



## Division of Infectious Diseases

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



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**November 2023**

### **Division Matches Outstanding Cohort of ID Fellows for 2024**

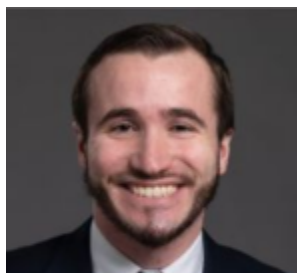
We are thrilled to announce that our division successfully matched a full cohort of Infectious Diseases fellows for the upcoming year. We couldn't be more excited about the exceptional talent joining our team. What makes this achievement even more noteworthy is that every fellow selected demonstrated outstanding qualities that earned them a spot in our top 10 rankings. Please join us in extending a thank you to Brian Montague, Michael Haden, Chelsea McFarland and all involved in this successful match!



**Kirk Fetters, MD**  
University of Colorado  
Harbor-UCLA



**Rebecca Unterborn, MD**  
Temple University  
University of Colorado



**Thomas King, MD**  
Rush University



**Brandon Brummeyer, MD**  
Adult and Pediatric ID  
University of Wisconsin  
Metro Health

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### **Some Recent Publications**

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### **Dinarello Lab**

The Dinarello laboratory led by Charles Dinarello published a major paper in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS)* titled "IL-38 regulates intestinal stem cell homeostasis by inducing WNT signaling and beneficial IL-1 $\beta$  secretion." The paper discusses the homeostatic importance of interleukin-38 (IL-38). IL-38 is a member of the interleukin-1 Family and IL-38 functions as a suppressor of inflammation. As we age, IL-38 in our cells is lower compared to when we are younger. The data from the Dinarello as well as other laboratories suggest that increased inflammatory diseases are in part due to decreased IL-38. [Read more.](#)



### **Neena Thomas-Gosain**

Neena Thomas-Gosain published a paper in the *Journal of American Pharmacists Association* titled "Impact of stewardship intervention on antibiotic prescribing prior to dental procedures in a veteran population." [Read more.](#)



### **Stephen Morris**

Stephen Morris was published in a study titled "A Multicenter Retrospective Cohort Study to Characterize Patients Hospitalized With Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Adults and Coronavirus Disease 2019 in the United States, 2020-2021" in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. [Read more.](#)



### **Nina Millman & Kristine Erlandson**

Nina Millman and Kristine Erlandson published a paper in *Current Opinion in HIV and AIDS* titled "Obesity among women with HIV." [Read more.](#)



### **Alyssa Castillo**

Alyssa Castillo published two papers:

"How to disagree better: utilizing advocacy-inquiry techniques to improve communication and spur behavior change" in *Antimicrobial Stewardship & Healthcare Epidemiology*. [Read more.](#)

"Asymptomatic bacteriuria in critical-access hospitals: Prevalence and patient characteristics driving treatment" in *Infection Control Hospital Epidemiology*. [Read more.](#)



### **Jose Castillo-Mancilla**

Jose Castillo-Mancilla published a paper in *Nature Medicine* titled "Viral and host mediators of non-suppressible HIV-1 viremia." [Read more.](#)



### **Eddie Stenejem**

Eddie Stenejem published a paper in *The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety* titled "Leveraging Health Systems to Expand and Enhance Antibiotic Stewardship in Outpatient Settings." [Read more.](#)

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## **Awards Received**

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### **Lakshmi Chauhan & Timothy Jenkins, Clinical Excellence Society of the Department of Medicine**

Lakshmi Chauhan and Timothy Jenkins have been chosen as first-ever members of the Clinical Excellence Society (*Academiae Laureati Medici*) within the Department of Medicine. This newly inaugurated, highly selective society aims to acknowledge the most elite doctors among our ranks. The selected candidates exemplify excellence in clinical care, professionalism, contributions to quality, research, and education. Congratulations to Lakshmi and Tim on this well-deserved recognition!



### **Katherine Frasca, S.T.A.R Outstanding Faculty Award**

Katherine Frasca was selected by the MD Class of 2027 to receive the S.T.A.R Outstanding Faculty Award (Students Thanking And Recognizing Outstanding Faculty) based on the Foundational Principles Course 2027. A quote from a student states, "Dr. Frasca makes understanding material easy and emphasizes the most important aspects of what she is teaching. She teaches with enthusiasm and clear knowledge of the topics. She also welcomes questions and provides useful answers; I always understand the material better after speaking with her. I additionally appreciate that Dr. Frasca emphasizes emailing her and how approachable she makes herself." The recognition process is fully student initiated, driven, and conducted. Each student in the class was given the opportunity to nominate faculty members from throughout the FP course who made a tremendous impact on them. Congratulations and thank-you for going above and beyond, Katherine!



## Patient Experience Quotes from November

Introducing a new newsletter feature: inspirational patient experience quotes!

"**Dr. Atri** was very knowledgeable, very personable, great bedside manner, and he knew his stuff. I'm only alive because of him, so if you have any questions do call their office because believe me, they're worth it. He's worth it. Thank you."

"**Dr. Scherrer** has been dedicated and most helpful in getting me well again!"

"**[Dr.] Dunlevy** is the best...so knowledgeable/smart, great sense of humor."

"**Dr. Larissa Pisney** listens, makes constant eye contact, asks questions and doesn't rush you. She goes above and beyond in providing excellent care and answered all my questions and concerns. She has always researched possible drug interactions (because I'm on so many medications for my medical disorder) and ensures that the proper tests are done before ordering prescriptions. Dr. Pisney truly cares about her patients."

"**Dr. Johnson** is amazing, caring and very professional. Takes time to explain things so you don't feel rushed. He truly cares which is amazing to find these days. Thank you, Dr. Johnson."

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## Other Division News

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### **DOM Announces All Faculty Promotions Effective July 1, 2023**

In a recent article, the Department of Medicine officially announced all recent faculty promotions. Congratulations to division members Maheen Abidi (Associate Professor), Joshua Barocas (Associate Professor), Laura Damioli (Associate Professor), Katherine Frasca (Associate Professor), Hermione Hurley (Associate Professor), Suzhao Li (Associate Research Professor), and Larissa Pisney (Associate Professor). [See the full list.](#)

## **Thomas Campbell**

Thomas Campbell was interviewed for a news article in The Denver Post titled "Colorado's COVID hospitalizations keep rising, while flu and RSV stay low." In the article, Tom predicts another COVID wave this upcoming winter. [Read more.](#)

## **Presenting Nina and Neena Unintentional Twinning**

Dubbed "Histo Nina" and "Blasto Neena" and also nicknamed after endemic mycoses (by Rachel Kuker). Thanks to Alyssa for capturing this fun moment!



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## **Call for Submissions**

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We want to hear your news! Please email submissions for our next newsletter to [eleanor.shields@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:eleanor.shields@cuanschutz.edu).

Visit the [ID Division Website](#)

