



## SAIS NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear SAIS

Please find this week's newsletter. Please visit our social media platforms for more daily updates on SAIS activities. I warmly welcome all new publications from our SAIS network for inclusion in the next newsletter.

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### FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Upcoming Keystone meetings. Please visit: <https://virtual.keystonesymposia.org/ks/> to register.**

**Maternal-Fetal Newborn Immunity**  
October 28-29, 2021 | 10:00AM EDT | 2:00PM UTC\*  
*\*Program is in development and subject to change*

eSymposia  
**Global Priorities in Vaginal Health:  
Microbes, Mucosal Immunity and Interventions**  
November 10-12, 2021

**Join Cell Bio Virtual conference 2021 from 1-10 December 2021 -**

**CELL BIO**  
virtual 2021  
An Online ASCB | EMBO Meeting  
December 1-10 | #cellbio2021

To submit an abstract or register please visit <https://www.ascb.org/cellbio2021/>

**CELL BIO – Join the 2021 Keynote Lecture Monday, December 6, 10:00 am EST Xiaowei Zhuang**

For more information please visit <https://www.ascb.org/cellbio2021/program/symposia/>

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## **PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS**

### **mRNA vaccines beyond COVID-19**

[https://www.chemistryworld.com/features/mrna-vaccines-for-covid-and-beyond/4014420.article?utm\\_source=Nature+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=74611d09e1-briefing-dy-20211025&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c9dfd39373-74611d09e1-46191682](https://www.chemistryworld.com/features/mrna-vaccines-for-covid-and-beyond/4014420.article?utm_source=Nature+Briefing&utm_campaign=74611d09e1-briefing-dy-20211025&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c9dfd39373-74611d09e1-46191682)

### **Deletion of BCG 2432c from the Bacillus Calmette-Guérin vaccine enhances autophagy-mediated immunity against tuberculosis**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/all.15158>

### **Association Between Risk of COVID-19 Infection in Nonimmune Individuals and COVID-19 Immunity in Their Family Members**

[https://www.practiceupdate.com/c/125116/2/20/?elsca1=emc\\_ews\\_daily-digest&elsca2=email&elsca3=practiceupdate\\_rm&elsca4=respiratorymedicine&elsca5=newsletter&rid=NDY1Mzc5NzcwNTYyS0&lid=22920205](https://www.practiceupdate.com/c/125116/2/20/?elsca1=emc_ews_daily-digest&elsca2=email&elsca3=practiceupdate_rm&elsca4=respiratorymedicine&elsca5=newsletter&rid=NDY1Mzc5NzcwNTYyS0&lid=22920205)

### **Clues that natural killer cells help to control COVID**

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02778-y>

### **Regulatory B cells, A to Z**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/all.14763>

### **Determinants of expression of SARS-CoV-2 entry related genes in upper and lower airways**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/all.15152>

### **A massive effort links protein-coding gene variants to health**

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02873-0>

### **Immunogenicity and efficacy of heterologous ChadOx1/BNT162b2 vaccination**

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04120-y>

### **Untimely TGF $\beta$ responses in COVID-19 limit antiviral functions of NK cells**

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04142-6>

### **Cryptic transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and the first COVID-19 wave**

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04130-w>

### **Effect of Immunosuppression on the Immunogenicity of mRNA Vaccines to SARS-CoV-2**

[https://www.practiceupdate.com/journalscan/85338/75/24?elsca1=emc\\_ews\\_weekinreview&elsca2=email&elsca3=practiceupdate\\_cv19&elsca4=cv19&elsca5=newsletter&rid=NDY1Mzc5NzcwNTYyS0&lid=31048597](https://www.practiceupdate.com/journalscan/85338/75/24?elsca1=emc_ews_weekinreview&elsca2=email&elsca3=practiceupdate_cv19&elsca4=cv19&elsca5=newsletter&rid=NDY1Mzc5NzcwNTYyS0&lid=31048597)

**New study casts doubt on the way in which TB is transmitted**

<https://www.tbonline.info/posts/2021/10/19/new-study-casts-doubt-way-which-tb-transmitted/>

**Clinical trial finds shorter, more effective, and safer treatment for drug-resistant TB**

<https://www.tbonline.info/posts/2021/10/20/msf-tb-clinical-trial-finds-shorter-more-effective/>

**Largest ever global study of tuberculosis identifies genetic causes of drug resistance**

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2021-10-19-largest-ever-global-study-tuberculosis-identifies-genetic-causes-drug-resistance>

**Fingerstick blood test can be a promising TB screening tool, study finds**

<https://www.tbonline.info/posts/2021/10/20/fingerstick-blood-test-can-be-promising-tb-screeni/>

**QIAGEN launches novel QIArearch QuantiFERON-TB tuberculosis test for high-burden regions**

<https://www.tbonline.info/posts/2021/10/19/qiagen-launches-novel-qiarearch-quantiferon-tb-tube/>

**Mix-and-match COVID vaccines ace the effectiveness test**

[https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02853-4?utm\\_source=Nature+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=a9bf871905-briefing-dy-20211022&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c9dfd39373-a9bf871905-46191682](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02853-4?utm_source=Nature+Briefing&utm_campaign=a9bf871905-briefing-dy-20211022&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c9dfd39373-a9bf871905-46191682)

**Seasonal Malaria Vaccination with or without Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention**

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2026330>

**How our skin smells could be a sign of TB**

<https://www.tbonline.info/posts/2021/9/24/how-our-skin-smells-could-be-sign-tb/>

**Activating Mucosal-Associated Invariant T Cells Induces a Broad Antitumor Response**

<https://cancerimmunolres.aacrjournals.org/content/9/9/1024>

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**JOBS and POSITIONS**

**AMPATH Principal Scientist position in Genetics (NGS) - Centurion**

AMPATH Genetics is looking for a Principal Scientist to head their state of the art Next Generation Sequencing Unit in Centurion. For more information please contact Dr Janin Alant at [alantj@ampath.co.za](mailto:alantj@ampath.co.za).

**Flow Cytometry Technical Specialist – HVTN, Cape Town**

The Flow Cytometry Technical Specialist will be responsible for independently overseeing the flow cytometry core at CHIL and conducting assays in the lab. Extensive flow cytometry experience, as well as specialized laboratory skills and knowledge, are needed for this position. Good research background would be an advantage. Qualifications: BTech, BSc, BHSc, or MSc degree with at least 10 years of wet lab experience in immunology, molecular biology, virology or related field. Interested applicants should send a direct email to Bongi Vilakazi ([svilakaz@hcrisa.org.za](mailto:svilakaz@hcrisa.org.za)).



### **Postdoctoral scientist / PhD student**

#### **University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus Dresden, TU Dresden - Dresden, Germany**

A postdoctoral position and a PhD student position are immediately available in the area of genome stability in the mammalian germline in the lab of Attila Toth. The Toth lab is at the Technische Universität Dresden, which is one of the few Elite Universities in Germany, featuring a life sciences focus area, and a highly international and collaborative research community. We kindly ask you to apply preferably via our online form to make the selection process faster and more effective. Of course, we also consider your written application without any disadvantages. We look forward to receiving your application by **31st, October 2021** online with registration number PCH0921732. For further information please contact Prof. Attila Tóth by telephone 0351-458-6467 or by e-mail: attila.toth@tu-dresden.de

#### **Medical Director - International Aids Vaccine, Cape Town, Western Cape**

IAVI is seeking a highly qualified Medical Director, Clinical Development (CD) who will lead a cross-departmental team responsible for the design, implementation, analysis, and reporting of the Clinical Development program and clinical trials for specified candidate vaccines including HIV, TB and emerging infectious disease (EID) candidates. The successful candidate will be primarily responsible for communication with the Principal Investigators and with the medical representatives of vaccine developers for assigned projects.

For more information please visit

<https://za.indeed.com/jobs?q=Medical+Director&from=vj&l=Cape+Town%2C+Western+Cape>

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### **IMPORTANT LINKS**

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

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Any publications from the last 6 months that you would like to profile in SAIS Newsletter? We like to put member publications in our "SAIS Community Corner". Just a citation, copied and pasted from CV. Please send to Clement - [clementgascua@yahoo.com](mailto:clementgascua@yahoo.com) and [clementa@nicd.ac.za](mailto:clementa@nicd.ac.za) Also, if you are recruiting/hiring, we are more than happy to advertise it in the newsletters and on Social Media platforms.

*Kind regards*

*Clement Adu-Gyamfi  
Newsletter editor*