

2018 CPFI Annual Conference
Bonclarken Conference Center
Flat Rock, North Carolina
Saturday, June 2, 2018
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What a Pharmacist Learned from Teachable Moments in Africa

What a Pharmacist Learned from Teachable Moments in Africa

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this presentation, the participants will be able to:

1. Identify new opportunities in pharmacy brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.
2. Recognize a “God Moment” when it happens in the midst of daily pharmacy activities.
3. Analyze an apparent pharmacy failure in order to see God’s sovereign hand at work.

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Let's look at each of these objectives in more detail

1. Identify new opportunities in pharmacy brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.
 - a. Lost job at NanoSystems/Elan (5/2009)
 - b. Opened door for renewed mission activity with Plesion/CMML
 - c. HIV/AIDS project—TNT
 - d. Excellent results in 1 month
 - e. Hope is in our God! This is such an appropriate theme for our CPFJ conference. *"We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations!"*
(Charles Swindoll)

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Plesion International "TNT" for AIDS: Aloe Vera Capsules, Artemisia Annua Tablets, Whey Protein Powder

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Summary of the 2015 HIV/AIDS preliminary clinical trial results:

- There were 79 patients enrolled in the Goma study who received the 3 products after obtaining an initial CD₄ count.
- After 1 month of triple nutritional therapy (AV-AA-WP) a 2nd CD₄ was obtained.
- All patients were also taking ARVs according to the government protocol.
- The average increase in the CD₄ count was **290**. Such a rapid increase can not be attributed to the ARV component taken (typically much slower).
- No treatment failures were reported.
- No significant side effects were reported.
- All patients reported showed a positive response.
- At least 5 patients included in the study were children.
- At least 6 patients in this study had undetectable viral loads!
- The quality of life of the patients after 1 month of therapy was remarkable: most reported concurrent infections and problems (including 7 with TB) cleared up; bedridden patients (5) were able to get up and return to a normal life; and a 3 year old orphan who lost both parents to AIDS and was living with sisters in a orphanage gained weight and her TB was cleared!

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2. Recognize a “God Moment” when it happens in the midst of daily pharmacy activities.
 - a. Dr. Furaha refused DLA tablets for HIV; Dr. Daddy accepted them for malaria
 - b. Preliminary study with 120 malaria patients (4/2016)
 - c. Two special cases published in *Phytomedicine* (1)
 - d. Plans for a 600-patient DLA/ACT clinical trial at Rwanguba Hospital, DRC under the auspices of world-renown Artemisia researcher, Dr. Pamela Weathers, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA
 - e. Hope is still in our God!

(1) <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0944711317300570>

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Dr. Pamela Weathers, Artemisia researcher at WPI for 25+ years

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Rwanguba General Hospital, DRC – site of the malaria clinical trial

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Dr. Daddy Bati with malaria clinical trial patient at Rwanguba Hospital

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Artemisia Tablets and Coartem (ACT) Tablets used in the malaria clinical trial at Rwanguba Hospital

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3. Analyze an apparent pharmacy failure in order to see God's sovereign hand at work.
 - a. Training, unexpected delays, security issues, clinical trial started (10/2017)
 - b. Unexpected failures with tablets & laboratory analyses; halted trial after 88 patients
 - c. DLA milling issues; failure to find gametocytes; need to change the research team
 - d. Waiting more than 6 months to get answers; decide whether to proceed and how. Don't ever pray for patience—God will send tribulation as His best means of teaching you patience! These times of waiting are never easy, but if we rush ahead of God in our own wisdom, then we are doomed to failure. **Proverbs 3:5-6** are my life verses. Remember, God has not finished writing this last chapter!
 - e. Hope will always be in our God!

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Clinical trial team trained at Rwanguba Hospital

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Rene Industries, Ltd., Kampala, Uganda

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With Directors, Rene Industries, Ltd.

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Rene Industries R&D tablet press that made the Artemisia tablets

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- Q&A?
- For a copy of this presentation, or to subscribe to our newsletter *Hope for the Heart of Africa*, contact: robertwatt121@gmail.com