

SAIS NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 6TH, 2020

Dear SAIS members

Below, please find this week's newsletter. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday, 20 November 2020.

FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEBINAR: Integrated Vector Management and New Innovations to Limit Epigenetic Changes in Malaria Endemic Communities, 6 November 2020, 14:00 SAST

In commemoration of SADC Malaria Week, the UP ISMC Student Forum is focusing on the complexity of malaria vectors and elimination challenges, epigenetic effects linked to malaria insecticides, as well as the necessity to intensify research efforts to identify and develop innovative and safer tools along with sustainable strategies towards eliminating malaria. For more information and to register, please visit: https://universityofpretoria.live/registration-page-malaria-webinar/?mc_cid=fc4169ea50

10th SA AIDS Conference, 8-11 June 2021

The 10th SA AIDS Conference will most likely be a Hybrid conference with a combination of live and virtual. The Conference theme is "Ending AIDS & Global Pandemics" and will cover the following tracks:

Track 1: Basic and Clinical Science – HIV including COVID-19

Track 2: Epidemiology, Mathematical modelling & Surveillance of HIV and related comorbidities

Track 3: Implementation Science: Technologies, Innovations and methods for scaling up effective interventions

Track 4: Community and Civil Society engagement

Track 5: Policy and Society.

Abstract submission and scholarship applications now open, closing date for abstract submission is: 23 February 2021. For more information, please visit: <http://www.saaid.co.za/HOME/>

First Responders: SARS-CoV-2 and the Immune System, Friday, 20 November 2020, 2:30 - 4:00 PM, Eastern Standard Time

Angela Rasmussen and Ya-Chi Ho explore the positive and negative aspects of the host immune response to SARS-CoV-2 infection and discuss how this knowledge influences therapeutic benefits. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://www.the-scientist.com/sponsored-webinars/first-responders-sars-cov-2-and-the-immune-system-68100>

PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS:

New polio vaccine poised to get emergency WHO approval

The vaccine, designed to prevent harmful mutations, is seen as key to eradicating polio. <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03045-2>

Immunoglobulin M in Health and Diseases: How Far Have We Come and What Next?

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2020.595535/full>

High-depth African genomes inform human migration and health

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-2859-7>

Robust neutralizing antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 infection persist for months

https://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2020/10/27/science.abd7728?utm_campaign=fr_sci_2020-10-29&et rid=643223756&et_cid=3537881

Interferon deficiency can lead to severe COVID

Understanding what contributes to the development of severe COVID-19 would be of great clinical benefit. Analysis of people in whom this occurred pinpoints a key role for the signalling pathway mediated by type I interferon proteins.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03070-1>

Designs and Characterization of Subunit Ebola GP Vaccine Candidates: Implications for Immunogenicity

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2020.586595/full>

Cellular immunity to SARS-CoV-2 found at six months in non-hospitalised individuals

<https://www.medicalbrief.co.za/archives/cellular-immunity-to-sars-cov-2-found-at-six-months-in-non-hospitalised-individuals/>

There's More to Neutrophil Function Than We Knew

<https://www.labroots.com/trending/cell-and-molecular-biology/19084/there-s-neutrophil-function>

Immune Cells Link Gum Disease to Inflammatory Disorders

<https://www.labroots.com/trending/microbiology/19057/immune-cells-link-gum-disease-inflammatory-disorders>

Genetic timestamping of plasma cells in vivo reveals tissue-specific homeostatic population turnover

<https://elifesciences.org/articles/59850>

HLA tapasin independence: broader peptide repertoire and HIV control

<https://www.pnas.org/content/early/2020/10/22/2013554117>

Baking Soda Boosts T Cells' Ability to Fight Leukemia

Infusions of donor T cells to fight the cancer often fail, but sodium bicarbonate can counter lactic acid produced by leukemia cells, potentially improving remission rates in mice and humans.

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/baking-soda-boosts-t-cells-ability-to-fight-leukemia-68120>

Infographic: How Vaccines Train Innate Immunity

A recent study elucidates some of the changes that occur in the body after inoculation with a tuberculosis vaccine.

<https://www.the-scientist.com/infographics/infographic-how-vaccines-train-innate-immunity-68063>



JOBS AND POSITIONS:

Clinical Trials Unit Lead, DURBAN & SOMKHELE, REFERENCE: CLINFACM/JUL/2020

Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI) is offering an exciting opportunity for an exceptional clinician-scientist to lead its newly established clinical trials unit. Applicants should email a detailed cover letter, including a short research statement, and their CV to recruitment@ahri.org before **30 November 2020**. Please indicate the post's reference number CTULEAD/OCT/2020 in the subject line of the email. For more information, please visit: <https://www.ahri.org/career/clinical-trials-unit-lead/>

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.

Thank you.

Kind regards

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