

Technical Review Panel Member

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Irene Benech
 Nationality: Dual citizenship – American & German
 Additional languages: English, French, German, Portuguese
 Expertise: HIV

Qualifications

Qualification	Institution	Department	Year
RSA Certificate in Counseling Skills	Swarthmore Education Center , Leeds, United Kingdom (UK)	--	1997
Qualified as Physician	Free University, Berlin, Germany	Medical School	1987

Employment History

Employer	Position	Place	Year
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – Division of Global HIV and Tuberculosis (DGHT)	<i>HIV Prevention Branch Chief</i>	Atlanta, Georgia, US	01/2016 – to-date
U.S. CDC – Emergency Operations Center, COVID-19 Tribal Support Unit	<i>COVID-19 Field Deployment Team Lead – Shawnee Tribe</i>	Miami, Oklahoma, US	08/30/2020-09/28/2020

U.S. CDC – Emergency Operations Center, COVID-19 Tribal Support Unit	<i>Tribal Liaison Officer – Regions 1,2,3 and 10, Navajo Nation</i>	Atlanta, Georgia, US	05/01/2020- 06/09/2020
U.S. CDC – Division of Global HIV and Tuberculosis (DGHT)	<i>Key Populations Team Lead</i>	Atlanta, Georgia, US	08/2012 – 01/2016
U.S. CDC – Division of Global HIV / AIDS (DGHA)	<i>HIV Prevention Branch Chief</i>	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	10/2008 – 07/2012
U.S. CDC – Global AIDS Program (GAP)	<i>HIV Prevention Branch Chief</i>	Maputo, Mozambique	08/2003 – 09/2008
Project HOPE	<i>Country Director</i>	Maputo, Mozambique	04/2001 – 07/2003
International Eye Foundation (IEF)	<i>Senior Technical Advisor</i>	Blantyre, Malawi	02/2000 – 03/2001
Project HOPE	<i>Program Manager</i>	Mulanje, Malawi	03/1998 – 01/2000
Center for Research in Primary Care, Leeds University	<i>Research Officer</i>	Leeds, United Kingdom (UK)	02/1996 – 05/1997
Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)	<i>Medical Coordinator</i>	Burmese Border, Thailand	10/1993 – 05/1995
MSF	<i>General Coordinator</i>	Terai, Nepal	06/1993
MSF	<i>Medical Coordinator</i>	Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh	07/1992 – 05/1993
MSF	<i>General Coordinator</i>	KajoKeji, South Sudan	05/1992

MSF	<i>General Coordinator</i>	Fort Portal, Uganda	03/1992
MSF	<i>Field Coordinator</i>	Moyo, Uganda	03/1990 – 05/1992
Bleep Medical Agency	<i>Senior House Officer in Pediatrics</i>	London, UK	07/1989 – 02/1990
Hillingdon Hospital	<i>Senior House Officer in Pediatrics and Neonatology</i>	Uxbridge, UK	01/1989 – 06/1989
Queen Mary's Hospital for Children	<i>Senior House Officer in Pediatric Surgery</i>	Carshalton, UK	06/1988 – 12/1988

Relevant Publications

- U Kanagasabai, D Selenic, MS Chevalier, B Drammeh, M Qualls, RW Shiraishi, N Bock, *I Benech*, FD Mili. Evaluation of the WHO global database on blood safety. *Vox Sanguinis*, 30 Sept 2020. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/vox.13001>
- AJ Hakim, T Callahan, *I Benech*, M Patel, M Adler, S Modi, M Bateganya, KA Parris, Trista Bingham. Addressing Vulnerable Population Needs in the Last Mile to the elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV: (Re)Claiming the HIV Response for Female Sex Workers and Their Children. *BMC Public Health* (2020) 20:1015. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-09114-5>
- G Djomand, T Bingham, *I Benech*, M Muthui, H Savva, S Alamo, C Manopaiboon, T Wheeler, S Mital. Expansion of HIV Preexposure Prophylaxis to 35 PEPFAR-Supported Early Program Adopters, October 2016–September 2018. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020; Vol. 69 / No. 8: 212-215.
- B Drammeh, S Laperche, JF Hilton, Z Kaidarova, L Ozeryansky, A De, M Kalou, *I Benech*, B Parekh, EL Murphy. Proficiency Testing of Viral Marker Screening in African Blood Centers — Seven African Countries, 2017. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2019;68:947–952. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6842a3external_icon
- U Kanagasabai, MS Chevalier, B Drammeh, FD Mili, ML Qualls, N Bock, *I Benech*, LJ Nelson, G Alemnji, DH Watts, D Kimani, D Selenic. Trends and Gaps in National Blood Transfusion Services — 14 Sub-Saharan African Countries, 2014–2016. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2018;67:1392–1396. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6750a4>.
- W Hladik, *I Benech*, M Bateganya, A J Hakim. The utility of population-based surveys to describe the continuum of HIV services for key and general populations. *Int J STD AIDS*, published online, 2015. DOI: 10.1177/0956462415581728.

- A Schwitters, M Swaminathan, D Serwadda, M Muyonga, R W Shiraishi, *I Benech*, S Mital, R Bosa, G Lubwama, W Hladik. Prevalence of Rape and Client-Initiated Gender-Based Violence Among Female Sex Workers: Kampala, Uganda, 2012. *AIDS Behav*, published online, 2014: DOI 10.1007/s10461-014-0957-y.
- J Langa, C Sousa, M Sidat, K Kroeger, E McLellan-Lemal, H Belani, S Patel, D Shodell, M Shodell, *I Benech*, R Needle. HIV Risk Perception and Behavior among Sex Workers in Three Major Urban Centers of Mozambique. *PLoS ONE*, April 2014, Vol 9, Issue 4, e94838.
- P Bachanas, A Medley, S Pals, D Kidder, G Antelman, *I Benech*, N DeLuca, H Nuwagaba-Biribonwoha, O Muhenja, P Cherutich, P Kariuki, F Katuta, M Bukuku. Disclosure, Knowledge of Partner Status, and Condom Use Among HIV-Positive Patients Attending Clinical Care in Tanzania, Kenya, and Namibia. *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, Volume 27, Number 7, 2013.
- *I Benech*, A E Wilson, A C Dowell. Evidence-based practice in primary care: past, present and future. *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*, 1996, 2, 4: 249-263.
- K Jones, A Wilson, I Russell, A Roberts, C O’Keeffe, B McAvoy, A Hutchinson, A Dowell, *I Benech*. Evidence-based practice in primary care. *British Journal of Community Health Nursing*, 1996, 1, 5: 276-280.
- K Jones, B McAvoy, A Wilson, A Dowell, *I Benech*, N Cullum, I Russell, A Roberts, C O’Keeffe, A Hutchinson. Network for Evidence-based Practice in Northern and Yorkshire. *Refocus*, 1996, 4: 8.
- B Barret, T Ancelle, L Flachet, *I Harndt (maiden name)*, J Castilla, A Moren. An outbreak of meningitis, Moyo, Uganda 1991-1992. *Cahiers Sante*, 1993, 3: 98-103.
- C Paquet, T Ancelle, M Gastellu Etchegorry, J Castilla, *I Harndt*. Persistence of antibodies to *Trypanosoma brucei gambiense* after treatment of human trypanosomiasis in Uganda. *Lancet*, 07/1992, 340: 250.

Additional Information

Health Equity Award – Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), Division of Global HIV/AIDS, May 2014: This award honors outstanding efforts in achieving health equity through the identification, reduction or elimination of infectious or chronic disease health disparities through programs, research and surveillance. The award was presented to Irene Benech for exemplary leadership and contributions to CDC’s support for life-saving HIV services for key populations.

Joe Haydon Award – US President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), June 2007: This award highlights an individual’s exceptional contribution to the Emergency Plan, exceptional teamwork and commitment to the mission by providing strong leadership and promoting interagency team building.