



JHU-BJGMC Fogarty HIV-TB Research Training Program

Background

In August 2013, a 5-year Fogarty HIV-TB Training grant was awarded to Johns Hopkins University in partnership with the Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Medical College (BJGMC). The purpose of the program is to increase institutional capacity for conducting HIV-TB-focused research by establishing a cadre of highly trained faculty who are capable of building BJGMC's expertise in these disciplines. The training program, based on a proven partnership between JHU and BJGMC, aims to develop up to 15 investigators who will participate in a tiered system that rewards commitment and investment in HIV-TB projects. Training and professional development activities will occur in Baltimore and Pune, and each trainee will be assigned a JHU mentor. The faculty who show the most promise will be further trained by way of a distance-learning MPH/post-doc fellowship at Hopkins, and may receive funding through the program in order to design and implement their own research projects. The trainees chosen for further development will be expected to lead essential activities for HIV-TB research expansion at BJGMC (including mentorship of new trainees) by the end of the program in order to have established a sustainable core group of faculty who are recognized leaders in HIV-TB.

Key Program Activities

To ensure long-term success of the program, a sequential, 3-phase training program will combine strategic short-term and long-term training in HIV-TB epidemiology and laboratory research. Distance-learning modules will supplement regular professional development activities at BJGMC, and off-site trainings held at Hopkins will round out the program. In addition, a Training Advisory Committee (TAC) that includes senior faculty from JHU and BJGMC will be responsible for approval of the final trainees for each Phase of the program, annual review of progress, and recommendations for strategic scientific training priorities.

Phases





Distance Learning Activities

- Core Research Competencies will cover a range of topics for all trainees to establish a baseline of excellence. Topics will include human subjects research compliance, GCP/GCLP, and Introduction to Scientific Presentations, Paper Writing, Grant Writing, and Data Management.
- iMPH programs and 2-year post-doctoral fellowships will primarily be completed on-line for Phase 2 trainees in conjunction with their mentors.

Off-Site (JHU) Training

- All program trainees will participate in either the JHU Graduate Summer Institute of Epidemiology and Biostatistics or a strategic TB laboratory assay training at JHU.
- The post-doctoral fellowship for laboratory trainees will involve travel between JHU and BJGMC labs by the trainees and mentors.

On-Site (BJMC) Activities

- Establishment of a local Data Management and Biostatistics core that will be available during all phases of the program. This core will be led by on-site JHU faculty and will assist trainees in data management and statistical analysis.
- Monthly HIV-TB Research meetings, journal clubs, and grand rounds will initially be led by Hopkins faculty, but will quickly be the responsibility of the program trainees. These monthly activities are meant to foment expertise and collaboration between BJGMC core faculty.
- Phase 2 trainees are able to receive up to a \$15,000 research grant in order to support their iMPH capstone research projects/lab-based research projects
- HIV-TB workshops in Q1 2015 and Q2 2017 will be 3-day workshops open to TB researchers from the US and India. The first workshop will help to set priorities for the program, while the second workshop at the end of the program will be used for program assessment and setting the direction of future HIV-TB research at BJGMC.

Demonstrating Success

The JHU-BJGMC HIV-TB training program will be successful if program activities are sustainable and responsibility for HIV-TB development is shifted from JHU to BJGMC. Trainees are expected to demonstrate increasing expertise in HIV-TB and quantitative measures will be used to track how this knowledge is transferred to the BJGMC community. Yearly evaluations will be performed to keep the program on track and evaluate the trainees and structure of the program. The best measure of success will be the recognition of BJGMC faculty as leaders of HIV-TB research.



Timeline

Phase	Activity	Details	No. Trainees	Time Period
1	Group 1 Recruitment and Selection	Selection of Group 1 trainees	3 Epi 2 Lab	Q4 2013
1	Group 1 Training and Mentorship	Core Research Competencies HIV-TB Workshop (open)	3 Epi 2 Lab	Q1 2014
1-3	BJGMC On-Site Activities	Monthly Journal Club Research Meetings HIV-TB Grand Rounds Data/Biostats Core Facility	All	Q1 2014 - Q4 2017
1	Group 1 Off-site Training	Selection of Group 2 trainees	3 Epi 2 Lab	Q4 2014
1	Group 2 Off-site Training	Summer Institute at JHU JHU Lab Training	3 Epi 2 Lab	Q2 - Q3 2015
2	Tiered Selection leading to iMPH/Post-doc and independent research projects	iMPH Lab-based post-doc Research Grant Award	2 Epi 2 Lab	Q4 2014 - Q4 2016
3	Group 3 Recruitment and Selection by Phase 2 trainees	Group 3 Recruitment and Selection by Phase 2 trainees	3 Epi 2 Lab	Q1-2 2017
3	Group 3 Off-site Training	Summer Institute at JHU JHU Lab Training	3 Epi 2 Lab	Q2 2017
3	Evaluation of Program Effectiveness	Assessment by BJGMC and JHU on markers of institutional expertise	All	Q3-4 2017