

## RESPOND Newsletter

December 2022

Dear RESPOND Study Investigators and Collaborators,

We are happy to finally present to you a RESPOND newsletter, highlighting some important recent achievements and updates for the study over the past year.

On behalf of the RESPOND secretariat, leadership, and funders, we want to convey our immense gratitude to all study participants, investigators, operational team members, data managers, and cohort principal investigators for your tremendous efforts and contributions to the RESPOND study. Thank you for your continued support and hard work, especially given these challenging years during the COVID-19 pandemic and the huge workload in the clinics.

We wish everyone in the RESPOND study a wonderful end of 2022, and we look forward to continuing the great collaboration in 2023 and beyond.

Sincerely,  
The RESPOND Secretariat

### Study Updates

#### New collaborating cohorts

We are happy to announce that two cohorts joined the RESPOND consortium in 2021: the Brighton HIV cohort and the Croatian HIV cohort. We look forward to a productive collaboration.

#### Dataset 5 (DS5)

RESPOND was formed in 2017 and has, by the end of 2022, accrued data on more than 37,000 people living with HIV from 19 different cohorts spread across Europe and Australia. We would like to express our gratitude to all cohorts for your contributions.

This year we are collecting dataset 5, which opened on 1st September 2022. The deadline for the data submission for Dataset 5 was 1st December 2022.

#### Deadlines:

- **Data resubmission: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023**
- **Event forms and CoDe forms submission: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023**

Please, feel free to contact the RESPOND secretariat if you need access to the REDCap or REST. We would like to remind you that relevant information about the

event forms is presented in the RESPOND [Manual of Operations \(MOOP\)](#).

## Onsite monitoring visits

Due to the improving COVID-19 situation, the RESPOND secretariat is able to carry out onsite visits to collaborating cohorts. We would like to thank all cohorts we have visited since September 2022 for your hospitality and warm welcome! It was a great pleasure to meet you in person and to discuss our collaboration. Together with the cohorts, the RESPOND secretariat develops an individual plan to optimise data handling further and improve data quality and completeness.

In the near future, we will also contact the cohorts that we have to visit.

## Teaching activities

To support the onboarding of new cohort staff and to facilitate event data collection, the RESPOND secretariat plans to produce a short teaching video that will be available online, highlighting keynotes from the RESPOND Manual of Operations (MOOP).

## Reminder

We kindly remind you that cohorts aiming to increase their number of enrolled RESPOND participants must first make arrangements with the RESPOND secretariat.

## Funding

In 2021 Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) joined Gilead Sciences and ViiV Healthcare in funding the RESPOND consortium. We warmly welcome MSD and thank all our funders for their commitment to supporting contemporary research on antiretroviral treatment, coinfections, and care for people living with HIV.

---

## Cohort profiles

We kindly remind all cohorts to review their cohort profile on the RESPOND [website](#). Please, send to the RESPOND secretariat a short cohort description if you have not already done so, or if it needs updating. It should indicate your cohort age, location, number of sites, hallmark findings, primary research focus, key personnel, and a link to your cohort website if existing.

Please also review your study group on the [RESPOND Study Group webpage](#).

---

## Scientific Interest Groups (SIG) & Working Groups (WG):

Below is an updated list of active RESPOND SIGs and WGs:

- Outcomes with Antiretrovirals SIG
  - Cancer WG
  - BMI WG
  - Two-drug vs three drug WG
  - Heavily treatment-experienced/limited treatment options WG
  - Cardiovascular disease WG
  - Mortality WG
  - Liver disease WG
- Hepatitis/viral co-infection SIG
- Public Health SIG
- Tuberculosis SIG
- Gender Specific SIG

If you are interested in joining a SIG or a working group, please contact the RESPOND secretariat: [respond.rigshospitalet@regionh.dk](mailto:respond.rigshospitalet@regionh.dk)

In case you would like to suggest a new project within RESPOND, please, contact the [RESPOND secretariat](#) to discuss the possibilities and practicalities.

The first step is to put together a core working group and prepare a formal [proposal](#) and [statistical analysis plan](#) (SAP). These documents will subsequently undergo several stages of review.

The full information about proposals and circulation can be found in the [Standard Operational Procedure for the development and circulation of scientific projects in RESPOND](#).

---

## RESPOND Writing Groups

Based on the new scheme for constructing writing groups in RESPOND, the secretariat is circulating a single email to all principal investigators for each new project. In the absence of a reply, the principal investigators are added as representatives in the writing group per default. However, we kindly welcome all principal investigators to also appoint another person from your department/cohort to act as a writing group member of the specific project instead of you.

## Scientific presentations and publications

### Presentations

In 2022, RESPOND was represented with the following abstracts at international conferences:

[Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Virtual & In-Person February 12-16 2022](#)

*Poster presentation:*

- **Trends in cancer incidence in different modern ART-eras among people living with HIV** presented by Amanda Mocroft on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group. [POSTER](#)

[12th International Workshop on HIV & Women, Virtual, 6-8 April 2022](#)

*Poster presentation:*

- **Characteristics of Women Living with HIV in the RESPOND Cohort** presented by Jolie Hutchinson on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group. [POSTER](#)

[Australian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine \(ASHM\) conference, 29 August - 1 September 2022](#)

*Oral presentation:*

- **Characteristics of Women Living with HIV in the RESPOND Cohort** presented by Jolie Hutchinson on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group. [PRESENTATION](#)

[HIV Glasgow 2022, 23-26 October 2022](#)

*Oral presentation:*

- **Risk of tuberculosis after initiation of antiretroviral therapy among people living with HIV in Europe** presented by Isik Somuncu Johansen on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group. [POSTER](#) and [PRESENTATION](#)
- **Use of Preventive Measures for Cardiovascular Disease in People living with HIV** presented by Nadine Jaschinski on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group. [POSTER](#) and [PRESENTATION](#)

*Poster presentation:*

- **Initial plasma HIV-1 RNA and CD4+ T-cell count are determinants of virological outcomes with initial integrase inhibitor-based regimens: A prospective multinational RESPOND cohort consortium** presented by Hortensia Álvarez on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group. [POSTER](#)

24<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on long-term complications of HIV and SARS-CoV-2, 6 – 9 December 2022

*Poster presentation:*

▪ **Heavy ARV exposure, exhausted/limited ARV options: Predictors and outcomes** presented by Amanda Mocroft on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group. [POSTER](#)

One abstract has been accepted for the conference in 2023:

[Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections \(CROI 2023\)](#), Seattle, Washington, 19-22 February 2023

*Poster presentation and themed discussion:*

▪ **Trends in mortality in people living with HIV in an international cohort (RESPOND)** presented by Erich Tusch on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group.

## Ongoing projects

Three abstracts have been submitted for the 25<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on HIV and Hepatitis Observational Database (IWHOD), 23-25 March 2023:

▪ **Measures of longitudinal immune dysfunction and risk of AIDS and non-AIDS defining malignancies in HIV-positive antiretroviral treated individuals** led by Frédérique Chammartin on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group.

▪ **INSTI-related changes in body mass index (BMI) and risks of hypertension and dyslipidaemia** led by Dathan Byonanebye on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group.

▪ **Chronic liver impairment and use of contemporary antiretroviral therapy among persons living with HIV** led by Ashley Roen on behalf of the RESPOND Study Group.

There are currently 12 approved project proposals that are under development in RESPOND, with some of them be considered for submission as late breaker abstracts for CROI 2023 or IAS 2023.

---

## Publications 2022

In 2022, four RESPOND manuscripts have been published in international peer-reviewed journals:

1. **Integrase Strand Transfer Inhibitor Use and Cancer Incidence in a Large Cohort Setting.** Lauren Greenberg et al. on behalf of the RESPOND study group. *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*, Volume 9, Issue 3, March 2022, ofac029. [Abstract](#)

2. **Incidence of hypertension in people with HIV who are treated with integrase inhibitors versus other antiretroviral regimens in the RESPOND cohort consortium.** Dathan Byonanebye et al. on behalf of the RESPOND study group. *HIV Med.* 2022 Sep;23(8):895-910. [Abstract](#)

3. **Associations between integrase strand-transfer inhibitors and cardiovascular disease in people living with HIV: a multicentre prospective study from the RESPOND cohort consortium.** Bastian Neesgaard et al. on behalf of the RESPOND study group. *Lancet HIV.* 2022:S2352-3018(22)00094-7. [Abstract](#)

4. **Recent abacavir use and incident cardiovascular disease in contemporary treated people living with HIV.** Nadine Jaschinski et al. on behalf of the RESPOND study group. *AIDS.* 2022 Aug 24. [Abstract](#)

Additionally, we are happy to report that the two RESPOND publications, '**Clinical outcomes of two-drug regimens vs. three-drug regimens in antiretroviral treatment-experienced people living with HIV**', led by Lauren Greenberg,

and 'Recent abacavir use and incident cardiovascular disease', led by Nadine Jaschinski, were referenced in the [2022 IAS-USA panel recommendations](#).

For a full overview of all RESPOND publications, please see the RESPOND [website](#), and to stay up to date with ongoing and upcoming research activities follow RESPOND on [Twitter](#).

---

## Graduations

**Bastian Neesgaard** successfully defended his PhD thesis in May 2022 at the University of Copenhagen.

**Lauren Greenberg** successfully defended her PhD thesis in January 2022 at the University College London.

Congratulations to both for their outstanding work. We are happy that both will continue their work within RESPOND.

---

## Staff update

There are currently four PhD students working on RESPOND data: Nadine Jaschinski (Copenhagen), Alisa Timiryasova (Copenhagen), Erich Tusch (Copenhagen) and Dathan Byonanebye (Sydney).

---

## Upcoming Meetings

- RESPOND SSC VC January 24th 2023
- RESPOND Retreat in conjunction with IWHOD 2023 in Athens, Greece, scheduled for 22nd (from 15 CET) and 23rd March (to 12 PM CET) 2023 with plans for a data manager session.

**We wish everyone in RESPOND  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**



### Why are you receiving this email?

*You are receiving this email because you are affiliated with the RESPOND study. By providing your contact details to the RESPOND Secretariat, you are included in the mailing list for the RESPOND Consortium.*

Contact

Please always feel free to contact the RESPOND  
Secretariat at [respond.rigshospitalet@regionh.dk](mailto:respond.rigshospitalet@regionh.dk).  
No question is too small or too big, we are happy to assist in all matters!



Copyright © 2020 Rigshospitalet, CHIP, All rights reserved.  
You are receiving this email because you are affiliated with the RESPOND study.

**Our mailing address is:**

**Rigshospitalet - University of Copenhagen**  
CHIP, Department of Infectious Diseases, Section 2100  
Centre for Cardiac, Vascular, Pulmonary and Infectious Diseases  
Blegdamsvej 9  
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø,  
Denmark

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).