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Paediatric AIDS Initiative



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[Press Release for PATA SUMMIT 2011]

PATA PAN AFRICAN SUMMIT: CO-HOSTED BY BOTSWANA-BAYLOR CHILDREN'S CLINICAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

We are pleased to announce that Paediatric and Adolescent AIDS Treatment for Africa (PATA) is holding their 7th annual PATA Forum, a Pan-African Summit in Gaborone, Botswana **14 – 18 November 2011** at *Phakalane Golf Estate*.

PATA is a network of treatment teams from more than 170 clinics in 24 sub-Saharan African countries, united by the common goal of expanding access to quality care for children and their families affected by HIV.

The PATA summit, co-hosted by the **Botswana-Baylor Children's Clinical Center of Excellence**, is a **collaborative meeting of frontline health care workers** from 41 multidisciplinary treatment teams (consisting of doctors, nurses, counsellors and pharmacists) from across sub-Saharan. These teams will deliberate challenges in the field of paediatric HIV relating to the forum themes of **early infant diagnosis and treatment** (children under 1 year) and **adolescent girls**.

Teams are exposed to the **latest updates** on paediatric HIV prevention, treatment and care from experts from across the continent and the world. Participants follow a structured **workshop process**, the outcome of which is the selection of annual quality improvement tasks in which they set goals for their team to improve the quality of paediatric care that they deliver. Teams are expected to provide feedback to their clinic and satellite clinics at home to ensure dissemination to the ground level of what they were exposed to at the forum. This is referred to as the '**PATA effect**'.

In addition to the main themes, the following technical masterclasses and practical workshops will be run: **Paediatric ART case studies, Care of Orphans and Vulnerable Children, Paediatric Palliative Care, Innovations in adolescent care, Basic counselling skills, Communication with children and Communication in the pharmacy.**

The summit will feature a keynote address from **Guillermo Marquez (UNICEF)**, as well as plenary sessions from **Shaffiq Essajee (WHO)**, **Leon Levin (Right to Care)**, and presenters from Botswana- Baylor, Red Cross Hospital, Grassroot Soccer, South to South, and other prestigious organizations. PATA is funded by One to One Children's Fund, Sidaction, Partners In Health and Princess Diana Memorial Fund amongst others.

For more information on this Summit and future PATA Forums, as well as to download materials used at our forums, please see the PATA website: www.teampata.org

