



Infectious Diseases Division Newsletter

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Awards and Honors



A patient's family complimented
Melissa Beras
(Patient Coordinator in I.D. Associates),
for her professionalism.



Congratulations to **Joshua Rosenblatt**,
who was accepted into the 2024-2025
Weill Cornell Group Peer Mentoring
Program.



Awards and Honors



Congratulations to **Mirella Salvatore**, who was elected as a member of the IDSA Continuing Education Subcommittee effective now through IDWeek 2027.





Appointments and Transitions



Farewell and congratulations to **Andrea Gramatica**, who left WCM on October 31, 2024, and started a new role as Vice President of Research at the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR).





Grants



Congratulations to **Fiona Gispen**, who was one of the recipients of the 2024-2025 CHERISH Pilot Grant, entitled: ‘Prior Authorization Prohibitions and Buprenorphine Treatment Retention’. ([Link](#))





Other News



Trip Gulick gave a talk at the Canadian Trials Network Plus Strategic Meeting, Entitled: “Collaborative Clinical Trials Networks”, in Montreal, Canada, on 10/02/2024.



Lish Ndhlovu co-chaired the Viral Infections and Inflammation Workshop 2024, on 09/26–09/27. ([Link](#))

Lish Ndhlovu also co-chaired the 41st Annual Symposium on Nonhuman Primate Models for AIDS in New Orleans, on 10/22-10/25.

His talks were:

- “Co-Morbidity and Aging Across the Health Span”
- “Advancing healthy immune aging in people living with HIV”



Other News

Trip Gulick visited Ithaca to give a talk on HIV to Masters of Public Health (MPH) students on 10/10/2024 and gathered with our Ithaca I.D. colleagues, **Doug MacQueen** and **Eli Finkelsztein**.





Other News

Congratulations to **Evan Cooper** and his husband Joe, on the birth of their son, Aidan, born on October 16, 2024.





Other News

Congratulations to **Austin Golia** and his wife Nikki del Castillo, on the birth of their son, Luca Nicholas, born on October 17, 2024.

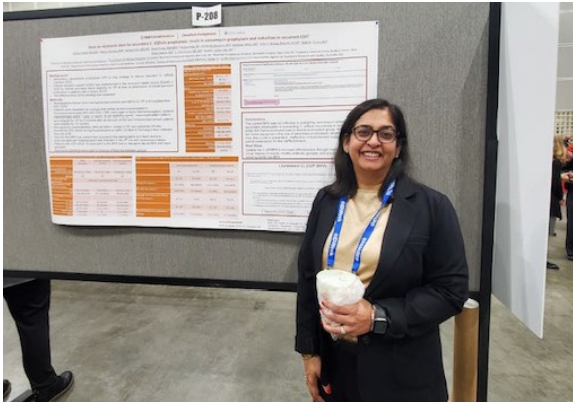




Other News



Here are some of the Past, Present, and Future Cornellians who attended the IDWeek Reception, on Thursday, October 17th.





Other News



There were numerous divisional posters:

- **Kapadia** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Clinical Trials. ([P-107](#)) Serious Injection-Related Infections in Hospitalized Adults with Opioid Use Disorder Enrolled in an Ongoing Randomized Clinical Trial: A Focus on *Staphylococcus aureus*
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Global Health. ([P-184](#)) Gastrointestinal Illness in Attendees of FIFA Football World Cup 2022 in Qatar
- **Singh** (Presenter), **Horowitz, Simon, Torres, Calfee**. Halls JK. Poster Session: HAIs: *C. difficile*. ([P-208](#)) Does an electronic alert for secondary *C. difficile* prophylaxis result in vancomycin prophylaxis and reduction in recurrent CDI?
- **Arias, Satlin** (Co-authors). Halls JK. Poster Session: HAIs: Gram Negatives (MDR-GNR). ([P-285](#)) Effects of Comorbidities and Charlson Comorbidity Index Application on Patient Outcomes in Blood and Respiratory Carbapenem-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacterial Infections
- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: HAIs: Gram Positives (MRSA, MSSA, VRE). ([P-310](#)) Evolutionary dynamics of the Chilean-Cordobes MRSA clone allowed the emergence of new MRSA clones in Chile
- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: HAIs: Gram Positives (MRSA, MSSA, VRE). ([P-316](#)) Multi-Drug Resistant Organism Colonization is Dynamic and Associated with Adverse Outcomes in Critically Ill Patients
- **Calfee** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: HAIs: Hand Hygiene/Transmission-Based Precautions. ([P-332](#)) A Discrete Choice Experiment to Evaluate Healthcare Personnel Preferences Regarding Risk-Tailored Policies for Contact Precautions for Patients with Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in Hospitals
- **Delgado de- La Mora, Cesarman** (Co-authors). Halls JK. Poster Session: HIV: Complications and Coinfections. ([P-466](#)) Clinical and Microbiological Characteristics of Secondary Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis in People Living with HIV/AIDS



Other News



Posters Continued:

- **Shackman** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: HIV: Prevention. ([P-524](#)) Comparative Costs of Implementing an Evidence-Based Online HIV Prevention Program: Direct-to-Consumer Marketing vs. Community-Based Organization Recruitment
- **Butt** (Co-author). Virtual. Poster Session: HIV: Treatment. ([P-531](#)) Mitochondrial DNA Haplogroups and Circulating Immune Cell Phenotypes in Veterans with and without HIV
- **Gali** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Respiratory Infections – Bacterial. ([P-653](#)) Epidemiology of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* serotypes using serotype specific urinary antigen (SSUAD) in cancer patients
- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Bacteremia. ([P-843](#)) Enhancing Bacteremia Mortality Predictions: A Comparative Study of Machine Learning Models Across Databases
- **Arias, Satlin** (Co-authors). Halls JK. Poster Session: Bacteremia. ([P-861](#)) CTX-M-15-producing H30 ST131 *Escherichia coli* contributes to carbapenem use for *E. coli* bloodstream infections in the United States
- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Bacteremia. ([P-889](#)) Therapeutic Failures of High Inoculum Infections with Cefazolin: Role of A Rapid Test and Prevalence of the Cefazolin Inoculum Effect in Methicillin-Susceptible *Staphylococcus aureus* (MSSA) Bloodstream Infections
- **Murali, Arias** (Co-authors). Halls JK. Poster Session: Medical Mycology. ([P-1039](#)) Plasma Cathelicidin (LL37) Levels Are not Associated with *Candida* Gut Colonization in Critically Ill Patients.
- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Medical Mycology. ([P-1041](#)) Contemporary Increase in Candidemia Mortality Is Associated with Antifungal Resistance and Patient Demographics.
- **Westblade** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Novel Agents. ([P-1067](#)) *In Vitro* Potency of Ceftibuten-Avibactam (CTB-AVI) and Comparators against Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamase (ESBL)-like Enterobacterales from Outpatient Centers and Nursing Homes in the United States
- **Calfee, Umana** (Co-authors). Halls JK. Poster Session: Public Health. ([P-1265](#)) Risk Factors for Contamination of Healthcare Personnel Gloves and Gown with *Candida auris* (*C. auris*)



Other News



Posters Continued:

- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Resistance Mechanisms. ([P-1342](#)) LiaX Decreases Killing By β -Lactam Antibiotics: Enterococcal Tolerance Revisited
- **Hoppe, Arias** (Co-authors). Halls JK. Poster Session: Resistance Mechanisms. ([P-1349](#)) Multi-hospital Dissemination of Ampicillin Resistance Associated with a Frame-shift Deletion in *pbp4* of Vancomycin-Resistant *Enterococcus faecalis* (VREfs)
- **Arias** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Resistance Mechanisms. ([P-1365](#)) Cefazolin Inoculum Effect in Methicillin Susceptible *Staphylococcus aureus* Recovered From the Nasal Cavity of Patients in Intensive Care Units in Colombia
- **Han** (Presenter), **Wu, Abramson**. Halls JK. Poster Session: Social Determinants of Health. ([P-1429](#)) Racial Disparities in Childhood Vaccination Rates and Their Association with State-Level Structural Racism
- **Singh** (Presenter), **Baguistan, Semple, Kumar, Westblade**. Halls JK. Poster Session: Antibiotic Stewardship: Diagnostics/Diagnostic Stewardship. ([P-1601](#)) Reducing Inappropriate *Cytomegalovirus* and Hepatitis Genotype Testing with Diagnostic Stewardship
- **Acker** (Presenter), **Singh, Westblade, Ma, Gerber, Alfonzo, Dempsey**. Halls JK. Poster Session: Antibiotic Stewardship: Diagnostics/Diagnostic Stewardship. ([P-1610](#)) Assessing the Impact of Reflex Urine Cultures in Pediatrics
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Antibiotic Stewardship: Trends in Antimicrobial Prescribing. ([P-1724](#)) Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) on Appropriate Antibiotic Use among Healthcare Providers in Qatar - A cross-sectional study
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Antibiotic Stewardship: Trends in Antimicrobial Prescribing. ([P-1725](#)) A Cluster Randomized Trial of Bundled Interventions to Reduce Inappropriate Antibiotic Use in the Outpatient Setting
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: COVID-19: Complications, Coinfections and Clinical Outcomes. ([P-1901](#)) Statin Use and Severe/Critical/Fatal Outcomes in Individuals with COVID-19
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: COVID-19: Complications, Coinfections and Clinical Outcomes. ([P-1942](#)) Unexpected Cardiac Deaths in Patients with COVID-19 Infection



Other News



Posters Continued:

- **Abu-Raddad** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: COVID-19: Epidemiology and Screening. ([P-1948](#)) Differential Patterns of Protection from Natural Infection against SARS-CoV-2 Reinfection in the Pre-Omicron and Omicron Eras
- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Diagnostics: Bacteriology/Mycobacteriology. ([P-2083](#)) Validation of the Modified Rapid Test for detection of the Cefazolin Inoculum Effect (CzIE) in bloodstream isolates of Methicillin-Susceptible *Staphylococcus aureus* (MSSA) from North and Latin America
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Diagnostics: Mycology. ([P-2122](#)) Spectrum of Infection and Outcomes in Individuals with *Candida auris* Infection in Qatar
- **Gali** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Diagnostics: Mycology. ([P-2137](#)) Evaluating the clinical utility of bronchoalveolar lavage polymerase chain reactions for the diagnosis of pulmonary infections in patients with hematological malignancies
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Hepatitis. ([P-2180](#)) Linkage to Care, Treatment Initiation, and Outcomes in Individuals with *Hepatitis B Virus* Infection With and Without Cirrhosis
- **Kum** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Hepatitis. ([P-2209](#)) Hepatitis B Immune Globulin Utilization in Patients Presenting to the Emergency Department Following Sexual Assault
- **Plate** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: New Diagnostics. ([P-2224](#)) Clinical and Public Health Implications of Tularemia Diagnoses by Microbial Cell-Free DNA Testing
- **Arias** (Co-author). Halls JK. Poster Session: Transplant and Immunocompromised Host Infections. ([P-2265](#)) Treatment Patterns of *Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamases (ESBL)*-producing Enterobacterales (ESBLs) In Individuals With Immunocompromised Conditions: Real-World Experiences From An USA Research Network Study
- **Marino** (Presenter), Oxer, Westblade, Satlin. Halls JK. Poster Session: Transplant: Studies of Pre-Transplant Screening and Evaluation. ([P-2320](#)) Clinical Significance of Colonization with Fluoroquinolone-Resistant Enterobacterales in Hematopoietic Cell Transplant Recipients and Patients with Acute Leukemia
- **Butt** (Presenter). Halls JK. Poster Session: Virology: Epidemiology of Viral Infections. ([P-2322](#)) Screening Rates and Clinical Outcomes for *Hepatitis Delta* in Individuals with HBV Coinfection



Other News

The Transplant Oncology ID Program celebrated Halloween at the CRU Investigator Meeting on 10/30/2024.





Other News

The annual HIV Obstruction by Programmed Epigenetics (HOPE) Martin Delaney HIV Cure Collaboratory (co-PI – **Lish Ndhlovu**) meeting was held on 09/30/2024, at the Westin Times Square.





Other News

Carrie Johnston gave a talk at the International Workshop of HIV and Aging in Washington DC, entitled: “Tobacco Use and Cessation in Older Adults with HIV”, on 10/24/2024.



Alex Stabell presented his research at the opening session of the National Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) meeting at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square, on 10/30/2024.



Other News

Linnie Golightly and colleagues are below after the signing of a new donor statement on urgent action required to address antimalarial drug resistance at a meeting last month on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. ([Link](#))

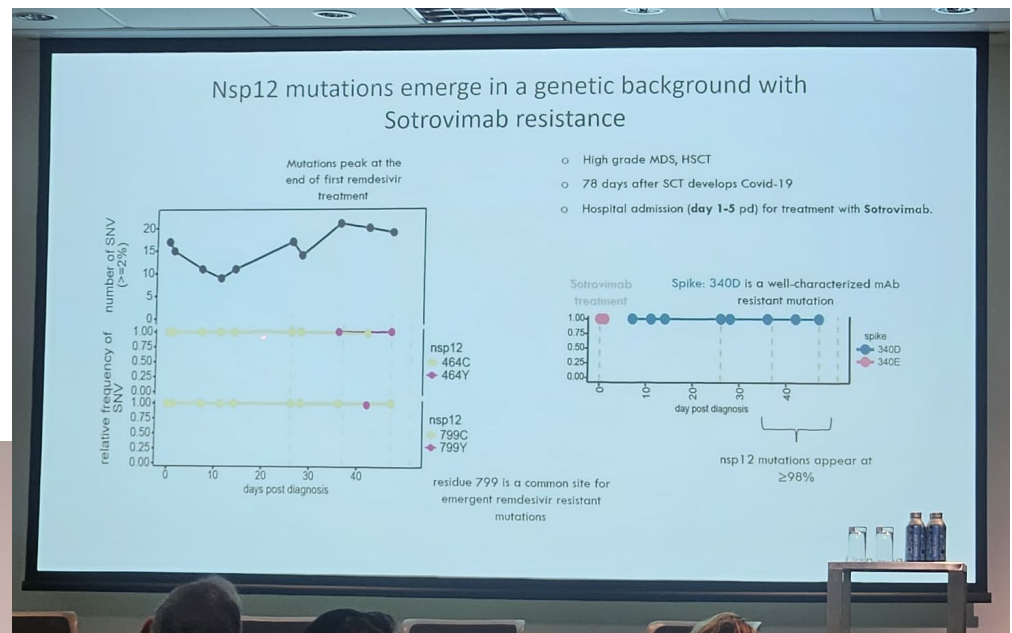


From left, ASTMH CEO Jamie Bay Nishi, U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) Coordinator Dr. David Walton and ASTMH President Dr. Linnie Golightly



Other News

Mirella Salvatore gave an oral presentation at the OPTIONS for the Control of Influenza XII meeting, entitled: “Emergence of resistance to COVID-19 treatments in the immunocompromised host”, in Brisbane, Australia.





Newsroom Updates



Teresa Evering was featured in the following:

[WCM Newsroom](#): “Search Continues for a Treatment that Reduces Long COVID Symptoms”.



Trip Gulick was featured in the following:

[New York Post](#): “Connecticut dad dies from rare mosquito-borne virus he caught in his own backyard – and cases are on the rise”.



Mirella Salvatore was featured in the following:

[Pharmacy Times](#): “Immunocompromised Patients With Persistent COVID-19 Can Harbor Drug-Resistant Variants Following Treatment”.



Divisional Publications

- Chew KW, McGinley B, Moser C, Li JZ, **Evering TH**, Ritz J, Javan AC, Margolis D, Wohl DA, Hughes MD, Daar ES, Currier JS, Eron JJ, Smith DM; ACTIV-2/A5401 Study Team. Viral and symptom rebound following anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibody therapy in a randomized placebo-controlled trial. *J Infect Dis*. 2024 Oct 14:jiae501. doi: 10.1093/infdis/jiae501. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 39400063](#).
- Durand CM, Massie A, Florman S, Liang T, Rana MM, Friedman-Moraco R, Gilbert A, Stock P, Mehta SA, Mehta S, Stosor V, Pereira MR, Morris MI, Hand J, Aslam S, Malinis M, Haidar G, **Small CB**, Santos CAQ, Schaenman J, Baddley J, Wojciechowski D, Blumberg EA, Ranganna K, Adebisi O, Elias N, Castillo-Lugo JA, Giorgakis E, Apewokin S, Brown D, Ostrander D, Eby Y, Desai N, Naqvi F, Bagnasco S, Watson N, Brittain E, Odum J, Redd AD, Tobian AAR, Segev DL; HOPE in Action Investigators. Safety of Kidney Transplantation from Donors with HIV. *N Engl J Med*. 2024 Oct 17;391(15):1390-1401. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2403733. [PMID: 39413376](#).
- Jilg N, Giganti MJ, Chew KW, Shaw-Saliba K, Ritz J, Moser C, **Evering TH**, Daar ES, Eron JJ, Currier JS, Hughes MD, Lane HC, Dewar R, Smith DM, Li JZ. SARS-CoV-2 Plasma Antibody and Nucleocapsid Antigen Status Predict Outcomes in Outpatients With COVID-19. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2024 Oct 15;79(4):920-927. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciae324. PMID: 39018444; [PMCID: PMC11478775](#).
- Joseph J, **Premeaux TA**, Tandon R, Murphy EL, Bruhn R, Nicot C, Herrera BB, Lemenze A, Alatrash R, Baffour Tonto P, **Ndhlovu LC**, Jain P. Dendritic Cells Pulsed with HAM/TSP Exosomes Sensitize CD4 T Cells to Enhance HTLV-1 Infection, Induce Helper T-Cell Polarization, and Decrease Cytotoxic T-Cell Response. *Viruses*. 2024 Sep 10;16(9):1443. doi: 10.3390/v16091443. PMID: 39339919; [PMCID: PMC11436225](#).





Divisional Publications

- Larson EC, Ellis AL, Rodgers MA, Gubernat AK, Gleim JL, Moriarty RV, Balgeman AJ, de Menezes YT, Ameal CL, Fillmore DJ, Pergalske SM, Juno JA, Maiello P, Chishti HB, Lin PL, Godfrey DI, Kent SJ, Pellicci DG, **Ndhlovu LC**, O'Connor SL, Scanga CA. Transiently boosting V γ 9+V δ 2+ $\gamma\delta$ T cells early in Mtb coinfection of SIV-infected juvenile macaques does not improve Mtb host resistance. bioRxiv [Preprint]. 2024 Jul 23:2024.07.22.604654. doi: 10.1101/2024.07.22.604654. PMID: 39091843; PMCID: [PMC11291075](#).
- **Mertelsmann AM**, Bowers SF, Wright D, Maganga JK, Mazigo HD, **Ndhlovu LC**, et al. (2024) Effects of Schistosoma haematobium infection and treatment on the systemic and mucosal immune phenotype, gene expression and microbiome: A systematic review. PLoS Negl Trop Dis 18(9): e0012456. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0012456>
- **Ndhlovu LC**, **Bendall ML**, Dwaraka V, **Pang APS**, **Dopkins N**, Carreras N, Smith R, **Nixon DF**, **Corley MJ**. Retro-age: A unique epigenetic biomarker of aging captured by DNA methylation states of retroelements. Aging Cell. 2024 Oct;23(10):e14288. doi: 10.1111/ace1.14288. Epub 2024 Aug 2. PMID: 39092674; [PMCID: PMC11464121](#).





Important Dates



Department of Medicine Research Retreat
(in-person – Belfer 2nd/3rd Floor) (8:30am – 4:30pm)
Keynote Lecture – 3:30pm – Uris Auditorium
([zoom link](#))



I.D. Faculty Meeting
12PM to 1PM
([Zoom Link](#))



Thanksgiving Holiday

