



Division of Infectious Diseases

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



January 2024

Dr. Eddie Stenehjem Leadership Announcement

Welcome to 2024 and the first ID newsletter of the year! 2023 was an incredible year with the addition of 6 new faculty members that have brought with them their enthusiasm, their ID wisdom, and new ideas. We are so lucky to have them and look forward to watching them grow in the Colorado ID community. In addition, 2023 was the end of Dr. Poeschla's tenure as ID Division Head. We are indebted to Dr. Poeschla for all that he has given to the division. Increased clinical salaries at Anschutz Medical Campus, a sustainable financial model with UCH, and his success in recruitment will certainly be part of his legacy. Thank you, Eric!

As I have moved into the interim Division Head role, I have had the chance to connect with many of you. I am so appreciative of the warm welcome and the time you have spent with me. I look forward to all that 2024 will bring...a division head search, the start of a new mentorship platform for our new junior faculty members, and more in-person conferences to name a few.

Thank you for all that you do for our community and welcome to 2024!

Sincerely,
Eddie

Patient Experience Quotes

"LOVE, LOVE, LOVE the **IDGP Practice!!**"

"**Dr. Castillo** took the time to listen to all my current issues and asked very insightful questions. She also laid out a specific plan for future treatment and asked me to message her back in a few days with an update on my condition."

"This was my initial transfer of care appointment to **Dr. Erlandson**. She was very polite and professional and very thorough with reviewing my current treatments and providers. She made sure all of my questions and concerns were answered and I was comfortable with the plan going forward. Every interaction I have had with Dr. Erlandson has been great!

"**Dr. Johnson** is extremely intelligent, professional, always up on the latest current medications and what's happening in the world, very friendly, always lets me know what's going on and listens to what I need and provides me with an ongoing comfortable medical care."

"**Dr. Huang** is a careful listener and provides a thoughtful, interactive approach to her decision process."

Other Division News

ID Fellowship Program Receives Continued Accreditation from ACGME

Great news from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)! The Review Committee for Internal Medicine has granted Continued Accreditation to our Infectious Disease fellowship program, effective January 19, 2024. Congratulations and thanks to Brian, Michael, Chelsea, and all involved for their ongoing dedication in ensuring our program meets the high standards established by the ACGME's Next Accreditation System.

Lorna Allen, Quality Improvement Writing Group

Lorna Allen was selected as a member of the 2nd cohort of the Quality Improvement Writing Group for her project on improving the accuracy of discharge IV antibiotics. Her project was chosen by leaders from the Institute for Healthcare Quality, Safety and Efficiency (IHQSE)

from an excellent application pool due to the significant merit and importance of her project. Congratulations, Lorna!

Joshua Barocas Emergency Warming Shelter Advocacy

Joshua Barocas gave a presentation to the City Council advocating for an increase in the temperature thresholds for Denver's warming centers. City policy currently allows warming centers to open only after temperatures dip to 20 degrees fahrenheit, which puts people experiencing homelessness at an increased risk for hospitalization and death.

Josh's presentation to City Council can be found [here](#). The issue received attention from multiple media outlets: [Denverite](#), [9News](#), and [The Denver Post](#).

Susan Mason Endowed Award Fund in Infectious Diseases

Applications are being accepted now through March 1 for the spring Susan Mason Award. Distributions from the Susan Mason Fund are used to provide two annual awards (one in the Spring and one in the Fall) to internal medicine or pediatric residents and/or adult or pediatric infectious disease fellows. The fund supports research, discovery, teaching, or clinical care in infectious diseases. Each award of approximately \$1500 can provide support for costs associated with professional development opportunities (trainings, conference attendance, etc.), research (participant remuneration, clinical programs, reagent costs, etc.), clinical programs, or development of educational materials. Please contact Kristine Erlandson (kristine.erlandson@cuanschutz.edu) with any questions.

RetroPath 2023

Eric Poeschla and Mario Santiago attended the 33rd International Workshop on Retroviral Pathogenesis from Dec. 4-7 in Trento, Italy. Eric presented his lab's data on "Picornaviral RdRp Transgenesis Produces a Pure MDA5 Activation State that Protects Against Retrovirus Infection and Disease Without an Autoimmunity Trade-off." Mario served on the organizing committee and was a co-author on a couple of collaborative projects, one presented by Dr. Douglas Nixon's lab, "Endogenous Retroelement Expression Correlates with Pathological Immunity in the Gut Microenvironment of People Living with HIV-1," and another by Dr. Katherin Sutter's lab, "Modulation of Friend Virus-specific CD4+ T cell responses by different IFN α subtypes." Skiing in the Dolomites ensued!



In-Person Case Conference Success

We are thrilled by the strong attendance and active participation at our recent in-person case conferences. We appreciate your dedication to these sessions and encourage everyone to sustain their valuable contributions by attending future in-person conferences. The accompanying image captures the engaged atmosphere of the January 25, 2024 event. Thank you for your continued support!



2023 ID Holiday Party

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our 2023 Infectious Diseases Holiday Party! It was a joy to celebrate the season with all of you.



Some Recent Publications



Nipun Atri

Nipun Atri was published as first author in a book chapter titled "Infectious Disease Evaluation and Management" within the book "Limb Preservation for the Vascular Specialist." [Read more.](#)



Margaret Fitzpatrick

Margaret Fitzpatrick published two recent papers:

"Perceptions, experiences, and beliefs regarding urinary tract infections in patients with neurogenic bladder: A qualitative study" in *PLoS One*. [Read more.](#)

Management of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria and Urinary Tract Infections in Patients With Neurogenic Bladder and Factors Associated With Inappropriate Diagnosis and Treatment" in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. [Read more.](#)



Maheen Abidi

Maheen Abidi published two recent papers:

"CMV IgG is Associated with Physical Function but not Muscle Density in People with HIV" in the *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*. [Read more.](#)

"Patient years lost due to cytomegalovirus serostatus mismatching in the scientific registry of transplant recipients" in *Frontiers in Immunology*. [Read more.](#)



Neena Thomas-Gosain

Neena Thomas-Gosain published a paper in *Federal Practitioner* titled "Increasing Local Productivity Through a Regional Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative." [Read more.](#)



Stephen Morris

Stephen Morris published a paper in the *Journal of Immunology* titled "Cytomegalovirus Infection Facilitates the Costimulation of CD57+CD28-CD8 T Cells in HIV Infection and Atherosclerosis via the CD2-LFA-3 Axis." [Read more.](#)



Joshua Barocas

Joshua Barocas published two recent papers:

"Massachusetts Prevalence of Opioid Use Disorder Estimation Revisited: Comparing a Bayesian Approach to Standard Capture-Recapture Methods" in *Epidemiology*. [Read more.](#)

"Mortality, incarceration and cost implications of fentanyl felonization laws: A modeling study" in *International Journal of Drug Policy*. [Read more.](#)



Leland Shapiro & Andrés Henao-Martinez

Leland Shapiro & Andrés Henao-Martinez were authors on two recent papers:

"Anakinra authorized to treat severe coronavirus disease 2019; Sepsis breakthrough or time to reflect?" in *Frontiers in Microbiology*. [Read more.](#)

"Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 as a Risk Factor and Outcome Modifier for Cryptococcosis in HIV Negative, Non-transplant Patients, a Propensity Score Match Analysis" in *Current Microbiology*. [Read more.](#) Additional authors on this paper include Vanessa Kung and Lilian Vargas Barahona, former CU ID fellows.



Andrés Henao-Martinez

Andrés Henao-Martinez published multiple additional papers:

"Recent Nipah virus outbreak in India: lessons and imperatives" in *Therapeutic Advances in Infectious Disease*. [Read more.](#)

"A multi-arm, parallel, preclinical study investigating the potential benefits of acetazolamide, candesartan, and triciribine in combination with fluconazole for the treatment of cryptococcal meningoencephalitis" in *European Journal of Pharmacology*. [Read more](#).

"*Trypanosoma cruzi* Central Nervous System Infection—Pathogenesis, Clinical Manifestations, Diagnosis, and Treatment" ([Read more](#)), "Brain Abscesses in the Tropics" ([Read more](#)), and "Human African Trypanosomiasis (Sleeping Sickness)—Epidemiology, Clinical Manifestations, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention" ([Read more](#)) in *Current Tropical Medicine Reports*.



Eddie Stenehjem

Eddie Stenehjem published a paper in *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology* titled "Impact of an antibiotic stewardship initiative on urgent-care respiratory prescribing across patient race, ethnicity, and language." [Read more](#).

Call for Submissions

We want to hear your news! Please email submissions for our next newsletter to eleanor.shields@cuanschutz.edu.

Visit the [ID Division Website](#)

