

# POTENTIAL CHALLENGES OPPORTUNITIES

This session will:

- Highlight the opportunities that these collaborations offer for public health policy makers and for future international research.
  - Describe the steps that have been taken to ensure that these datasets provide the highest quality data and the novel statistical methodology that may be used to maximize the potential of these datasets.
  - Describe the value of these collaborations in addressing strategic questions related to specific patient populations and for modeling the spread and potential impact of the HIV epidemic.
- Target Audience: Policymakers, funders, researchers and collaborators.

**Speakers:** Veronica Miller, Tim Hallet, Patrick Sullivan, Maya Petersen, Jesper Kjaer, Annette Sohn, Julia Del Amo and Charles Holmes.

A collaborative effort between



*An AIDS 2012 Satellite Session*

## Global Cohort Collaborations

and the Role of Extremely Large Datasets in HIV/AIDS and Other Diseases.

The Translational Power of Collaboration: Harnessing Large Datasets to Understand the HIV/AIDS Epidemic and to Optimize Care and Treatment

HIV cohort studies have played a major role in developing our understanding of HIV and its treatment over the past twenty years. Recently, the HIV research field has witnessed an increase in the number of collaborations between large HIV cohort studies. In 2005, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases established the International epidemiology Databases to Evaluate AIDS (leDEA) network, an international research consortium which provides a rich resource for globally diverse HIV/AIDS data from seven international regional data centers, including four in Africa and one each in the Asia-Pacific, Central/South America/Caribbean and North America regions. In Europe, the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme for Health Research-funded EuroCoord Network of Excellence, brings together four existing networks (EuroSIDA, CASCADE, COHERE and PENTA) to co-ordinate HIV research efforts across the continent.

Together, these two consortiums collect information on over a million patients with HIV, including a significant proportion of those receiving antiretroviral therapy in the world. The collaborations include representation from over 70 countries, and represent the next generation of observational research where high quality data can significantly improve our knowledge, inform future research and shape the public health response. The data collected, and the ability to pool information across multiple countries and settings, allows researchers to address unique and evolving research questions that individual cohorts are unable to answer.

**Monday | 23 July | 6:30-8:30pm**  
**The Washington DC Convention Center**  
**Mini Room 9**