

Institution: Lifespan/Tufts/Brown Center for AIDS Research (CFAR)
Providence, Rhode Island, USA
<http://www.lifespan.org/cfar/>

Contact: Awewura Kwara, MD
Assistant Professor
akwara@lifespan.org
Awewura_Kwara@brown.edu

LAB RESOURCES

Please indicate and briefly whether your institution provides any of the following core lab services or facilities to African investigators (select all that apply):

Animal lab and/or non-human primate research facility:

BSL-3 lab space and equipment: Yes, through retrovirology services core

Bacteriology: Yes

Clinical Chemistry: Yes

DNA sequencing: Yes

Flow cytometry: Yes

Genomics: Yes

Immunology/immunopathogenesis:

Pathology: Yes

Pharmacology/analytical chemistry: Yes, at Tufts University

Virology/molecular biology: Yes

Other:

BIOLOGICAL SPECIMEN BANKING/REPOSITORY

Please briefly describe the stored biological specimens available through your institute:

- Blood and genital tract samples for Immunology Center longitudinal HIV cohort.

Please indicate whether your institution provides any of the following equipment or resources to African investigators (select all that apply):

-80C freezers yes

Nitrogen storage tanks yes

Specimen samples (described above) yes

Other yes



BIOSTATISTICAL/DATA MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Please indicate whether your institution provides any of the following core services to African investigators (select all that apply):

- Computational biology
- Biomathematical modeling
- Bioinformatics/biometrics

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, CONSULTATION, AND SUPPORT

Please indicate whether your institution provides any of the following specialized technical expertise or support to African investigators (select all that apply):

- Clinical Research/Population Sciences
- Health Services/Health Education
- Social and Behavioral Sciences/Prevention
- Developmental Support (e.g., logistical, operational and infrastructure support, small pilot grants)

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Does your institution offer degree and/or non-degree training to African scholars?

- Yes

Please indicate whether your institution offers any of the following research training programs that may be of relevance or interest to African investigators (select all that apply):

- Bioinformatics
- Clinical Research (e.g., Clinical Research Scholars & Fellows Program)

COLLABORATIONS

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

- Kenya: Moi University, Eldoret. AIRTP for training as well as collaborative research

- Ghana: University of Ghana and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. AIRTP for training (UG) and collaborative research with faculty in both institutions through USAID grant.

Please describe your plans for future collaborations within African (additional groups, sites, countries, etc.)

- Currently limited to Kenya and Ghana.

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.

- ACTG
- HVTN - mucosal immunology group
- USAID grant to support University of Ghana-Brown University Initiative on HIV/AIDS
- AMC lymphoma
- PEPFAR - AMPATH, Kenya

CLINICAL COHORTS

Do you have access to existing clinical cohorts in Africa or USA?

- Yes

Please describe each existing clinical cohort that you have access to, including specifics like “HIV-TB infected HAART naïve adults”, sample size, sample type, sex, age, and whether clinical samples are currently being collected and/or stored (specify which samples).

- Immunology Center HIV clinical cohort has 1400 patients, aged 18 years or older, both men and women. Blood and genital tract samples are stored.

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.

- Kenya: HIV-infected patients failing therapy; HIV-infected women cervical cancer, see and treat program (VIA + cryotherapy); Pediatric HIV and TB cohorts.
- Ghana: HIV in prisons; HIV pregnant and post-partum cohort; adult and pediatric HIV/TB cohorts.