

Institution: Botswana-Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership
Gaborone, Botswana
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LAB RESOURCES

Please describe the laboratory facilities available in your research institute, including the items listed below (if applicable):

<i>Lab space and equipment (general):</i>	3100 ABI sequencer, 12 PCR machines, 2 Real time PCR machines
<i>BSL-2 lab space and equipment:</i>	CO2 incubator, Biosafety hoods
<i>BSL-3 lab space and equipment:</i>	3 FACScaliburs
<i>Flow cytometry equipment:</i>	3 FACScaliburs

BIOLOGICAL SPECIMEN REPOSITORY

Please describe the biological specimens stored at your institute:

- Samples from clinically well defined cohorts. Mostly blood samples; plasma, serum, PBMCs, Breastmilk samples, cervical vaginal swabs etc.

Does your institute have a database of stored samples: Yes

Please provide details on methods for biological specimen storage at your institute (e.g., are Standardized Operating Procedures used?):

- The lab is SANAS accredited so SOPs are used for all samples processed.

Please describe the equipment/facilities available for sample storage at your institute, including items listed below (if applicable):

<i>-80C freezers</i>	Yes
<i>Nitrogen storage tanks</i>	Yes
<i>Dry ice availability</i>	Yes



Use of a nitrogen generator

No

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Please describe the training initiatives your institution has in place for individuals prior to working in clinical studies?

- Human Research ethics training
- GCLP and GLP training
- Biosafety training

Please describe the training initiatives your institution has in place for individuals prior to working in the laboratory?

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- Biosafety training

What assays/techniques do you excel in at your institute?

- ELISpot assays
- 1 time PCR assays
- Drug resistance genotyping
- In-house PCR assays
- PBMC processing

What training could you provide to visiting scientists?

- ELISpot assay, Sequencing

What rank are the majority of your trainees? (e.g., approximate numbers of undergraduate students, Masters, PhD, post-doc, MDs)

- Majority technicians with BSc, 4 MSc holders and 2 MSc students, 4 PhD holders

Do you offer training classes/courses for any of the following?

Grant Writing

Manuscript/abstract writing

Computer skills, excel, prism, endnote, word, powerpoint

Presentation skills

Epidemiology

Biostatistics

Yes

Does your institute receive funds to support training initiatives?

No

Please provide details about the funds your institute receive to support training initiatives.

Does your institution send trainees abroad for additional training? Yes

Please indicate the number of trainees sent abroad per year, the source of funding, the location of training, and the type of training received.

- Depends on fund availability, but about 2 people per year to learn advanced HIV molecular techniques funding through NIH/Fogarty.

What Masters and/or Doctoral programs does your institution offer?

- MSc and PhD research projects supervision

COLLABORATIONS

Please list and briefly describe your current collaboration with any African institutions for either research or training purposes.

- Southern Africa Centres of Research Excellence (SACORE) funded through Wellcome Trust.
- TESA which is a EDCTP funded initiative.
- TANZAMBO, which is a Canadian funded initiative to build capacity in Southern African countries of Tanzania, Zambia and Botswana.

Please list your institution's plans for future collaborations within African (additional groups, sites, countries, etc.)

- More South-South networking as supported by the above initiatives and also to build capacity.

Please list and briefly describe your institution's collaborations and/or partnerships with entities outside of Africa (e.g., organizations and networks in the USA, Europe, etc. – including CFARS, NIH clinical trials networks, HPTN, HVTN, AMC, IeDEA, USAID, PEPFAR, etc.)

- Member of CTU, HPTN, supported by PEPFAR and Wellcome Trust and EDCTP

CLINICAL COHORTS

Do you have access to existing clinical cohorts in Africa or USA? No

Are you planning to establish any new clinical cohorts over the next 5 years?

- Yes

Please describe the clinical cohorts that you are planning to establish, including specifics such as “HIV-TB infected HAART naïve adults”, sample type, sex, and age.

- Follow up of HIV infected patients not on HAART