeamama. Prevalence and Severity of Neurocognitive Dysfunction in Age, Sex and Demographically Matched People with HIV and Community Dwelling HIV-uninfected Ugandan Seniors. (PEB0214) [*Available online during the conference*]

2017 CIPHER Grantee Wipaporn Natalie Songtaweasin. Incidence Rate of Sexually Transmitted Infections in Adolescent Young Men who have Sex with Men and Transgender Women using Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis in Thailand (PEC0657). [*Available online during the conference*]

2018 CIPHER Grantee Millicent Atujuna. Retention in care among adolescents living with HIV in Cape Town, South Africa (PEB0321) [*Available online during the conference*]

2018 CIPHER Grantee Sirinya Teeraananchai. The HIV treatment cascade in the era of rapid antiretroviral initiation among behavioral HIV-infected youth through the National AIDS program in Thailand. (PEE1603). [*Available online during the conference*]

2018 CIPHER Grantee Alain Amstutz. Switch to second-line versus continued first-line antiretroviral therapy for patients with low-level HIV-1 viremia: An open-label randomised controlled trial. [*Available online during the conference*]

2018 CIPHER Grantee Elona Toska. Reproductive aspirations, contraception use and dual protection among adolescent mothers living with HIV. (PED1025) [*Available online during the conference*]

#### **CIPHER Grantees poster discussion**

2017 CIPHER Grantee Wipaporn Natalie Songtaweasin. Session title: Emerging success stories in PrEP in MSM and TGW in Asia (Session code: PDC01). Poster title: "Youth-focused strategies to promote adherence to pre-exposure prophylaxis among adolescent men who have sex with men and transgender women at-risk for HIV in Thailand" (PDC0106) [*Pre-recorded session available on demand*]