Global Medicines Program: Research, Training, Policy

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Presented at the Department of Global Health, UW, Faculty Meeting
January 5, 2010
Context & Need

- Rapid scale-up of public health programs
- New medicines in pipeline
- Short- and long-term toxicities
- Product quality issues
- Emergence of drug resistance
- Vulnerable, understudied populations
- Need for medication adherence
- Access to essential medicines
Mission:
Improve the use, safety, quality, risk-benefit profile, cost-effectiveness, and affordability of medicines in resource-poor countries

The Global Medicines Program aims to:
1. Generate and disseminate new methods and knowledge on assessing and improving the safe and rational use of medicines by attracting and promoting collaboration among faculty and trainees from various fields, including public health, pharmacy, medicine, law, and nursing.
2. Teach and mentor the next generation of academics and practitioners in global medicines safety and value.
Message from the Director

The University of Washington Global Medicines Program was formally launched in mid-2010 as an inter-school, inter-departmental initiative supported, in part, through the Department of Global Health's competitive process for identifying new, signature programs and centers. Administratively based in the Department of Global Health, the Program is closely affiliated with the faculty and trainees at the School of Pharmacy, University of Washington.

www.globalmedicines.org
People

Andy Stergachis, PhD
Director

Lou Garrison, PhD
Co-Director

Laura Sangaré, PhD, MPH
Senior Research Fellow

Becky Bartlein, MPH
Research Coordinator

Peace Imani, MBChB, MMED, MPHc
Research Assistant

Joseph Babigumira, MBChB, MS, PhD Candidate

Catherine W. Corbell, MSc, PhD
Major Projects

- Strengthening Pharmaceutical Systems-MSH via USAID
- Pharmacovigilance via BMGF
  - Strategy & Methods Development
  - Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium
- Health Technology Assessment in Developing Countries/Emerging Markets
  - Taiwan, China, Columbia, Argentina, Czech Republic, and Brazil
- Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Measles Eradication
Program Organization

• Established press release, metrics, gift account, and web site www.globalmedicines.org

• Recruited and hired research coordinator, postdoctoral senior fellow co-mentored by Kenya Research Program faculty, research assistant Department of Epidemiology MPH Program

• Initiated search for Assistant Professor of Global Health supported, in part, by GMP, eligible for adjunct appointment in Pharmacy

• Planning for 2011: meeting of faculty interested in affiliating with GMP; establish advisory committee; initiate planning for sustainability
Research

- 22 presentations at regional, national, and international conferences since 6/10.
- 16 articles published in peer-reviewed journals in 2010.
- Award from Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium (funded by BMGF) for “Assessment of the Safety of Antimalarial Drug Use During Early Pregnancy (ASAP)”
  - Research sites in Kenya, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, and Thailand
- Assessment of the risk of anemia associated with AZT-based HAART in Namibia
- Assisted with protocol for pharmacovigilance system in Namibia to Global Fund.
- Pre-proposal for pharmacovigilance study of new antimalarial.
- Health technology assessment in emerging markets report.
- Study of cost-effectiveness of measles eradication.
Recent Publications

Assessing A Structured, Quantitative Health Outcomes Approach To Drug Risk-Benefit Analysis

Using a health outcomes approach, together could promote comprehensive programs and policies.

by Louis P. Garrison Jr., Adeline B. Mears, and Robin A. C. Kadwell

Genital Ulcer Disease in Africa: Acyclovir in Eight Countries

Catherine C. Corbell, MPH, MS, and Patricai N. Nhse, MBChB, MPH, FBA

Supporting Pharmacovigilance in Developing Countries: The Systems Perspective

RESEARCH

A situational analysis of pharmacovigilance plans in the Global Fund Malaria and U.S. President's Malaria Initiative proposals

Andy Stergachis*1,2, Rebecca JK Bartlein1,3, Alexander Dodoo1, Jude Nwoike4 and S Patrick Kachur5

Pharmacovigilance Activities in 55 Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Questionnaire-Based Analysis

Sten Olsson1, Shanthi N. Pal2, Andy Stergachis3 and Mary Cooper2

1 WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring, Uppsala, Sweden
2 Quality Assurance and Safety of Medicines, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
3 Departments of Epidemiology and Global Health, School of Public Health, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA

90% of HSV-infected individuals have concentric HSV-2 infection, suggesting HSV-2 constitutes significantly in the...
Teaching

• Two courses in conjunction with the School of Pharmacy:
  – PHARM 581/GH 543 Global Health Pharmacy: Medicines, Practice, and Policy
  – PHARM 582/GH 590 Special Topics in Global Health Pharmacy and Medical Products

• In 2010, successful defense of PhD dissertations by two Epidemiology students (Sangare and Lambdin) and two Pharmacy students (Babigumira and Corbell)

• Leadership for Health Economics component of The University of Nairobi Institute of Tropical and Infectious Disease (UNITID) Fellowship Program in Public Health Management.

• Cost and Outcomes in Health and Medicine, PHARM534/HSERV583. Autumn 2010 Class included several Global Health students.

Service/Policy

• “National Pharmacovigilance Systems: Ensuring the Safe Use of Medicines” Conference Sponsored by USAID (Nairobi)
• Dissemination meeting for results from ARV PV in Namibia
• Support for Global Pharmacovigilance Planning & Toolkits
• Assisting in first-ever Pharmacy Degree Program at the University of Namibia.
• Planning for in-country training workshop for policy-makers and health professionals on global medicines systems for 2011.
• Performance-based risk-sharing in emerging markets
Program Metrics
as of 7/27/10

1. Recruit, in conjunction with co-funding, senior fellow, junior faculty member, and research coordinator during the first year of the Program and establish the Program’s infrastructure, e.g., advisory group, affiliated faculty and organizations, space, Web.

2. Prepare and submit at least 4 manuscripts for publication and 3 grant/contract applications for funding support annually on global medicines programmatic research and policy priority topics.

3. Engage with key global stakeholders to offer 2 in-country training workshops/programs for policy-makers and health professionals on global medicines systems strengthening annually.

4. Update, expand, and offer at least 2 interdisciplinary global health medicines courses for UW professional degree and graduate students annually.
Intra-Departmental Linkages

- **ICRC** – Planning for results of trials
  - Acyclovir guidelines, procurement, access in SSA
  - Pharmacovigilance planning

- **I-TECH** – Medication management
  - Collaborations where there’s geographical overlap, UNAM
  - Proposals

- **IHME** – Population-based medication use assessment
  - Participation in “A Novel Integrated Multi-source Surveillance System for Tracking Health Disparities”

- **KRP** – Joint mentorship of postdoctoral fellow
Challenges/Future Directions

• Attract and mobilize interdisciplinary faculty with an interest in collaboration on global medicines issues

• Define and refine topics for focused project development, including funding support

• Planning for growth in Program activities

• Formalize Program affiliations