



12<sup>th</sup> European AIDS Conference

November 11–14, 2009 · Cologne · Germany

EACS Conference Secretariat · c/o K.I.T. GmbH · Kurfürstendamm 71 · 10709 Berlin · Germany

## PRESS RELEASE

**12th European AIDS Conference/EACS  
November 11 – 14, 2009 Cologne, Germany**

*Cologne, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009,*

**The 12th European AIDS Conference/EACS is approaching fast. From 11–14 November 2009 leading European and worldwide scientists will meet in Cologne to present and discuss the latest original research in the field of HIV medicine.**

The HIV epidemic still remains to be one of the main public health challenges of this century with many unsolved questions. For every 2 patients put on antiretroviral therapy 5 new infections occur, signalling the further spread of disease. Moreover issues around long-term toxicity and aging with HIV continue to trouble the HIV-community. The EACS conference attempts to identify the current challenges that have emerged since the HIV disease has become treatable.

In Cologne, the conference will start with Nobel Prize winner Françoise Barré-Sinoussi who will give an overview of the history and the future basic research in HIV and touch upon the impending research agenda of the upcoming years.

Another important topic concerns the size of the infected European population that is unaware of their HIV infection as well as those patients who only reach access to care after advanced disease has developed. Approaches, how this may best be controlled will be presented in Cologne by the young initiative “HIV in Europe” which will summarize the newest findings towards optimal testing and earlier care throughout Europe.

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In order to prevent further spread of disease HIV prevention also stands out as an important issue. Indeed during the EACS conference the first European prevention video film clip prize in different categories will be handed out on Thursday. Moreover a special session organised in collaboration with the International AIDS Society (IAS) with a focus on Eastern Europe will be held discussing the possibilities and challenges of various harm reduction programs.

Further important topics are the threat of drug resistant tuberculosis in Eastern Europe, the role and need for screening of sexually transmitted diseases and new drug developments in the HIV as well as in the hepatitis/HIV coinfection area.

During the conference, also an update on the results of the recent HIV vaccine conference in Paris will be given as well as a clear position towards the recently published Thai vaccine results.

The EACS conference is the largest European HIV/AIDS meeting to date and will bring together a total of more than 4000 delegates from all over the world, with a clear focus on European physicians and HIV care providers to interact and discuss the current issues and challenges of modern HIV-care. Also an update of the various treatment guidelines from the European Clinical AIDS Society will be presented to the public for the first time.

Media registration is free of charge. For registration details please visit the conference website at [www.eacs-conference2009.com](http://www.eacs-conference2009.com).

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