

2012-2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Presiden

David A. Relman, MD, FIDSASTANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
PALO ALTO, CA

President-Elect

Barbara E. Murray, MD, FIDSA
The University of Texas Health
Science Center
Houston, TX

Vice President

Stephen B. Calderwood, MD, FIDSAMassachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

secretary

Kathryn M. Edwards, MD, FIDSA Vanderbilt University Medical Center Nashville, TN

Treasure

Cynthia L. Sears, MD, FIDSA Johns Hopkins University School of Medicin Baltimore, MD

Immediate Past President
Thomas G. Slama, MD, FIDSA

Inomas G. Siama, MD, FIDSA Indiana University School of Medicine Indianapolis, IN

Upton D. Allen, MD, FIDSA Hospital for Sick Children Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Paul G. Auwaerter, MD, FIDSA
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD

Helen W. Boucher, MD, FIDSA TUFTS MEDICAL CENTER BOSTON, MA

R. Michael Buckley, MD, FIDSA University of Pennsylvania Health System Philadelphia, PA

Michael L. Butera, MD, FIDSA PULMONARY MEDICINE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES MEDICAL GROUP SAN DIEGO, CA

Deborah Cotton, MD, MPH, FIDSA Boston University School of Medicine Boston, MA

Carlos del Rio, MD, FIDSA EMORY UNIVERSITY ATLANTA, GA

Stanley C. Deresinski, MD, FIDSA Stanford University School of Medicine Palo Alto, CA

Louis B. Rice, MD Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University Providence, RI

Chief Executive Officer Mark A. Leasure

IDSA Headquarters

1300 Wilson Boulevard Suite 300 Arlington, VA 22209 TEL: (703) 299-0200 FAX: (703) 299-0204 EMAIL ADDRESS: info@idsociety.org

WEBSITE: www.idsociety.org



June 14, 2013

Dr. John Ward, Director, Viral Hepatitis Program
Division of Viral Hepatitis
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
1600 Clifton Road, NE., Mailstop G-37
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Re: CDC-RFA-PS13-1313 – Grant Funding for "Viral Hepatitis Networking, Capacity Building and Training"

Dear Dr. Ward:

IDSA is pleased that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are providing funding to support networking, capacity building, and professional development and training programs that will ultimately result in increased identification of people with chronic HBV and/or HCV infection. Noting that the funding has two separate parts, Part A: Networking and Capacity Building; and Part B: Professional Education and Training, we are particularly pleased that this funding will likely increase the number of persons who receive testing for chronic viral hepatitis as well as increase health care professionals' knowledge of the complex issues surrounding chronic hepatitis. We view the activity that will be supported by this funding as being complementary to the Society's efforts to address the "silent epidemic" of HCV by increasing capacity and ensuring that newly identified patients are linked to care with physicians who are experienced in HCV management.

Established in December 2011, the IDSA Hepatitis Task Force is charged with developing educational program resources for IDSA members and ID fellows interested in the treatment of Hepatitis C and leading the development of clinical practice guidance related to the advanced therapies expected in the near future. Specific activities include the following:

- IDWeek 2012 Pre-meeting Workshop solely focused on HCV therapies. This workshop will again be held at IDWeek 2013, with an update for new therapies.
- Launch of IDSA Hepatitis Knowledge Network Webinar Series A Project ECHO inspired webinar-based program that will link IDSA members treating HCV with Experts in HCV.
- Development of on-line Hepatitis C Core Curriculum to allow for convenient, self-guided education covering "Pathogenesis of HCV" through "Management after SVR"

- Advocacy for broad HCV screening, to include the recent CDC Birth-cohort recommendation
- Collaboration with AASLD on a process to deliver timely clinical practice guidance for the most advanced therapies to treat HCV
- Providing outreach communication from ID physicians to their local primary care physicians, promoting appropriate screening and close collaboration through high-value care coordination.

IDSA is fully committed to meeting the challenge of this "silent epidemic" by preparing ID physicians to effectively engage the primary care community and appropriately treat patients. CDC's funding will encourage networking, capacity-building, and education that will provide the essential foundation in order to achieve success for our shared objective.

For more information on the IDSA Hepatitis Task Force, please feel free to contact Andrés Rodríguez, Senior Program Officer – Practice & Payment Policy, at (703) 299-5146 or arodriguez@idsociety.org.

Sincerely,

David L. Thomas, M.D., M.P.H

Jan: I Mane

Chairman - Hepatitis Task Force, Infectious Diseases Society of America

IDSA Hepatitis Task Force Members:

David L. Thomas, MD, FIDSA, Chair

Carol L. Brosgart, MD

David H. Chansolme, MD

Robert Fliegelman, MD

Eliot W. Godofsky, MD

Henry Masur, MD, FIDSA

Susanna Naggie, MD

Michael S. Saag, MD, FIDSA