

Collaborative global health research during a pandemic...woof

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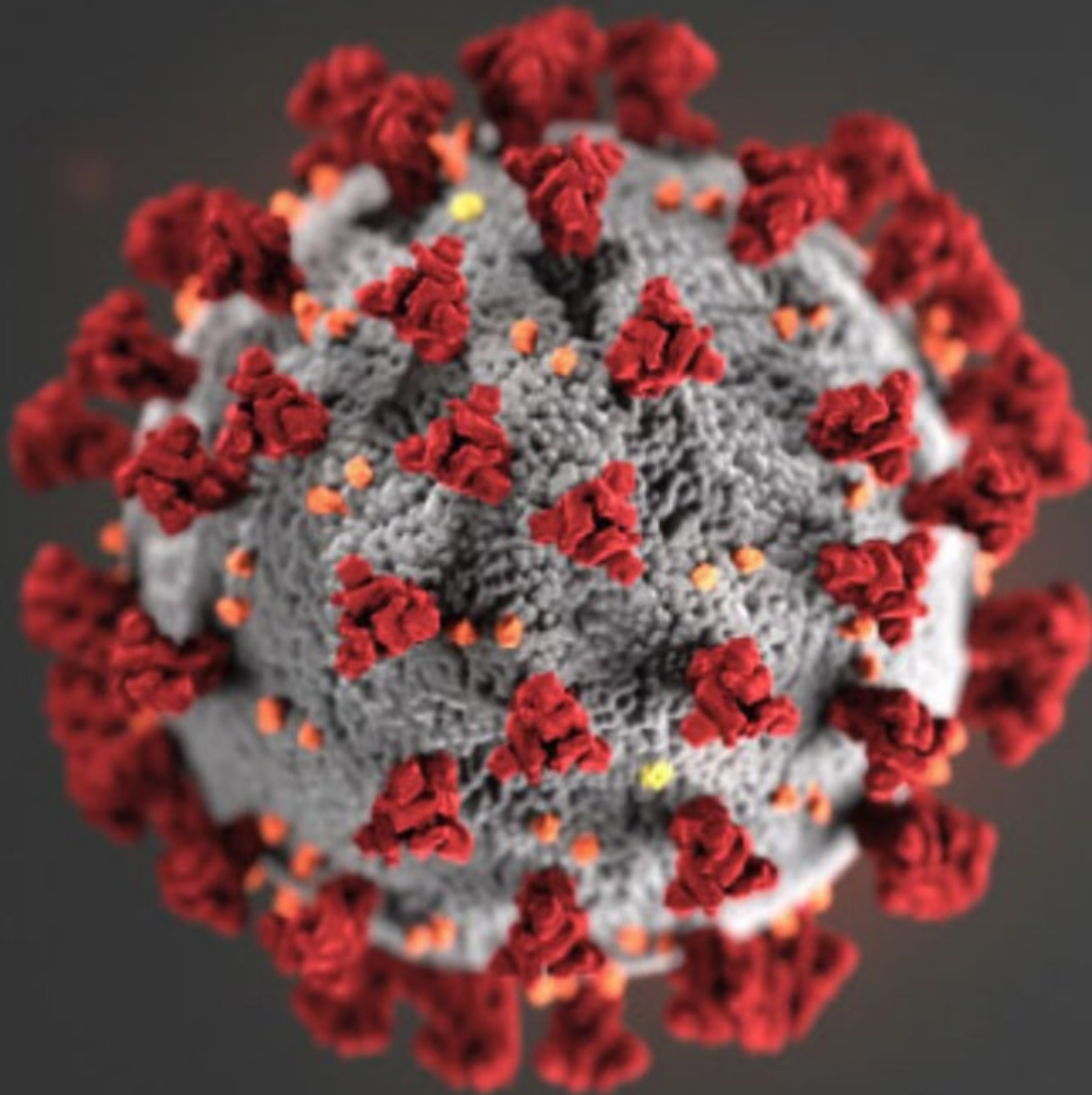
Department of Medicine

HIV-associated meningitis



Our research

- Cryptococcal meningitis
- TB meningitis
- Other meningitis and OI's
- The group as a whole has been prolific
 - Publications and presentations
 - WHO and National guidelines
 - Thousands of lives saved



First steps

- Everything paused
 - KU and UG
 - Patient enrollment stopped
- Uganda
 - Care only for existing patients
 - Everything is shut down
 - No research activities

My activities

- ALL COVID!
- Clinical
- Clinical trial site PI – MANY proposals
- University COVID research task force
- Chair of therapeutic for the health system
- KS state remdesivir task force
- ...non-hospital dealing with COVID too!

Opening back up

- Opening at KU was easy enough for me
- COVID duties slowly shrink, up and down
 - COVID trial ends, I focus on my own research
 - Demand for trials drops as our institution establishes self as an ACTIV trial site
 - Clinical and therapeutics ongoing but pace has slowed
 - Vaccines make coping easier personally

Collaboration

- Uganda and the US not always on the same page
- Regulations always vary with collaboration GH research but the COVID is COVID
- Travel was out (coming back now)
- Eventually trials could restart, formal process there as here
- Clinical trials are complicated 😊
 - Many components

HARVEST Trial

- Multi-site trial – Kampala, Durban, Bandung, Jakarta
- High dose Rifampin for TB meningitis, RTC, placebo controlled
- Go home, don't travel, lots of zoom
- New barriers and old
 - Placebo manufacturing
 - Shipping/import
 - Permits, IRB updates etc
 - Varying degrees of adaptation

A new collaboration



- Great timing 😊
- French Guiana and AIDS associated histoplasmosis
- No travel has been a problem
- Know the PI, not the team
- I don't really know their setup

Lessons

- A lot the same
 - For research and for global health research
- Flexibility
- Humility
- Patience
- Perseverance
- Team-based

Questions or Comments?

