



Less Silence, More Science **Advocacy** to Make Rectal Microbicides a Reality

Jim Pickett
Chair, IRMA

Rectal Microbicides Update

24 February 2008

New Delhi

Objectives

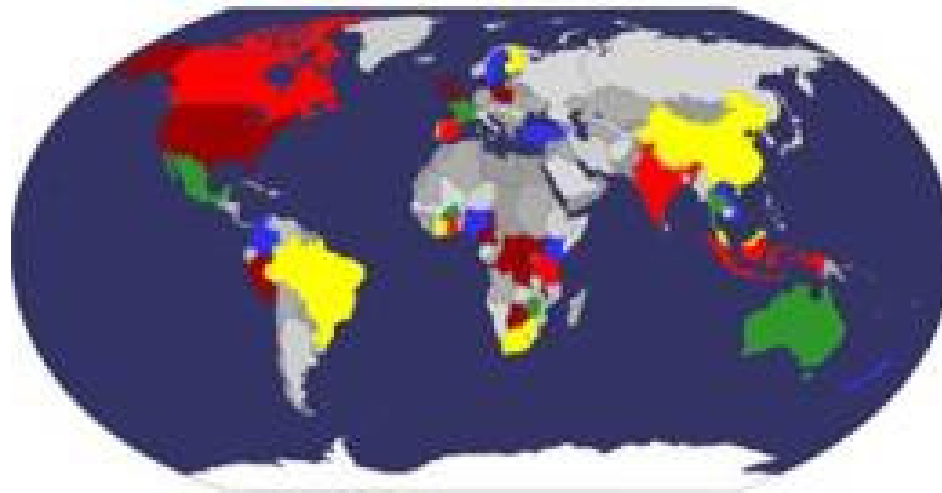


- **Who is IRMA?**
- **What does IRMA do?**



- **Advocacy goals**
 - **Get involved!**

A Global Force in Rectal Microbicide Advocacy

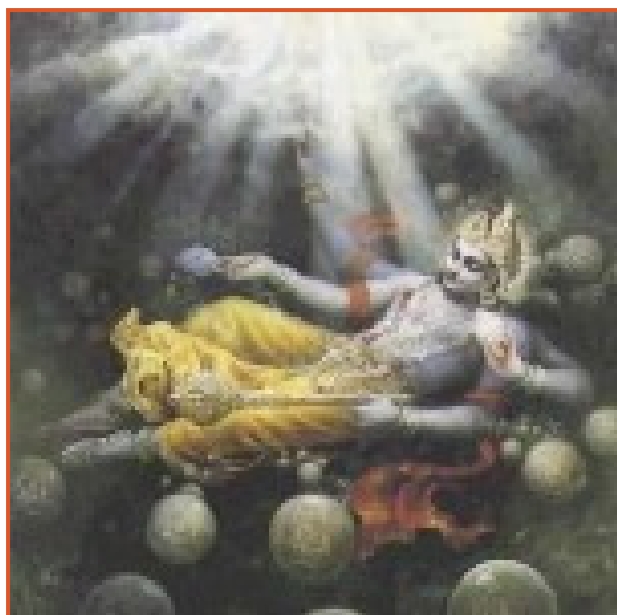


500+ members
40 countries
6 continents
YOU?

The IRMA Creation Story



IRMA Steering Committee



- **Jonathan Berger, AIDS Law Project, South Africa**
- **Manju Chatani, AMAG, Ghana**
- **Julie Davids, CHAMP, US**
- **Jerome Galea, UCLA Global Health, Peru**
- **Dr. Pamina Gorbach, UCLA, US**
- **Bridget Haire, AFAO, Australia**
- **Dr. Rowena Johnston, amFAR, US**
- **Rick Jones, GNP+, Netherlands**
- **Jeremy Kwan, PT Foundation, Malaysia**
- **Marc-André LeBlanc, GCM, Canada**
- **Dr. Ken Mayer, Brown University, Fenway, US**
- **Dr. Ian McGowan, University of Pittsburgh, US**
- **Kim Mulji, Naz Foundation International, UK**
- **Jim Pickett, AIDS Foundation of Chicago, US**
- **John Shaw, advocate, US [deceased]**
- **Roy Wadia, BCCDC, Canada**

IRMA Mission

- Accelerated research
- Rectal safety studies on all viable vaginal microbicide candidates
- New prevention technologies
- Central forum for exchange, debate, and networking on RM
- Convene diverse perspectives and scientific disciplines

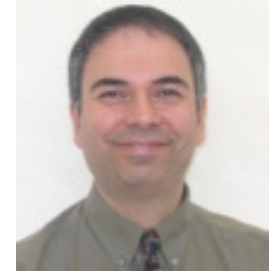
**MEN & WOMEN
DEMAND
RECTAL MICROBICIDES**



Key Activities

- rectalmicrobicides.org – **just launched!**
- **Highly active moderated listserv**
- **Teleconferences**
- **Consensus statement on rectal safety of candidate vaginal microbicides**
- **Watchdog – unproven claims, e.g. Kirklees Medical Lmtd**
- **Lube Survey – 8,945 responses from 107 countries in 6 languages**

Meet a Friendly Rectal Microbicide Advocate



Quote, Unquote



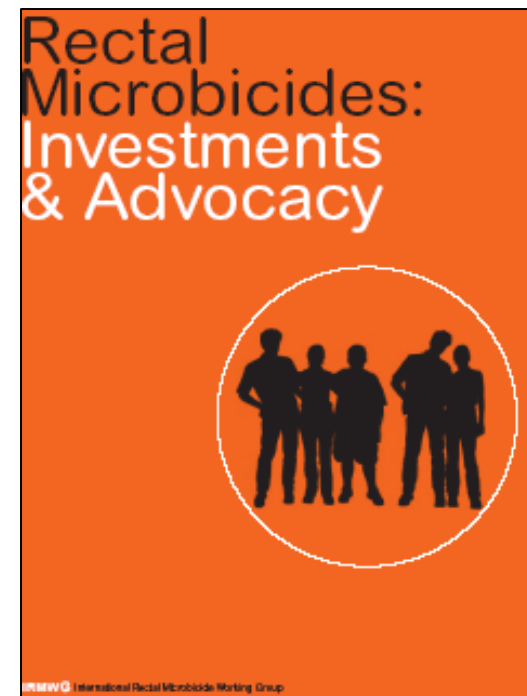
Dr. Ian McGowan

“I see IRMA as a critical forum for advocating for rectal microbicide development. The high educational standards set by IRMA have resulted in increased respect for rectal microbicide development within the broader microbicide community.”

Key Activities



Publications



M2006 – Cape Town

Advocacy Goals

Accelerate Research

- **1. Develop *Rectal Microbicide Research: Mind the Gap***
- **2. Recruit new researchers**
- **3. Increase funding for RM research five-fold**
- **4. Diversify funding sources for RM research**
- **5. Encourage testing of additional commercial lubricants for rectal safety**
- **6. Advocate for increased research into global anal intercourse**

Advocacy Goals



Rectal safety

- **7. Advocates brief, consensus statement**

Other new prevention technologies

- **8. Participate in collaborative efforts, prevention research networks**

Mentor aspiring rectal microbicide advocates

- **9. Increase IRMA's global reach**

Convene diverse perspectives

- **10. Develop Global Rectal Microbicide Development Plan**

Global RM Development Plan

- **Normal drug development pathway?**
- **Who will fund such trials?**
- **How will the research process be coordinated?**
- **Where will the field locate research sites?**
- **What will be the broader prevention research and advocacy context within which these trials would occur?**



Advocates
Researchers
Policy makers
Funders



YOU!

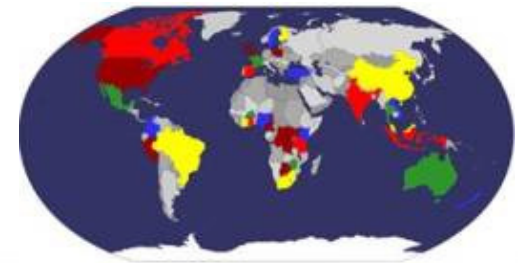


If you want to engage actively in shaping the rectal microbicide field...



- Disseminate “Less Silence, More Science”
- Join one of IRMA’s working groups
- Offer to join the IRMA Steering Committee
- Become your community’s spokesperson
- Reach out to **advocates**, other **researchers**, **policy makers** and **funders**

join us!



Margaret Mead...



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

**MEN & WOMEN
DEMAND
RECTAL MICROBICIDES**

Thank you



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rectalmicrobicides.org