



AIDS 2006

Time to Deliver • Passons aux actes

Plenary Speaker Bios

MONDAY, 14 August

Current Challenges in the Global Response

(8:45, Session Room 1)

Julie OVERBAUGH, PhD, USA

HIV transmission and pathogenesis: A viral perspective

Dr. Julie Overbaugh is a Member and Associate Program Head at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. Her work focuses on various aspects of HIV-1 transmission and pathogenesis, and is noted for its emphasis on translational research. She has worked closely with the Kenya/Seattle collaborative group for the past 12 years, including on a number of studies of mother to child transmission of HIV-1. Her group's studies have demonstrated that viruses which evolve over the course of infection are more pathogenic, in part because they have escaped neutralizing antibody control. Her group has also demonstrated that viruses transmitted to women tend to be more genetically diverse than those transmitted to men, particularly in women with sexually transmitted diseases or women who use hormonal contraceptives. Her recent work has highlighted that HIV-1-positive women continue to be at risk for re-infection. Dr. Overbaugh served as Chair of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant review panel on the molecular biology of HIV-1, Editor for *Journal of Virology*, organizer of several international meetings, and a member of the NIH Office of AIDS Research advisory committee. She received an Elizabeth Glaser Scientist Award and an NIH Merit award.