Megan DiCarlo
FHI360
North Carolina, United States of America

Meghan DiCarlo has more than 18 years of experience designing, managing and implementing HIV and key populations programmes around the globe. She spent nearly a decade living and working in Haiti, Tanzania, Ukraine and Viet Nam, where she managed several key population programmes. She has provided strategic technical guidance to key population programmes in more than 10 countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Caribbean.

Ms DiCarlo led the development of a common core package for the USAID LINKAGES global key population programme and has contributed to the development of several global guidelines for key populations, including the LINKAGES enhanced peer outreach approach and peer navigation implementation guides. As Deputy Director for Program Acceleration (LINKAGES), she led the successful implementation of an initiative to accelerate and scale evidence-based key population interventions across more than 15 countries.

Ms DiCarlo also has strong management experience as she has managed USAID/ PEPFAR projects in multiple countries and regions and chaired several steering committees involving academic institutions, CEOs of multi-national mining companies, civil society and government officials.

Ms DiCarlo is fluent in KiSwahili and proficient in French. She received her MPH from the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Anushiya Karunanithy Malaysian AIDS Council Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Anushiya Karunanithy is the HCV Project Manager at Malaysian AIDS Council where she works to address the national HIV and HCV response involving key populations including people who inject drugs, female sex workers, transgender people and men who have sex with men.

During nine years at the Malaysian AIDS Council, Ms Karunanithy has worked with three major international donors including the Global Fund, International HIV/AIDS Alliance and Coalition Plus. The country grants from these donors focused on HIV programmes and advocacy for HCV. Her role included being part of the national HIV technical group, national HCV technical group, national strategic plan for HIV and HCV, coordinating the population size estimation of 2017 for transgender sex workers, development of trans-inclusive health care module, advocate and successfully integrated low dead space (LDS) syringe into the national harm reduction programme, involvement in the development of transgender legal gender recognition document, and pilot research for national HIV and HCV projects. Besides enjoying trust from the NGOs and community groups including people who inject drugs, female sex workers, men who have sex with men, and her own transgender community, she has established a very good working relationship with government stakeholders, international and regional networks.

Ms Karunanithy has a diploma in Corporate Administration. She has appeared at many HIV/HCV national and international conferences either as a speaker or participant. She is also a social media activist.

Janvier Serumondo Rwanda Biomedical Centre Kigali, Rwanda

Dr Janvier Serumondo is a Medical Doctor with specialization in Public Health. Dr Serumondo studied medicine and holds 2 Masters' degrees in Public Health and in Transfusion Medicine, both from the University of Liege, Belgium. He has occupied public health leadership positions for more than 10 years in Rwanda Health Sector. Currently he serves as the Director of Sexually Transmitted Infections and Viral Hepatitis Unit in Rwanda Biomedical Center.

Dr Serumondo has been the Director of Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit in the Rwanda National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for six years with a vast experience in laboratory quality management system and accreditation. He has also been the Director of a Regional Center for Blood Transfusion in Rwanda for almost three years and acquired international experience in the area of transfusion medicine from Liege Blood Transfusion Centre (Belgium). He has also worked as a University Lecturer.

Dr Serumondo was involved in the development of several laboratory quality management system documents for the accreditation of NRL, the national viral hepatitis guidelines and currently plays a key leadership role in strengthening the National Viral Hepatitis Programme. His research interests include public health, viral hepatitis, laboratory and transfusion medicine.

José Boullosa Alonso Neto Ministry of Health Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

José Boullosa Alonso Neto holds a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (2004) and a Master's degree in Biological Sciences (Genetics) from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (2013). He is currently a technologist at the Ministry of Health. Mr Neto is responsible for the diagnostics of HIV, viral hepatitis and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in the Department of Chronic Diseases and Sexually Transmitted Infections.

Tanya Applegate The Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney Sydney, Australia

Tanya Applegate is a Senior Lecturer within Surveillance Evaluation and Research Program at the Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney. Dr Applegate is also a Research Manager for the Centre for Research Excellence on accelerating the implementation of point of care diagnostics for infectious diseases (Research for Asia Pacific Infectious Disease Diagnostics Centre) and a Co-Director of an Industry Transformation Research Hub to combat antimicrobial resistance.

Dr Applegate has worked and studied as laboratory research scientist for over 20 years, including within regulatory, hospital, private industry and academic environments. Her PhD specialized in the development of novel molecular diagnostics and her implementation research aims to provide equitable access to health care by improving linkage to care for people who are marginalized or living in remote or resource limited settings. During the last ten years, Dr Applegate has had a special focus on evaluating and implementing HCV diagnostics among people living with Hepatitis C. She is a co-editor of a special edition on new diagnostics and testing strategies for Hepatitis C virus in the open access Diagnostics journal in early 2021.

Nadia Badran Soins Infirmiers et Développement Communautaire (SIDC) Beirut, Lebanon

Naida Badran has more than 25 years of experience in the field of health, social promotion, education and counseling for children, adolescents, vulnerable youth and adults. Ms Badran was involved in the development and implementation of programs addressing specific topics including Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), gender and sexual identity, mental health, substance use, HIV/AIDS, stigma and discrimination etc. She worked with minorities including LGBTQI, migrants and refugees, people living with HIV, female and male sex workers and victims of sexual assaults and survival sex. She is actively engaged in defending human rights of vulnerable groups and developing policies to protect their rights.

Ms Badran is a trainer and lecturer at both regional and international levels with UN agencies and international NGOs, and active member of various regional advisory committees. She is a member of Maestral International group of consultants, and involved in the implementation process of cross-sectoral system for coordination, collaboration and referral of child protection, children with disabilities and early childhood development. She is a founding member of community organizations, local and regional networks. Ms Badran developed and/or adapted more than 50 training modules, and implemented 100 regional and national training workshops.

Ajeet Singh Bhadoria Indian, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare All India Institute of Medical Sciences Rishikesh New Delhi, India

Ajeet Singh Bhadoria is an academic and researcher at All India Institute of Medical Sciences Rishikesh, a pioneer medical institute in India. Dr Bhadoria has more than 100 scientific publications in different indexed journals. He has been involved in country's effort towards elimination of viral hepatitis since last 8 years. He was instrumental in advocacy efforts from 2013 to 2018 for drafting National Action Plan and launch of National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP). He was an expert in the Technical Working Group (TWG) for surveillance and capacity building components.

Dr Bhadoria was Project Coordinator at the WHO collaborating Centre in India and was involved in many important projects on Viral Hepatitis with WHO Country Office, South East Asia Regional Office and WHO headquarters, like sequelae surveillance project, capacity building of nurses and physicians and non-invasive markers for fibrosis. He also contributed as scientific committee member from South East Asia Regional Office in developing WHO Standard operating procedures for enhanced reporting of cases of acute viral hepatitis in 2018. With WHO Global Hepatitis Program, he also did a meta-analysis on treatment eligibility for chronic hepatitis B, which has been accepted for publication in Lancet Gastro Hepatology. He also received Young Investigators Award, Presidential Poster Award and Poster of Distinction Award for presenting the meta-analysis at AASLD 2019 at Boston.

Currently, Dr Bhadoria is actively involved with implementation of NVHCP at State Viral Hepatitis Management Unit (SVHMU) in Uttarakhand State of India. As a training coordinator, he is involved in regular capacity building exercises for physicians, lab technicians, nurses and data entry operator in the State.

Mauro Guarinieri International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD); Robert Carr Network Fund (RCF) London, United Kingdom

Mauro Guarinieri has almost three decades of experience addressing HIV/AIDS. Dr Guarinieri currently works as RCF Consortium Coordinator, leading INPUD's work under the RCF. For the past ten years, he worked for the Global Fund as Senior Technical Advisor on Community Responses and Drug Use, addressing the intersection between drug use, drug policy, HIV and TB treatment, care, and prevention. With the Global Fund, he also worked as the Senior Civil Society Adviser and as a Senior Fund Portfolio Manager focusing on South East Asia. Before joining The Global Fund, as Senior Technical Advisor in Viet Nam under the USAID Health Policy Initiative (HPI), Dr Guarinieri established working relationships and partnerships with the Government of Viet Nam, NGO counterparts, and other stakeholders on advocacy and policy development with a specific emphasis on ARV access for most-at-risk populations.

Before HPI, Dr Guarinieri served as a Senior Program Officer for the International Harm Reduction Program of the Open Society Institute, supervising Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia. He has an extensive consulting history, having worked with the International AIDS Society, the International AIDS Vaccine

Initiative, the International Harm Reduction Development Program, the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, and other international organizations.

Throughout his career, Dr Guarinieri's leadership has extended to the Boards of many bodies, including the European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG) (Chair: 2004 to 2005), The Global Network of People Living With HIV/AIDS (Chair: 2005 to 2006), the International Steering Committee of the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition, the Global Advisory Group of the Collaborative Fund for HIV/AIDS Treatment Preparedness and the Steering Committee of the Health Gap coalition. Dr Guarinieri holds memberships in many prominent professional organizations, including the UN reference Group on Injection Drug Use and HIV, in addition to having published an array of articles pertaining to HIV.

Saeed Sadiq Hamid The Aga Khan University Karachi, Pakistan

Saeed Sadiq Hamid is Professor, Department of Medicine and Director of the Clinical Trials Unit at The Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan. Dr Hamid formerly served as Chair, Department of Medicine from 2008-2018. He is trained in Medicine and Gastroenterology in the UK, and in Hepatology at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, USA. He is Vice President, Pakistan Society of Gastroenterology and President of the Pakistan Society for the Study of Liver Diseases (PSSLD).

Dr Hamid is currently Chair of Hepatology Interest Group of the World Gastroenterology Organization, has been a member of the Executive Council of the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL) from 2006-2010 and has chaired the WHO Guidelines Development Group for Hepatitis C in 2015 and again in 2017. He sits on Advisory Committees of the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination (CGHE) and the Hepatitis Fund. His main research interests are viral hepatitis and liver failure. He has been an author on over 160 peer reviewed publications and three book chapters. Dr Sadiq has mentored a number of postgraduate Gastroenterology trainees, PhD and other graduate students.

Irsan Hasan Indonesia Association for the Study of the Liver (INA ASL) Jakarta, Indonesia

Irsan Hasan is currently the president of Indonesia Association for the Study of the Liver (INA ASL) and a member of the National Hepatitis Expert Advisory Committee. He is also a professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Indonesia, and a consulting gastroentero-hepatologist at Dr. Cipto Mangunkusumo National Referral Hospital, Jakarta.

Serving as an active member of the National Hepatitis Expert Advisory Committee, Dr. Hasan advises the Indonesia National Hepatitis Program including in the areas of hepatitis diagnosis and management. His vast experience in the field of gastroentero-hepatology is reflected in his 58 published articles and books and 37 ongoing publications.

Karin Hatzold

Global Associate Director, HIV and TB and Project Director for the HIV Self-Testing Africa (STAR) Project, Population Services International Cape Town, South Africa

Karin Hatzold is a public health physician with over 22 years of experience in designing, managing, implementing, and researching public health interventions in sub-Saharan Africa. Dr Hatzold has led large-scale service delivery and evaluation projects on HIV prevention, care and treatment and has provided high-level technical support for platforms in Southern Africa for the launch and accelerated scale up of voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC), HIV testing, biomedical HIV prevention, HIV care and treatment as well as cervical cancer screening and treatment services.

Dr Hatzold is co-investigator on several implementation science studies on VMMC, including male circumcision devices and early infant male circumcision, sexual and reproductive health, HIV testing services and HIV self-testing. She is the Director of the Unitaid funded HIV Self-Testing Africa (STAR) Project, the largest evaluation of HIVST, a six-year project implemented in thirteen countries to catalyze the market for HIVST. STAR's success has been outlined by multi-country and multidisciplinary evidence from sub Saharan-Africa demonstrating acceptability and accuracy across several delivery models and populations, rapid translation into WHO guidelines, national policy and creation of an enabling a viable market for HIVST globally.

Wame Jallow International Treatment Preparedness Coalition – Global Team Gaborone, Botswana

Wame Jallow's professional experience extends over 18 years in global health-related programming, covering most disease and social areas inclusive of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, hepatitis C, non-communicable diseases, sexual and reproductive health, orphan and vulnerable children, maternal and child health, nutrition, etc. Over the course of her career she has managed and implemented several health-programs at global, regional and country levels, and worked across several sectors & industries including civil society, public & private sector, and the developmental partner / donor sectors.

Ms Jallow's key areas of technical expertise include monitoring, evaluation and research, costing analysis, resource mobilization, policy review and development, advocacy and health promotion, community dialogue and mobilization, community and health systems strengthening, thought leadership, community-led monitoring and response interventions, community and coalition building, strategic planning and development, and organizational development/capacity building. She has led numerous health projects funded by USAID/PEPFAR, DfID, the Global Fund, UNAIDS, International AIDS Society, Aidsfonds, ViiV Healthcare Initiative, Open Society Foundation, Gates Foundation, Unitaid, Robert Carr Fund, European Union, World Bank, and French 5% Initiative, etc.

Cary James World Hepatitis Alliance London, United Kingdom

Cary James began his civil society career in the grassroots HIV movement in London. He went on to become Head of Health Improvement Programmes at the Terrence Higgins Trust (THT), one of Europe's largest HIV and sexual health organizations. There, Mr James led HIV Prevention England – the official government funded national HIV prevention programme. He contributed to the establishment of the world's first national HIV self-sampling programme as well as developing a free online HIV self-test service. Through a whole-system approach and innovation in prevention, testing, diagnostics and treatment, during this time, England saw a 20% increase in HIV testing, 37% decrease in new HIV diagnoses and a reduction in new HIV infections - the first decrease in the UK's history and a turning point in the epidemic.

Mr James is the former chair of European [Hepatitis/HIV] Testing Week and is currently an advisory board member of INTEGRATE - a programme to integrate early diagnosis and linkage to prevention and care of viral hepatitis, HIV, TB and STIs in Europe; as well as other expert groups and strategic partnerships. He is also a faculty member of the European AIDS Clinical Society's online HIV Clinical Management course, responsible for the module on key populations.

Since joining the World Hepatitis Alliance in spring 2019, he has coordinated a successful international advocacy campaign to ensure viral hepatitis was included in the political declaration for the United Nations High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage. Mr James holds a Masters degree in Health and Social Marketing and is a recognized expert in using technology and social media to generate demand for testing programmes and linking patients to care.

Giten Khwairakpam TREAT Asia/amfAR – The Foundation for AIDS Research Bangkok, Thailand

Giten Khwairakpam is currently the Community and Policy Program Manager at amfAR's TREAT Asia program in Bangkok, Thailand. He has been working on improving HIV and hepatitis C treatment access, advocating for price reductions, scaling up of national responses and improving regulatory uptake of direct-acting antivirals in South East Asia and Western Pacific regions. He has been a resource person and key note speaker in various national, regional and global viral hepatitis and HIV related events, including "Prof. Joep Lange and Ms. Jacqueline van Tongeren Memorial Lecture". He also serves as a trainer on viral hepatitis events with regional and national community networks.

Mr. Khwairakpam has also served as a member of the World Health Organization's Guidelines Development Group on hepatitis B and hepatitis C and in different technical groups on viral hepatitis in the WHO's Western Pacific and South East Asia regional offices.

Currently, he serves as a member of the Expert Advisory group on hepatitis C with the Medicines Patent Pool and in the Strategic Technical and Advisory Group of WHO South East Asia regional office. Mr. Khwairakpam was also profiled as a Change Maker for hepatitis C by the Economist Intelligence Unit in 2016.

Karine Lacombe Hôpital St Antoine Paris, France

Karine Lacombe is an infectious diseases specialist with focus on clinical practice, teaching and research in areas of HIV and chronic hepatitis. Dr Lacombe grew in the French Alps where she completed her undergraduate studies at Grenoble Science University (Université Joseph Fourier). She graduated from Pierre et Marie Curie Medical University in Paris and completed her residency in St Antoine Hospital, Paris and St André Hospital, Bordeaux. In 2006, she completed her PhD in Epidemiology on HIV / hepatitis B coinfection and the determinants of liver fibrosis evolution. She became an associate Professor in Infectious Diseases in 2007.

Teaching is one of Dr Lacombe's main interests. Besides teaching to medical students in diverse French universities, she has taken part and organised several teaching workshops in Asia, Eastern Europe and Africa. Her recent publications include results of trials in HIV and hepatitis C coinfection as well as natural and on treatment history of hepatitis B in HIV infected patients. Since March 2020, she has been deeply involved in the management of the COVID-19 crisis. She is the peer reviewer for several high impact factor journals such as Lancet Infectious Diseases, Hepatology, Journal of Hepatology or Clinical Infectious Diseases. Dr Lacombe holds a professorship position at Sorbonne University Medical School and is the head of the Infectious Diseases Department in St Antoine Hospital, Paris.

Segundo Ramos Leon San Juan Bautista Private University Lima. Peru

Segundo R. León is an infectious disease researcher who has largely collaborated in epidemiological studies with biological measurement about STI and HIV for over 20 years. Mr León implemented and later directed the Sexual Health Laboratory at Cayetano Heredia University and the Laboratory of Molecular and Genetic Epidemiology at San Marcos University, both in Lima. He belongs to a broad HIV research network made up of collaborators at San Juan Bautista Private University, Cayetano Heredia University, the University of South Florida, Florida International University, Johns Hopkins University, Harvard University and the University of California Los Angeles. His current projects include a study on HIV and STI among migrants living in Lima, clinical validation of antigen and molecular diagnosis for SARS-CoV-2 and also mentoring new researchers.

Mr León is an international lecturer on laboratory diagnostic issues in global health, especially on topics related to HIV, STIs and Sexual Health. As a mentor, he has received - and still has - students from various universities from different continents.

Mr León's institutional and social support work is carried out as director of research for ALADDIV, external reviewer of projects of the National Institute of Health of Peru. He also participated in the development of the WHO Guideline on HIV testing services in July 2014.

Midnight Poonkasetwattana APCOM Bangkok, Thailand

Based in Bangkok, Midnight Poonkasetwattana has been the Executive Director of APCOM since 2011, working in multi-sectoral partnerships with governments, donors, the United Nations, development partners and most importantly the community and civil society organizations working on advancing SOGIESC rights, and alleviating HIV in Asia Pacific region.

Mr Poonkasetwattana is a member of various advisory committees, including the global IDAHOT committee, international advisory group of Dignity Network, World Health Organization Global PrEP Coalition and Guidelines Development Group for HIV Testing Services, and ASHM's Regional Advisory Group member leading on Key Populations of the Taskforce on BBVs, Sexual Health and COVID-19.

Mr Poonkasetwattana obtained his Masters in Globalization and Development from SOAS, University of London.

Ernst Wisse Médecins du Monde Paris, France

With a background as a nurse, Ernst started working in the field of Harm Reduction in a mobile opioid substitution program in the streets of Paris. With his experience as a fieldworker in several low-threshold outreach-based programs, he increasingly got involved in project management of Harm Reduction interventions in low- and middle income countries in the Middle East and Asia like Iran, Afghanistan and Myanmar.

In the last few years he has been involved in strategic and technical support on public healthoriented Harm Reduction program implementation, with a strong focus on community mobilization and empowerment. Ernst is currently the Harm Reduction advisor for the NGO Médecins du Monde.

Christian B. Ramers
Clinton Health Access Initiative
Family Health Centers of San Diego
University of California, San Diego School of Medicine
San Diego, CA, United States of America

Since 2018 Christian B. Ramers has served as the Senior Clinical Advisor for the Clinton Health Access Initiative's Global Hepatitis Program, working to eliminate HBV and HCV in seven partner countries in Asia and Africa. He has provided HIV and Viral Hepatitis education and clinical care in Angola, Mozambique, and Tanzania through I-TECH and the University of Washington's Department of Global Health. He has served as a consultant for CDC-sponsored HIV/HBV/HCV educational projects in Myanmar and Namibia.

Based in San Diego, CA, USA, Dr Ramers is the Chief of Population Health and Director of Graduate Medical Education at the Family Health Centers of San Diego, a large Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) system serving nearly 200,000 underserved individuals. He maintains a busy clinical practice for people living with HIV, viral hepatitis and substance use disorders, many of whom are homeless or in residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs. He also leads several grant-funded educational initiatives which adapt HIV and viral hepatitis care in the primary care setting using innovative telehealth mentoring platforms and mobile care.

Dr Ramers previously served as the founding Medical Director for NW AETC ECHO, an HIV telehealth program in the Pacific Northwest of the United States and was on faculty in the Divisions of Infectious Diseases & Global Health at the University of Washington (UW). He is board certified in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, and Addiction Medicine, is an AAHIVM-certified HIV specialist, and holds an MPH in Global Health from the University of Washington. Dr Ramers has served as a reviewer for previous World Health Organization guidelines on care and treatment of persons diagnosed with chronic hepatitis C virus infection (2018) and the prevention of mother to child transmission of hepatitis B virus (2020).