



Infectious Diseases

Division Newsletter

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Awards and Honors



Congratulations to **Kirk Deitsch**, who received a \$3.1M research grant from the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases entitled, "A Structured Transcriptional Switching Network that Coordinates Antigenic Variation by Malaria Parasites."



Congratulations to **Robert Peck**, who received a \$2.7M research grant from the National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute entitled, "HIV, Sleep, Nocturnal Non-dipping, and Cardiovascular Disease: a Tanzanian Cohort."



Congratulations to **Harjot Singh**, who was elected as a Fellow in the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA).



Awards and Honors



Congratulations to **Eli Finkelsztein** and **Christine Hatola** (Infection control and Prevention) for being recognized by CHEERS FOR PEERS, a peer recognition program, for actions and behavior that have brightened the workplace.

Here is what a colleague wrote:

“**Eli** is a hard worker and always a team player. No matter how busy he is he is always full of optimism and encouragement for his colleagues. He shows concern about his co-workers just as he does his patients. His positive attitude and compassion shine making a happier place to work.”

Here is what a colleague wrote:

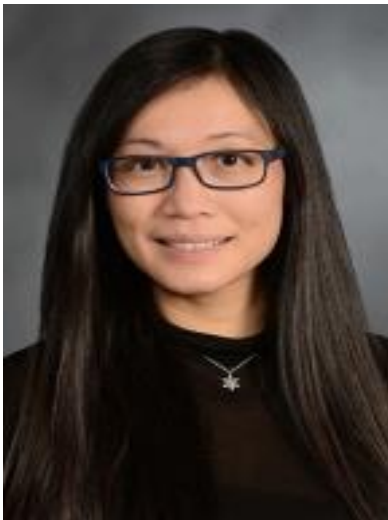
“**Christine** brightens up the room with her cheery attitude and positivity everyday. She welcomes everyone warmly and is kind and compassionate. Her optimistic energy makes for a happier working environment!”



Appointments and Transitions



Congratulations to **Ali Danesh**, who was appointed as Assistant Professor of Research in Medicine.



Congratulations to **Guinevere Lee**, who was elected to the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) Cure Transformative Science Group.





Appointments and Transitions



Congratulations to **Rebecca Marrero-Rolon**, who will be joining us on January 4, 2022, as the Associate Medical Director of the Microbiology Laboratory. She will work with Dr. Lars Westblade, Medical Director of the Microbiology Laboratory



Congratulations to **Kyu Rhee**, who was promoted to Professor of Medicine on November 1, 2021.





Grants



Congratulations to **Linnie Golightly**, who successfully competed for an NIH NHLBI R61/R33 to study In vitro modeling of brain blood barrier dysfunction on a chip to elucidate the pathogenesis of cerebral malaria. Dr. Golightly serves as a PI on the grant along with Dr. David Lyden, Professor of Pediatrics, Dr. Raphael Lis, Assistant Professor of Reproductive Medicine in Medicine and Dr. Ben Gyan of the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana.





Other News



David Calfee ran the 50th NYC Marathon in 3:18.27.



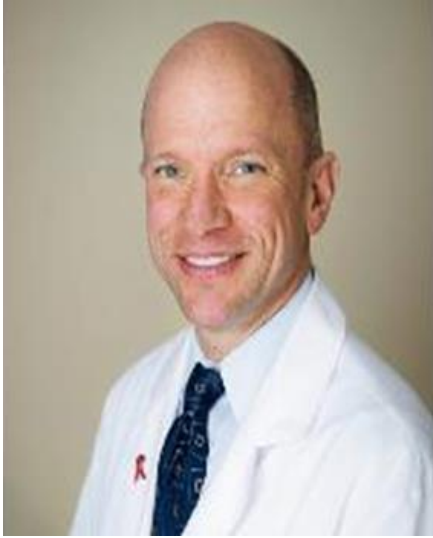
On November 12th, **Grant Ellsworth** was featured in the following article: “How to Reduce Anal Cancers in People With HIV”. ([Link](#))



Linnie Golightly served as a panelist for the Diversity Center of Excellence's COVID-19 STEM Community Education & Empowerment Internship for undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students. The mission of the internship is to empower students interested in medical and health fields to disseminate information about Covid-19 and vaccination by educating diverse communities.



Other News



Trip Gulick presented at the following:

On November 15th, gave a talk on Increasing Transparency & Opportunity in Faculty Compensation at the Blackwell Society Panel Discussion.



On November 29th, gave a talk on “ART: Past, Present, and Future” for the Slovenian National World AIDS Day Conference.



WORLD AIDS DAY CONFERENCE
»AIDS40«



Other News



On November 13th, **Shashi Kapadia** presented at The American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) Meeting “Rapid HCV Testing and Treating Young Drug Injectors Yields Higher SVR12”. ([Link](#))



Abstract:

Eckhardt BJ, Kapadia SN, Pai M, Aponte-Melendez Y, Fong C, Davis L, Mateu-Gelabert P, Marks KM. Rapid hepatitis C treatment initiation in young people who inject drugs: final results from the HCV-SEEK, TEST & RAPID TREATMENT (HCV-ST&RT) randomized pilot clinical trial. AASLD, The Liver Meeting, November 12-15, 2021. Parallel session 14: Hepatitis C Oral Session.



Mirella Salvatore presented at the following:

On November 10th, she presented at the Federal University of Health Sciences of Porto Alegre, Global Health lecture series, “Insights from the Covid-19 pandemic in New York City”.

On November 11th, she presented at the University of Rochester Medical Center, Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology Grand Rounds, “The Covid-19 pandemic: clinical and immunological insight”.

On November 19th, she presented at the NYP Queens Infectious Disease Seminar Series, “Covid-19: Immunological and metabolic findings”.



Sixth Annual Weill Department of Medicine Research Retreat

Presentation

Brad Jones gave a senior faculty talk, entitled “SARS-CoV2 mRNA vaccination exposes latent HIV to Nef-specific cytotoxic T lymphocytes”.

Abstracts

Christopher Brown: A novel lipid is associated with transmission advantage in circulating strains of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

Michael Corley: Accelerated epigenetic aging of disease-critical monocytes associates with poor glycemic control in a type 2 diabetes multiethnic population

Lee, Guinevere Completed genome-intact unspliced HIV transcripts are rare in ex vivo CD4+ cells.

Grant Ellsworth: Predominance of Non-HPV 16/18 in a Randomized Clinical Trial of Adjunctive Quadrivalent HPV Vaccine in the Treatment of Cervical High Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesions in Women with HIV.

Carrie Johnston: Hepatic Steatosis is Associated with Insulin Resistance and Frailty in Older Adults with HIV.

Khanh Pham: Effects of Helminths on Cardiometabolic Diseases and Risk Factors: A Systematic Review.

Panagiotis Zagaliotis: Antimicrobial Efficacy and Kinetics of Bacteriophages in a Murine Model of Disseminated Carbapenemase-Producing *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (KPC) Infection.

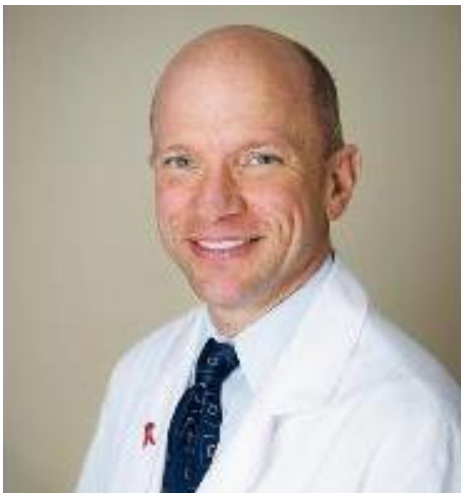
Box Link: [6th Annual Research Retreat | Powered by Box](#)



Newsroom Updates



On November 15th, **Jennifer Downs** and **Dan Fitzgerald** discussed strategies and experiences around institutional global partnerships at the Weill Cornell Medicine Inaugural Global Symposium. ([Link](#))



On November 5th, **Trip Gulick** was featured in [The Washington Post](#): “Aaron Rodgers said he did the research on covid vaccines. Here’s how he was wrong, according to experts”.



Newsroom Updates



On November 3rd, **Rosemary Soave** gave a talk on Nocardia at the WCM Medical Grand Rounds Clinicopathologic Conference (CPC).





Divisional Publications

- ❖ Adeniji OS, Kuri-Cervantes L, Yu C, Xu Z, Ho M, Chew GM, Shikuma C, Tomescu C, George AF, Roan NR, **Ndhlovu LC**, Liu Q, Muthumani K, Weiner DB, Betts MR, Xiao H, Abdel-Mohsen M. Siglec-9 defines and restrains a natural killer subpopulation highly cytotoxic to HIV-infected cells. PLoS Pathog. 2021 Nov 11;17(11):e1010034. doi: 10.1371/journal.ppat.1010034. PMID: 34762717; [PMCID: PMC8584986](#).
- ❖ **Furler RL, Nixon DF**. HIV-1 Exploits Transitions Between CD4+ T Cell Migration and Activation. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2021 Oct 29. doi: 10.1089/AID.2021.0137. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 34714116](#).
- ❖ Palmos AB, **Duarte RRR**, Smeeth DM, Hedges EC, **Nixon DF**, Thuret S, **Powell TR**. Lithium treatment and human hippocampal neurogenesis. Transl Psychiatry. 2021 Oct 30;11(1):555. doi: 10.1038/s41398-021-01695-y. [PMID: 34718328](#).
- ❖ **Pham K**, Gottesdiener L, **Simon MS**, **Trzebucki A**, **Maldarelli GA**, Cisse B, Lieberman J, **DeHaan E**, Pisapia D. Meningovascular Syphilis Presenting as a Brain Mass in an Immunocompetent Male. Open Forum Infect Dis. 2021 Aug 31;8(9):ofab455. doi: 10.1093/ofid/ofab455. PMID: 34557566; [PMCID: PMC8454516](#).
- ❖ **Rosenblatt J**, Leung A, Baneman E, Fuller R, Taimur S, Paniz-Mondolfi AE, Malone AK, **Kirkman L**, Jacobs SE. Relapsed *Babesia microti* Infection Following Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation in a Patient With B-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia: Case Report and Review of the Literature. Open Forum Infect Dis. 2021 Jun 21;8(9):ofab323. doi: 10.1093/ofid/ofab323. PMID: 34514015; [PMCID: PMC8415536](#).



Important Dates



Next Faculty Meeting

8:30AM – 9:30AM

Hybrid A-450 and Zoom

([https://weillcornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJOqfuyrrDguGNcob1zw34hi8_qLrC15EOxW](https://weillcornell.zoom.us/j/90251234567))



Christmas Day

(WCM Holiday- 12/24)



New Year's Day

(WCM Holiday 12/31)

