Infectious Diseases Division Newsletter

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Congratulations to Ashita Batavia (former ID fellow), who was awarded the Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award of Alpha Omega Alpha at the WCM Convocation.

Congratulations to Priya Kodiyanplakkal and Ayana Morales, who graduated from the Leadership in Academic Medicine Program (LAMP).
Awards and Honors

Congratulations to **Lish Ndlovu**, for selection of his publication as a highlighted article and cover feature in the Journal of Leukocyte Biology: “Genome-wide DNA methylation profiling of peripheral blood reveals an epigenetic signature associated with severe COVID-19”.

Congratulations to **Alina Pang**, who was received the Dean’s Pilot Program to Promote Diversity in T32 Research Training Award.
Congratulations to **Cesar Arias**, who will transition from UTHealth in Houston to become the new Chief of I.D. at Houston Methodist, a WCM affiliate.

Congratulations to **Nick Demenagas**, who joined NYPH/WCM as a Clinical Pharmacy Manager on July 26th. He’ll be helping with ID consult services and antibiotic stewardship.

Congratulations to **Anna Gwak** of the ID-Clinical Research Unit, who has been promoted to Regulatory Specialist.
Congratulations to incoming I.D. Fellows, Anna Mertelsmann (left), Alex Stabell (right), and Kate Stoeckle (center), who joined the I.D. Division on July 1st:

Farewell to Katy Robb, who has accepted Research Nurse Coordinator position with the NYP Transplant Nephrology research team.

Congratulations to Larry Siegel, who has been appointed as Vice-Chair of the Expedited IRB as of July 1st.
Grants

Congratulations to Thomas Walsh, who received a Hellenic American Fellowship/Mentorship grant to provide support for work in bacteriophages for MDR GNRs, COVID-19 medicinal chemistry, and antifungal pharmacology, while training 4 Hellenic Fellows.
On July 13th, Grant Ellsworth gave a talk for the International Antiviral Society—USA entitled “Prevention of HPV-Related Anal Cancer in Persons With HIV: How Should We Screen and Will Vaccines Make a Difference?”

On July 19th, Teresa Evering gave a talk for the Infectious Diseases Symposium at the Annual National Medical Association (NMA) Convention entitled “Rise Above COVID - COVID-19 Treatment and Research”.

There were numerous presentations at the 31st European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID) 2021 to note:

- **Burkitt M, Satlin M, Derti S, Loo A, Westblade L**, Hargrave J, **Simon M**. Impact of rapid molecular diagnostic techniques on clinical outcomes of patients with vancomycin-resistant enterococcal bacteremia.

The following abstract was presented at the 11th IAS Conference on HIV Science:

- Peter Ackerman, **Timothy Wilkin**, Amy Pierce, Shiven Chabria, Marcia Wang, Andrew Clark, Max Lataillade. Clinical Impact of Antiretroviral Agents Used in Optimized Background Therapy with Fostemsavir in Heavily Treatment-Experienced Adults With HIV-1: Exploratory Analyses Of The Phase 3 Brighte Study.
Other News

There is now a Transplant/Oncology Infectious Diseases webpage on the I.D. Division website: https://medicine.weill.cornell.edu/tx-oncology-id-program.

A patient and their family commented:

“Patient Mr. H and his wife praised Anna Mertelsmann [new I.D. fellow] for her very professional and compassionate care she provided while he was sick in the hospital.”

On July 28th, there was a welcome gathering for the incoming Fellows in Central Park:
Adeel Butt was featured in the following articles:

- Science: “The overlooked superpower of mRNA vaccines” (link)
- Medscape: “‘Gold Standard' Study Confirms COVID mRNA Vaccines Prevent Infection” (link)
- WedMD: “‘Gold Standard' Study Confirms mRNA Vaccines Prevent Infection” (link)

Marshall Glesby was featured in the following article:

- U.S. News & World Report: “Americans Living With HIV Have Near-Normal Life Expectancy: Study” (link)

Marshall Glesby and Trip Gulick were featured in the following article:

- Healio: “Mortality gap narrows between patients with HIV, general population” (link)
Trip Gulick was featured in the following articles:

- Washington Post: “You had the Johnson & Johnson coronavirus vaccine. Should you try to get a booster dose of Pfizer or Moderna?” (link)
- MSN News: “You got a coronavirus vaccine. But you still became infected. How did that happen?” (link)
- NewYork-Presbyterian Health Matters: “The Delta Variant: What You Need to Know” (link)
- NewYork-Presbyterian Health Matters: “10 Facts About the COVID-19 Vaccines” (link)
- WCM Newsroom: “NIAID Renews Weill Cornell Medicine Grant for Advancing Prevention and Treatment Research for HIV” (link)
- Politico Pro “Today’s Tip” on July 7th: Dr. Trip Gulick (NYP/WCM) shares the latest on the COVID-19 Delta variant (link)

Guin Lee was featured in the July 2021 Office of the Research Dean Newsletter:

“Dr. Guinevere Lee (Instructor of Virology in Medicine) received a $2.1M research grant from the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases for her study entitled, ‘Characterization of Non-subtype B HIV-1 Reservoirs and its Association with Longitudinal Clinical Outcomes.’”
**Newsroom Updates**

**Lish Ndhlovu** was featured in the July 2021 Office of the Research Dean Newsletter under Research Highlights as well as Notable Publications for his study/publication entitled “Antibody-based CCR5 blockade protects Macaques from mucosal SHIV transmission” ([link](#)). He was also featured in the following article:
- WCM Newsroom: “Antibody Shows Promise as an HIV Prevention Tool in a Preclinical Study” ([link](#))

**Mirella Salvatore** was featured in the following article:
- Health: “Can You Safely Hang Out with Unvaccinated Friends? Here’s What Doctors Recommend” ([link](#))

**Ole Vielemeyer** was featured in the following article:
- WCM Newsroom: “Summer Travel Tips: How to Stay Safe From COVID-19” ([link](#))


ID Faculty Meeting (8:30 am). Linked [here](#).

IDWeek 2021 will take place from September 29th through October 3rd. Register [here](#).
- Late breaker deadline: August 18th
- Early registration deadline: August 27th

Department of Medicine Research Retreat. Abstract deadline: August 27th.