

## THE WALTER REED ARMY INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH

# Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences – AFRIMS

For 50 years, the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS) has set the standard for tropical infectious disease research and development. Founded as the SEATO Laboratory and renamed AFRIMS in 1977, as a research facility, it has acquired new disease research missions to be responsive to meet new challenges. Our mission has developed to conduct basic, preclinical and clinical research, diseases surveillance to develop drugs, diagnostics and vaccines for military relevant infectious disease.

AFRIMS has many unique features – strengths responsible for its continued success. It has a dual Royal Thai Army and US Army Command with the American Component being

### *About Us*

- Conducted bench science, surveillance, and testing of infectious disease medical countermeasures and diagnostics
- 50 year partnership with the Royal Thai Army
- 28 active duty US Army personnel

### *Research & Development*

- Enteric Diseases
- Entomology
- Immunology
- Retrovirology
- Veterinary Medicine

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### *Major Accomplishments*

- Completed the world's largest HIV vaccine efficacy trial which, for the first time, showed that a vaccine can be protective, reducing HIV infection rate by 32%.
- Rapid diagnostic tests developed for common causes of diarrhea
- Three time AAALAC accreditation, 1999, and Exemplary status in 2005 & 2008
- Evaluated “Binax” rapid diagnostic kit for malaria: now US FDA licensed
- BSL-3 certified laboratory
- Designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Diagnostic Reference, Training and Investigation of Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Serves as a model for effective medical diplomacy by fostering U.S.-host nation collaborations in biomedical research, product development, outbreak response, and disease surveillance

### *Field Sites*

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| Thailand | Vietnam |
| Laos     | Nepal   |
| Cambodia | Bhutan  |

To learn more, visit us on the web: [www.afrims.org](http://www.afrims.org)

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