

A Concept Note on an Advanced Course on Diagnostics

November 8-12, 2010

Les Pensières Conference Centre, Annecy (France)

Aims of the course

The course aims to advocate the value of diagnostics and to build capacity in critical decision making in diagnostics by providing scientists and decision makers with a comprehensive overview of the global landscape of diagnostics research and development, and appropriate use of quality-assured diagnostic tools to improve global health.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, participants should:

- Have an understanding of the value of diagnostics in patient management and disease control, and the importance of building capacity in diagnostics to improve global health
- Gain knowledge in how diagnostic tools are used in the laboratory and in disease control, elimination and for emergency responses
- Have an overview of the process of diagnostic research and development and new trends in target discovery, technology and diagnostic product development
- Have ideas on how to build quality assurance programmes to maximise the impact of diagnostics in their own programmes, or nationally and internationally
- Have opportunities to forge partnerships in capacity building, product development or introduction and implementation to improve the quality of diagnostics used at national and international levels

Duration of and Venue for the course

The course will take place on **8-12 november 2010**, at The Conference Centre of the Fondation Mérieux, **Les Pensières**, located at Veyrier-du-Lac, **Annecy, France**.

Course Format

- Lectures
- Case studies
- Reviews
- Posters
- Interactive panel discussions
- Debate
- Small group discussions



des racines pour la vie



roots for life



Day 1

Global landscape in diagnostics: needs and challenges

- Public sector: role of diagnostics in patient management and disease control
- Private sector
- Regulatory agencies
- Lab level in the health care system (I, II, III)

Special needs for diagnostics: Surveillance, emergency response, disease elimination

Capacity building in diagnostics to improve care and strengthen control programmes

- Medical and nursing school curriculum
- Technical college training
- Task shifting within health care systems

Day 2

Available diagnostic technologies (Mol. biol., serology, direct antigen detection, rapid test, etc)

Critical decision making in diagnostics

- Accuracy and test performance
- Cost-effectiveness
- Operational characteristics
- Test selection
- Quality control and assurance
- Test introduction and sustainable adoption
- Implementation/Operational research

Day 3

Critical decision making in diagnostics (continued)

Laboratory management and training:

- Financial and human resources (training, salaries, biosafety, etc)
- Infrastructures
- Equipment
- Maintenance
- Procurement and stock management, Logistics (cold chain, power supply, etc)
- Quality control and quality assurance, waste management

Day 4

Diagnostics for the future: What's new on the horizon?

Diagnostics R&D:

- Biomarker discovery
- Trends in diagnostics development

Costs and financing opportunities for diagnostics development:

- Target discovery
- Proof-of concept validation
- Product development
- Clinical validation
- Market introduction

Day 5

The Way Forward:

Capacity building in diagnostics:

- Institutional capacity building
- Mentoring opportunities

Partnerships and opportunities to move forward:

- Public-private partnerships
- Product development partnerships

Who should apply?

- Scientists and decision makers involved in the development of diagnostic tools or in the design and implementation of strategies and policies on the use of diagnostics in the control of infectious diseases at national and international levels.
- For both public and private sectors

Selection criteria

Participants will be selected by an international scientific committee, according to their:

- Educational background, Involvement in diagnostic research and development
- Decision-making responsibility in diagnostics
- Expected impact of the course at personal, institutional, national and international levels

Programme fees

- Registration fee including full attendance in the course (5 days) and the course material **(1400 € VAT included)**
Participants from academic/governmental institutions & NGOs benefit from reduced fees **(700 € VAT included)**
- Accommodation fee, for lodging and meals throughout the course **(1100 € VAT included)**

Fellowships covering full attendance will also be provided for selected participants from developing countries.

Proposed Scientific Committee:

Proposed Chair: Steven Buchsbaum

NAME	AFFILIATION
Steven BUCHSBAUM	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA
Debbie BURGESS	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA
Nirmal GANGULY	Former Director General, Indian Medical Research Council, India
Kevin FENTON	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA
Nicole GUISO	Institut Pasteur, France
David HEYMANN	Health Protection Agency, UK
Keith KLUGMAN	American Society of Microbiology, USA
Christophe LONGUET	Fondation Mérieux, France
Mark MILLER	Fogarty International Center, NIH, USA
Maurine MURTAGH	Clinton Foundation, USA
John NKENGASONG	US CDC / PEPFAR, USA
Rosanna PEELING, Course Director	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicines, UK
Jean-Luc SANNE	European Commission, Belgium
Guy VERNET	Fondation Mérieux, France
Jimmy WHITWORTH	Wellcome Trust, UK
Xiao-Nong ZHOU	National Institute for Parasitic Diseases, China