

SAIS NEWSLETTER – MAY 22ND, 2020

Dear SAIS members

Please find this week's newsletter below. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday, 29 May 2020.

FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEMINAR: Flow Cytometry, 29th of May 2020, 10H30-12H30.

The Department of Surgery, WITS Medical School, BD, the Scientific Group and Ascendis Medical are hosting a virtual Introduction to Flow Cytometry and Sorting Seminar. Please see flyer attached for more details. RSVP by 16H00 on **Monday 25th of May 2020** to both Rozanne.Adams@bd.com and pascaline.fru@wits.ac.za.

Keystone Symposia eSymposia - Vaccinology in the Age of Pandemics: Strategies Against COVID-19 & Other Global Threats, June 15–16, 2020 | 11:00AM–3:30PM ET | 3:00–7:30PM UTC | 5:00–9:30PM CEST*

This virtual meeting will assemble the world's leading vaccinology and global health experts to present the latest advances in vaccine design and development.

For more information, please visit:

https://virtual.keystonesymposia.org/ks/live/458/page/2643?_ga=2.2073329.1920251495.1589780196-220957198.1573809503

WEBINAR: Enrichment & analysis of rare antigen & virus-specific T cells, 27 MAY 2020, 9:00 AM PDT

For more information and to register, please visit: <https://www.labroots.com/webinar/enrichment-analysis-rare-antigen-virus-specific-cells>

WEBINAR: Being prepared & cellular immune responses, 27 May 2020, 10:00 CEST

Sharon Lewin and Katherine Kedzierska from the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity will show how Australia “flattened the curve” and discuss immune responses in patients with mild to moderate COVID-19. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://iuis.clickmeeting.com/covid-19-cellular-immune-responses/register>

WEBINAR: Coronavirus Virtual Webinar Series, 17 June 2020 Opens: 6:00 AM PT

Luminex is participating in an on-line event on Coronavirus sponsored by Labroots. This is a virtual scientific meeting/trade show with academic speakers, posters and virtual exhibit booths.

For more information on the agenda as well registration, please visit: <https://www.labroots.com/virtual-event/coronavirus>

PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS:

T cells found in COVID-19 patients ‘bode well’ for long-term immunity

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/t-cells-found-covid-19-patients-bode-well-long-term-immunity>

TMPRSS2 and TMPRSS4 promote SARS-CoV-2 infection of human small intestinal enterocytes

<https://immunology.sciencemag.org/content/5/47/eabc3582>

An outbreak of severe Kawasaki-like disease at the Italian epicentre of the SARS-CoV-2 epidemic: an observational cohort study

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31103-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31103-X/fulltext)

Immunogenetics: Untangling the immune basis of disease susceptibility

<https://elifesciences.org/articles/56886>

Antibody-laden Nanoparticles to Help COVID Patients Breathe Easy

<https://www.labroots.com/trending/immunology/17590/antibody-laden-nanoparticles-help-covid-patients-breathe-easy>

Inferring change points in the spread of COVID-19 reveals the effectiveness of interventions

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2020/05/14/science.abb9789>

Serology assays to manage COVID-19.

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2020/05/14/science.abc1227>

Dozens of coronavirus drugs are in development — what happens next?

Drug manufacturers face supply-chain weaknesses and sourcing issues as they ramp up complex production processes to meet global demand.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01367-9>

FIRST DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMMUNE RESPONSE TO SARS-COV-2 BODES WELL FOR COVID-19 VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

<https://www.lji.org/news-events/news/post/first-detailed-analysis-of-immune-response-to-sars-cov-2-bodes-well-for-covid-19-vaccine-development/>

Link to research article: [https://www.cell.com/cell/fulltext/S0092-8674\(20\)30610-3](https://www.cell.com/cell/fulltext/S0092-8674(20)30610-3)

Epigenetic conversion of conventional T cells into regulatory T cells by CD28 signal deprivation

<https://www.pnas.org/content/early/2020/05/14/1922600117>

Cross-neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 by a human monoclonal SARS-CoV antibody

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-2349-y>

Long-acting injectable drug prevents HIV infections

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/long-acting-injectable-drug-prevents-hiv-infections?>

Moderna's Coronavirus Vaccine Spurs Immune Response: Early Data

A clinical trial of the shot in eight volunteers suggests that it is safe and that it generates antibodies that neutralize SARS-CoV-2, but further testing is needed, scientists say.

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/modernas-coronavirus-vaccine-spurs-immune-response-early-data-67541>

CRISPR tool scales up to interrogate a huge line-up of viral suspects

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01447-w>

Herd Immunity: Understanding COVID-19

[https://www.cell.com/immunity/fulltext/S1074-7613\(20\)30170-9](https://www.cell.com/immunity/fulltext/S1074-7613(20)30170-9)

Interferon- α 2b Treatment for COVID-19

https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fimmu.2020.01061/full?utm_campaign=sub-cov-sci-fimmu-interferon-treatment&utm_medium=cvlp&utm_source=fweb

Why do some COVID-19 patients infect many others, whereas most don't spread the virus at all?

https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/why-do-some-covid-19-patients-infect-many-others-whereas-most-don-t-spread-virus-all?utm_campaign=news_daily_2020-05-19&et rid=643223756&et_cid=3332443#

Immunogenicity of a DNA vaccine candidate for COVID-19

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-020-16505-0>

Viral and host factors related to the clinical outcome of COVID-19

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-2355-0>

Prevalence, Severity and Mortality associated with COPD and Smoking in patients with COVID-19: A Rapid Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0233147>

Moderna Announces Positive Interim Phase 1 Data for its mRNA Vaccine (mRNA-1273) Against Novel Coronavirus

<https://investors.modernatx.com/news-releases/news-release-details/moderna-announces-positive-interim-phase-1-data-its-mrna-vaccine>

SAMRC'S Emerging Science Leaders Harvest Live Coronavirus

<https://www.samrc.ac.za/media-release/samrcs-emerging-science-leaders-harvest-live-coronavirus>

Elevated levels of interleukin-6 and CRP predict the need for mechanical ventilation in COVID-19

[https://www.jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749\(20\)30685-0/abstract](https://www.jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749(20)30685-0/abstract)

IgG Fc sialylation is regulated during the germinal center reaction upon immunization with different adjuvants

[https://www.jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749\(20\)30728-4/abstract](https://www.jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749(20)30728-4/abstract)

Ten reasons why immunity passports are a bad idea

Restricting movement on the basis of biology threatens freedom, fairness and public health.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01451-0>

A suspicious role of interferon in the pathogenesis of SARS-CoV-2 by enhancing expression of ACE2

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41392-020-0185-z>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES and POSITIONS

SAMRC Intra-mural Post-Doctoral Award - Request for Applications

The Division of Research Capacity Development (RCD) invites applications from individuals who have obtained their Doctoral degrees not more than 5 years from the date of application. We are looking to fund five (5) post-doctorate Fellowships working on projects put forward by intramural units at the SAMRC. Details about the specific projects that are seeking to host post-doctoral fellows can be accessed: <https://www.samrc.ac.za/sites/default/files/attachments/2020-05-18/PostDocProjects.pdf>.

Interested individuals will apply to work on one of these projects. Applications deadline: **29 May 2020**. For more information, please visit: <https://www.samrc.ac.za/request-for-applications/samrc-intra-mural-post-doctoral-award-request-applications>

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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