

## SAIS NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear SAIS members,

Below, please find this week's newsletter.

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### FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Biology of Acute Respiratory Infection - Balancing Inflammation During Lung Infection - February 15-16, 2020 - Galveston, TX, US**

Applications for this meeting must be submitted by January 18, 2020; however, the seminar chair will select speakers from abstracts submitted by November 15, 2019.

For more details, please visit <https://www.grc.org/biology-of-acute-respiratory-infection-grs-conference/2020/>.

#### **Impact of global viral surveillance on diagnostic tools - Labroots Webinar - October 08 - 05:00 AM PDT**

Learning Objectives: \*Understand the evolution of the Global Viral Surveillance Program and find out what's new; \*Discover the impact of viral surveillance on past, present and future laboratory diagnostic tools; \*Understand how you can get involved in the program. To register, please go to <https://www.labroots.com/webinar/impact-global-viral-surveillance-diagnostic-tools>.

#### **The American Thoracic Society (ATS) 116th International Conference (ATS 2020) - 15-20 May 2020 - Philadelphia, PA, USA**

Among the many other specialities represented in sessions are Allergy/Immunology; Behavioural Science; Cardiology; Environmental and Occupational Health; Infectious Disease; Paediatric Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep. Deadline for abstract submission - October 30 (5 p.m. Eastern Time). Please visit [https://conference.thoracic.org/program/call\\_for\\_abstracts/index.php](https://conference.thoracic.org/program/call_for_abstracts/index.php) for more details.

#### **The 23rd International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2020) - 6-10 July 2020 - San Francisco and Oakland, USA - Registration is now open**

<https://www.aids2020.org/>.

#### **FOCIS 2020 (20th Anniversary Annual Meeting) - Save the Date! - June 23-26, 2020 - San Francisco, CA, USA**

The abstract submission portal and advanced registration open on the 15th of October. For more details, please visit <http://www.focisnet.org/meetings/focis-2020/about/>.

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### PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS:

#### **Human kidney map charts our growing immune defence**

New cell atlas reveals immune cells present in zones of human kidney. <https://www.sanger.ac.uk/news/view/human-kidney-map-charts-our-growing-immune-defence>.

#### **Scientists engineer a powerful new weapon against antibiotic-resistant bacteria**

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/09/scientists-engineer-powerful-new-weapon-against-antibiotic-resistant-bacteria>.

**A tissue-like platform for studying engineered quiescent human T-cells' interactions with dendritic cells**

<https://elifesciences.org/articles/48221>.

**Transparent review in preprints**

<https://www.cshl.edu/transparent-review-in-preprints/>. The Takeaway - Transparent Review in Preprints will allow journals and peer review services to show peer reviews next to the version of the manuscript that was submitted and reviewed.

**Error in study linking HIV resistance gene to increased mortality**

The authors have requested a retraction of a paper that found people with the CCR5  $\Delta 32$  variant are more likely to die sooner. <https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/error-in-study-linking-hiv-resistance-gene-to-increased-mortality-66504>.

**Lin28b controls a neonatal to adult switch in B cell positive selection**

<https://immunology.sciencemag.org/content/4/39/eaax4453>.

**Why immune cells extrude webs of DNA and protein (interesting read)**

Extracellular webs expelled by neutrophils trap invading pathogens, but these newly discovered structures also have ties to autoimmunity and cancer. <https://www.the-scientist.com/features/why-immune-cells-extrude-webs-of-dna-and-protein-66459>.

**Babies develop fewer respiratory infections when they have well-connected bacterial networks**

<https://www.europeanlung.org/en/news-and-events/media-centre/press-releases/babies-develop-fewer-respiratory-infections-when-they-have-well-connected-bacterial-networks>.

**High-endothelial cell-derived S1P regulates dendritic cell localization and vascular integrity in the lymph node**

<https://elifesciences.org/articles/41239>.

**In women with HIV, TB preventive therapy poses greater risk in pregnancy than postpartum**

Deferring drug until after delivery is safer, NIH-funded trial finds. <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/news-events/women-hiv-tb-preventive-therapy-poses-greater-risk-pregnancy-postpartum>.

**Most kidney transplants between people with HIV have long-term success**

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/news-events/most-kidney-transplants-between-people-hiv-have-long-term-success>.

**The ancestral environment shapes antiviral CD8+ T cell responses across generations**

[https://www.cell.com/iscience/fulltext/S2589-0042\(19\)30352-9](https://www.cell.com/iscience/fulltext/S2589-0042(19)30352-9).

**HIV-1 Gag specifically restricts PI(4,5)P2 and cholesterol mobility in living cells creating a nanodomain platform for virus assembly**

<https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/5/10/eaaw8651?rss=1>.

**Lesotho achieves second 90 after rapid treatment expansion**

The latest Lesotho national HIV survey reports high HIV prevalence among adults, but access to effective antiretroviral treatment is rapidly accelerating. <https://www.avert.org/news/lesotho-achieves-second-90-after-rapid-treatment-expansion>.

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## **JOBS and POSITIONS**

### **Master of Science in Medicine in the field of Vaccinology (MSc(Med)- vaccinology) course January 2020 - Call for applications**

Applications open for South African and South Africa-based students until 31st October 2019. Please find more details here: <http://www.wits-alive.ac.za/MSc-Med-Vaccinology>.

### **Postdoctoral Training Opportunity in Medical & Health Sciences**

The Africa Postdoctoral Training Initiative (APTI) provides fellowships to African researchers to spend two years at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) for professional training and to conduct research in priority areas. APTI is a postdoctoral programme through the partnership of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS), NIH and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). Application deadline: December 1, 2019, 1700hrs EAT. The research priority areas are in infectious diseases, nutrition, and reproductive, maternal, and child health and developing skills for clinical and translational research. Research on other significant burdens of disease in Africa will also be considered. More information available:

AAS - <http://www.aasciences.ac.ke/about/about-us/about-the-aas/>;

BMGF - <https://www.gatesfoundation.org/What-We-Do>;

NIH - <https://irp.nih.gov/our-research/scientific-focus-areas>.

Please visit <https://aasishango.ccgranttracker.com/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f> to access the call.

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Please don't forget to send me any info you may have on funding opportunities, meetings, workshops and/or conferences, so I can post it on the SAIS LinkedIn page. Additionally, if you are recruiting/hiring, I am more than happy to advertise it on LinkedIn and in the newsletter.

Kind regards

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