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SOUTH AFRICAN IMMUNOLOGY SOCIETY



SAIS NEWSLETTER – JULY 29TH, 2020

Dear SAIS members

Below, please find this week's newsletter. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday, 14 August 2020.

FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE: The South African immunology Society (SAIS) in collaboration with Immunopaedia will be hosting a COVID-19 webinar series. Webinars **begin 4 August 2020, 15h00 CAT**, every second Tuesday. Join us for interesting webinars that will feature immunologists and clinicians discussing the Global Pandemic! To keep up to date on webinars including topics and speakers, please visit: <https://www.saimmunology.org.za/webinars.html>.

The South African Immunology Society
presents

COVID-19 Webinar Series

Need to catch up on COVID?

Join us for a series of 6 webinars over 12 weeks where we explore the Immunology of COVID-19 and it's clinical implications.

More detailed information to follow.

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immunopaedia.org

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WEBINAR: Longitudinal immune profiling reveals distinct features of COVID-19 pathogenesis, 31 July 2020, 16:00 CEST

Elizabeth Mann and Madhvi Menon will discuss findings from their recent longitudinal immune profiling study with admitted COVID-19 patients across four hospitals in Manchester at the height of the pandemic in the UK. They find key immune signatures that track with disease severity and can potentially be used to identify patients upon admission that are destined for intensive care. They also determine how immune responses change throughout the disease course and how this differs in patients with milder disease that recover compared with patients who go on to become severe/critical. To register, please visit:
<https://www.bigmarker.com/iuis/Longitudinal-immune-profiling-reveals-distinct-features-of-COVID-19-pa>

Medical screening and testing for COVID-19 in different workplaces, 30 July 2020, 10h30-12h30

To register, please visit:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=F5dVqPBm2ECAPW6YmrrDTB1SY6q-1r5PnN3NNmGq9WNUNEITMVICSU5SRIFEWjVBWEowQUEzWFIIMS4u>

PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS:

Low-Dose Whole-Lung Radiation for COVID-19 Pneumonia

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.07.11.20147793v1>

SARS-CoV-2 T cell immunity: Specificity, function, durability, and role in protection

<https://immunology.sciencemag.org/content/5/49/eabd6160>

Comprehensive mapping of immune perturbations associated with severe COVID-19

<https://immunology.sciencemag.org/content/5/49/eabd7114>

Newly identified cell type may help predict, treat rheumatoid arthritis flares

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/07/newly-identified-cell-type-may-help-predict-treat-rheumatoid-arthritis-flares>

Immunogenicity and safety of a recombinant adenovirus type-5-vectored COVID-19 vaccine in healthy adults aged 18 years or older: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 2 trial

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31605-6/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31605-6/fulltext)

Safety and immunogenicity of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine against SARS-CoV-2: a preliminary report of a phase 1/2, single-blind, randomised controlled trial

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31604-4/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31604-4/fulltext)

Actively searching out TB cases 'critical'

<https://www.news.uct.ac.za/article/-2020-07-13-actively-searching-out-tb-cases-critical>

Link to research article: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-020-0940-2>

South Africa's escalating COVID-19 pandemic with guest speaker Prof. Glenda Gray

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crwrVrTKnzw>

The explosion of new coronavirus tests that could help to end the pandemic

Researchers are scrambling to find other ways to diagnose the coronavirus and churn out millions of tests a week — a key step in returning to normality.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-02140-8>

Human Immune System Variation during 1 Year

[https://www.cell.com/cell-reports/fulltext/S2211-1247\(20\)30904-9?dgcid=raven_jbs_etoc_email](https://www.cell.com/cell-reports/fulltext/S2211-1247(20)30904-9?dgcid=raven_jbs_etoc_email)

Prior infection by seasonal coronaviruses does not prevent SARS-CoV-2 infection and associated Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in children

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.06.29.20142596v1>

Point of care nucleic acid testing for SARS-CoV-2 in hospitalised patients: a clinical validation trial and implementation study

[https://www.cell.com/cell-reports-medicine/fulltext/S2666-3791\(20\)30078-1](https://www.cell.com/cell-reports-medicine/fulltext/S2666-3791(20)30078-1)

Ebola prepared these countries for coronavirus — but now even they are floundering

In Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, the hard-won lessons of a deadly pandemic cannot entirely compensate for poverty and weak health systems.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-02173-z>

Coronavirus vaccines leap through safety trials — but which will work is anybody's guess

Scientists caution against comparing immune responses shown in early-stage trials, and say there might be more than one path to an effective vaccine.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-02174-y>

Targeting Unconventional Host Components for Vaccination-Induced Protection Against TB

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2020.01452/full>

Our epidemic could exceed a million cases' — South Africa's top coronavirus adviser

Salim Abdool Karim says the country must rediscover its community spirit to deal with a coming surge in infections.

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-02216-5?error=cookies_not_supported&code=7703e191-9915-4483-8957-090da55a21da

MAIT Cell Disappearance is Connected to a Genetic Mutation

<https://www.labroots.com/trending/genetics-and-genomics/18227/mait-cell-disappearance-connected-genetic-mutation>

Link to research article: <https://immunology.sciencemag.org/content/5/49/eabc9492>

The Search for Immune Responses that Stop COVID-19

Scientists are examining the role of T cells, which are likely crucial for long-term protection against SARS-CoV-2.

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/the-search-for-immune-responses-that-stop-covid-19-67769>

How B Cells Find Their Way to Lymph Nodes

<https://www.labroots.com/trending/cell-and-molecular-biology/18272/cells-lymph-nodes>

Link to research article: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-020-17135-2>



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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