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Sent: Mon, 18 Jul 2016 01:11:50 -0400
To: Meegan, James (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Handley, Gray (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bernabe, Gayle (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Rosa, William (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Chen, Ping (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: China activity update July

Hi,

Since I returned from US-Shanghai-Nanchang trip in late Jun, I haven't provided an update on China activities. Below is a summary what can highlighted during the past 3 weeks or so.

CAMS-NIAID immunology meeting planning has been the main focus. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We have planned this meeting this far and we need to make our best effort to make it happen and successful.

In Shanghai, I attended a consultation meeting organized by GSK to learn about Chinese clinical travel capacity for new antibiotic trials. (b) (5)

[REDACTED], I was invited to attend this meeting. GSK invited several Chinese experts in ID, AMR, and clinical research. It was a very informative meeting. We have learned major issues facing conducting clinical trials for new antibiotics such as recruitment issues with inclusion and exclusion criteria, patient consent forms, lack of experienced clinicians for recruitment, etc. Although many hospitals have established clinical research centers, have certified by the Chinese regulatory agent for conducting clinical trials, and have done GCP training, they still have issues with compliant to GCP and GLP operations. At this meeting and later at the National TB meeting I heard repeated issues on errors during clinical trials due to unfamiliar with (or ignorant) the practical requirement of GCP/GLP, which affect the quality of the studies. When GSK asked for the expert to comment on its proposal for establishing a clinical trial network for AMR, the consultants applauded idea and eager to participate. GSK's Zhi Hong (the head of the GSK anti-infective program and led the GSK center for infectious diseases and public health in Beijing) met with Dr. Fauci on Monday, the 11th, asking for NIAID support for this clinical trial network in China. I know Dennis and Carl attended the meeting with Fauci. I don't know the outcome of the meeting. In Nanchang at the Chinese National TB meeting, I gave a presentation on NIAID's TB programs including the intramural TB project at Henan Chest Hospital, DAIDS TB clinical trial network, DMID's TB portfolio, and NIAID's research resources. Thanks Christine Sizemore, Richard Hafner, and Laura Via for providing me their program information.

After returned to Beijing, I arranged a meeting for GSK Zhi Hong to meet with Ken and CDC people at the embassy. He discussed clinical trial network idea and the newly established GSK center for infectious diseases and public health in Beijing. In addition to move new antibiotic development to China, they are also planning to be involved in public health related activities such as training. They hope to work closely with US, UK, and China on AMR, Clinical research, and public health.

Through my US connection, Eli Lilly company contacted me and wanted to meet to discuss its company's activities in China. I learned from them at this meeting the company has had a long history of supporting MDR TB programs in China because the company had manufactured the second line TB drugs. But they are phasing out the TB program in China and plan to initiate diabetes program in China (Lilly makes diabetes drugs). I included CDC's NCD person and HHS at this meeting so they can give them their prospective.

I met with EcoHealth Alliance, a NY based non-profit organization on health. They have a R01 grant from DMID on identifying SARS-like coronaviruses in China. They partner with Dr. Shi Zhengli at Wuhan Institute of Virology. I visited Dr. Shi over a year ago. She took bat samples in caves in certain regions of China, isolated and identified viruses and found some viruses are similar to SARS by sequencing. Now

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We are talking about close animal-human close contact in densely populated city.

Another meeting was with a group of public health students from North Dakota University. The led professor knew Ray Chen and wanted to take his students to visit US embassy. They met with me and CDC office to learn what we are doing in China and what kind of advice we can give to the students as they are entering this profession.

In addition to NIAID-CAMS meeting, I received a request from CAMS of assisting a visit by two CAMS officials to NIH. They want to spend 4 days at NIH to meet with NIAID and NIH clinical center to learn about project management and operation, and everything for establishing a clinical center. They need to have an invitation letter from NIH so that they can prove to CAMS' management office for the duration of their visit to NIH. Tina Chung at FIC can issue the invitation

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The proposed dates are Aug 15-19. We will need to provide assistance to their NIAID visit. I will work with Gayle on this. I am invited to attend the first meeting organized by the Chinese NIH Alumni and to give a 10 min remark at the opening on Aug. 6. Based on the information I received, about 2-3 years ago Dr. Collins met with a former NCI researcher and now the head of the Peking University Medical College and two talked about establishment of a Chinese NIH Alumni as there are so many Chinese researchers trained and worked at NIH in the past. This is the first such a meeting among ex NIH researchers and trainees, and an opportunity for networking and set up collaborations among them. I think this is also an opportunity to introduce our NIH-NSFC funding and other NIH resources available for them. Gayle will help me prepare for the talk.

Personnel update: (b) (6). The health attache's position is empty now. No idea when the replacement will come. ESTH section has contacted all HHS agencies and other related agencies in the embassy for a meeting with DCM on health related topics. The first meeting is this Thursday. I threw AMR and Clinical research as the possible topics.

William, I need the signed ICASS documents. The deadline for turning them in has passed.

Talk to you tonight.

Ping

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