

## SAIS NEWSLETTER – MARCH 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear SAIS members

Find this week's newsletter below. Congratulations to all members who submitted publications for our community corner. Please check their awesome publications below. I warmly welcome all members to send me their publications for inclusion in the next newsletter. Follow us on our social media platforms – SAIS LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter pages for daily updates.

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### FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ARV-trials.com post CROI webinar, March 25th - Join us LIVE



#### European Human Genetics Conference - Registration is now open



For more information, please visit: <https://2021.eshg.org/myconference/registration/>

#### Haematology virtual congress



For more information, visit: <http://lp.medical-expo.co.il/index.php?page=landing&id=419715&token=6eda1a0ec491f749cd7afedadb3c5643>

#### 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Tuberculosis - May 24-25, 2021 in London, United Kingdom

For more information on Abstraction submission and scholarship, please visit: <https://waset.org/tuberculosis-conference-in-may-2021-in-london>

#### Intestinal Stem Cell - Niche Interactions in Health and Disease Conference will be held on 07 Oct 2021 - 10 Oct 2021

For more information please visit: <https://www.fusion-conferences.com/conference/111>

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## COMMUNITY CORNER – PUBLICATIONS FROM SAIS NETWORK

Suchard MS, Savulescu DM. 2021. Nicotinamide pathways as the root cause of sepsis—an evolutionary perspective on macrophage energetic shifts. *The FEBS Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/febs.15807>

Adu-Gyamfi C, Savulescu D, Mikhathani L, Ot wombe K, Salazar-Austin N, Chaisson R, Martinson N, George J, Suchard M. 2021. Plasma kynurenine-to-tryptophan ratio, a highly sensitive blood-based diagnostic tool for Tuberculosis in HIV-infected pregnant women. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. doi: [10.1093/cid/ciab232](https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciab232).

Wibmer CK, Ayres F, Hermanus T, Madzivhandila M, Kgagudi P, Oosthuysen B, Lambson BE, D’Oliviera T, Vermeulen M, van der Berg K, Rossouw T, Boswell M, Ueckerman V, Meiring S, von Gottberg A, Cohen C, Morris L, Bhiman JN, Moore PL. SARS-COV-2 501Y.V2 escapes neutralization by South African COVID-19 donor plasma. *Nature Medicine (Epub ahead of print)*. doi: [10.1038/s41591-021-01285-x](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-021-01285-x).

Dorfman JR, Balla SR, Pathirana J, Groome MK, Madhi SA, Moore PL. (2021) *In utero* human cytomegalovirus infection is associated with increased levels of putatively protective maternal antibodies in nonprimary infection: evidence for boosting but not protection. *Clinical Infectious Diseases, ciab099, (Epub ahead of print)*. DOI: [10.1093/cid/ciab099](https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciab099)

Huang Y, Zhang L, Eaton A, Mkhize NN, Carpp LN, Rudnicki E, DeCamp A, Juraska M, Randhawa A, McDermott A, Ledgerwood J, Andrew P, Karuna S, Edupuganti S, Mgodi N, Cohen M, Corey L, Mascola J, Gilbert PB, Morris L, Montefiori D. (2021) Brief Report: Prediction of Serum HIV-1 Neutralization Titers of VRC01 in HIV-Uninfected Antibody Mediated Prevention (AMP) Trial Participants. *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*, 83:4, 434-439. doi: [10.1097/QAI.0000000000002272](https://doi.org/10.1097/QAI.0000000000002272)

Scheepers C, Bekker V, Anthony C, Richardson SI, Oosthuysen B, Moyo T, Kgagudi P, Kitchin D, Nonyane M, York T, Mielke D, Mabvakure B, Sheng Z, Lambson BE, Ismail A, Garrett NJ, Abdool Karim SS, Shapiro L, Williamson C, Morris L, Moore PL. (2020) Antibody isotype switching as a mechanism to counter HIV neutralization escape. *Cell Reports*, 33, 8:108430. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2020.108430>

Rossouw, E., Brauer, M., Meyer, P.W.A., Du Plessis, N.M., Avenant, T., Mans, J. (2021). "Virus Etiology, Diversity and Clinical Characteristics in South African Children Hospitalised with Gastroenteritis." *Viruses* 13(2). DOI: [10.3390/v13020215](https://doi.org/10.3390/v13020215)

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## INTERESTING READS

### **Rare COVID reactions might hold key to variant-proof vaccines**

[https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00722-8?utm\\_source=Nature+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=54e1f877ce-briefing-dy-20210322&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c9dfd39373-54e1f877ce-46191682](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00722-8?utm_source=Nature+Briefing&utm_campaign=54e1f877ce-briefing-dy-20210322&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c9dfd39373-54e1f877ce-46191682)

### **Has COVID peaked? Maybe, but it’s too soon to be sure**

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00705-9>

### **A Comparison of Methylprednisolone and Dexamethasone in Intensive Care Patients With COVID-19**

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0885066621994057>

### **Alternative Donor Transplantation for Myelodysplastic Syndromes**

<https://ashpublications.org/bloodadvances/article/5/4/975/475197/Alternative-donor-transplantation-for>



**Evaluation of paternal lymphocyte immunotherapy and potential biomarker mixed lymphocyte reaction-blocking factor in an Argentinian cohort of women with unexplained recurrent spontaneous abortion and unexplained infertility**

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33730440/>

**Five reasons why COVID herd immunity is probably impossible**

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33737753/>

**Innovators target vaccines for variants and shortages in global South**

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41587-021-00001-x>

**Activate: Randomized Clinical Trial of BCG Vaccination against Infection in the Elderly**

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32941801/>

**Serum markers of B cell activation in pregnant women with atopic asthma**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/aji.13414?campaign=wolacceptedarticle>

**The Immunology of Macrophage Activation Syndrome**

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30774631/>

**The Metabolic Signature of Macrophage Responses**

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2019.01462/full>

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## **JOBS and POSITIONS**

**Laboratory Manager - Hutchinson Centre Research Institute of South Africa - Cape Town, Western Cape**

We encourage individuals with diverse backgrounds to apply and desire priority referrals of protected veterans. For more information, please send a request to our Employee Services Center at [hrops@fredhutch.org](mailto:hrops@fredhutch.org) or by calling 206-667-4700. <https://careers-fhrc.icims.com/jobs/intro>

**Postdoctoral fellow – European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) Grenoble, France**

To apply please submit 2 reference letters, a covering letter and a CV through our online system. For additional information please contact Wojciech Galej: [wgalej\[at\]embl.fr](mailto:wgalej[at]embl.fr) or visit our group website: <https://www.embl.fr/research/unit/galej/index.htm>

**VISTA Postdoctoral Fellowships at York University in Canada, 2021**

The York University is inviting applications for VISTA Postdoctoral Fellowships. The fellowship will provide financial support to high-calibre scholars doing postdoctoral research that is aligned with the VISTA program under the supervision of a VISTA core member. For more information, please check this link: <https://vista.info.yorku.ca/opportunities/postdoctoral-fellowships/info/>

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## **IMPORTANT LINKS**

To renew your SAIS Membership please visit: <https://saimmunology.org.za/membership.htm>

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

Thank you.

*Kind regards*

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