



SAIS NEWSLETTER – MAY 29TH, 2020

Dear SAIS members

Please find this week's newsletter below. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday, 5 June 2020.

FUNDING CALLS, CONFERENCES, WEBINARS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

BSI webinar: Controversy in immunity to COVID-19: do we want an immune response or not? Wednesday, 27 May 2020, 12:30 to 13:15

For more information, please visit: <https://www.immunology.org/events/bsi-webinar-controversy-in-immunity-covid-19-do-we-want-immune-response-or-not>

COVID-19 Africa Rapid Grant Fund

The Rapid Grant Fund seeks to contribute to the African regional and continental response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This call covers three strands: i) research, ii) science engagement: call to science and health journalists and communicators, and iii) science engagement: call to science advisers. Application closing date: Wednesday, 17 June 2020

For more information, please visit: <https://www.nrf.ac.za/division/funding/covid-19-africa-rapid-grant-fund>

WEBINAR: Unraveling the link between the gut microbiome, human health, and disease, Wednesday, 3 June 2020, 12 noon Eastern, 9 a.m. Pacific, 5 p.m. UK, 6 p.m. Central Europe (CEST)

For more information and to register, please visit:

<https://view6.workcast.net/register?cpak=6405853735678801&referrer=Blast3&et rid=643223756&et cid=3340051>

ONLINE SYMPOSIA: COVID-19 and Beyond – Solutions in Science, May 27th - June 17th, 2020

We are pleased to announce an online symposium entitled “COVID-19 and Beyond – Solutions in Science” that is jointly hosted by the Beijing Advanced Innovation Center for Structural Biology and Science/AAAS. Graduate students, Postdocs, Researchers, Scientists across academia and industry are warmly welcomed to the Conference. The online symposium will be divided into four sessions covering the following topics: Outbreak and Response, Coronavirus and Pathogenesis, Structure and Drug Discovery, Protective Immunity and Vaccines. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.icsb.tsinghua.edu.cn/index.php?c=show&id=766&et rid=17655607&et cid=3340536>

19th Biennial Meeting of The European Society of Immunodeficiencies (ESID), 14-17 October 2020

ESID 2020 is going online! The online meeting will still take place between 14-17 October 2020, with the same innovative programme of plenary, parallel and poster sessions as originally planned. It will allow for live interaction with speakers and other delegates, and also be available on-demand for registered participants. Abstract submission closes: 9 June 2020

For more information, please visit: <https://esidmeeting.org/>

PUBLICATIONS and INTERESTING READS:

Doctors race to understand rare inflammatory condition associated with coronavirus in young people

https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/doctors-race-understand-rare-inflammatory-condition-associated-coronavirus-young-people?utm_campaign=news_daily_2020-05-21&et rid=643223756&et_cid=3335518

Identification of a super-functional Tfh-like subpopulation in murine lupus by pattern perception

<https://elifesciences.org/articles/53226>

SARS-CoV-2 Protein Hampers Innate Immune Reaction In Vitro

The viral protein known as ORF3b limits the induction of the type I interferon response, which typically alerts other immune system components to the presence of a virus, in cultured cells.

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/sars-cov-2-protein-hampers-innate-immune-reaction-in-vitro-67554>

ACE2, TMPRSS2 AND FURIN GENE EXPRESSION IN THE AIRWAYS OF PEOPLE WITH ASTHMA – IMPLICATIONS FOR COVID-19

[https://www.jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749\(20\)30730-2/abstract](https://www.jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749(20)30730-2/abstract)

Kinetics of plasma HIV rebound in the era of modern antiretroviral therapy

<https://academic.oup.com/jid/advance-article/doi/10.1093/infdis/jiaa270/5842227?searchresult=1>

Safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity of a recombinant adenovirus type-5 vectored COVID-19 vaccine: a dose-escalation, open-label, non-randomised, first-in-human trial

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31208-3/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31208-3/fulltext)

Noncanonical Functions of Antibodies

[https://www.cell.com/trends/immunology/fulltext/S1471-4906\(20\)30044-2](https://www.cell.com/trends/immunology/fulltext/S1471-4906(20)30044-2)

Serology for SARS-CoV-2: Apprehensions, opportunities, and the path forward

<https://immunology.sciencemag.org/content/5/47/eabc6347>

Transcriptional profiling of lung macrophages identifies a predictive signature for inflammatory lung disease in preterm infants

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s42003-020-0985-2>

Coronapod: Hope and caution greet vaccine trial results

The first results from vaccine trials are promising, but scientists still urge caution, and Trump issues an ultimatum to the WHO.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01557-5>

Insight into the relationship between obesity-induced low-level chronic inflammation and COVID-19 infection

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41366-020-0602-y>

Coronavirus antigen tests: quick and cheap, but too often wrong?

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/coronavirus-antigen-tests-quick-and-cheap-too-often-wrong>

Study tells ‘remarkable story’ about COVID-19’s deadly rampage through a South African hospital

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/study-tells-remarkable-story-about-covid-19-s-deadly-rampage-through-south-african>

SARS-CoV-2 Rates in BCG-Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Young Adults

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2766182>

RISK6, a 6-gene transcriptomic signature of TB disease risk, diagnosis and treatment response

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-65043-8>

Ultrasensitive digital quantification of cytokines and bacteria predicts septic shock outcomes

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-020-16124-9>

Making ends meet in class switch recombination

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41422-020-0342-5>

The dynamics of humoral immune responses following SARS-CoV-2 infection and the potential for reinfection

<https://www.microbiologyresearch.org/content/journal/jgv/10.1099/jgv.0.001439>

Macrophages Use Distinct Actin Regulators to Switch Engulfment Strategies and Ensure Phagocytic Plasticity In Vivo

[https://www.cell.com/cell-reports/fulltext/S2211-1247\(20\)30645-8?dgcid=raven_jbs_etoc_email](https://www.cell.com/cell-reports/fulltext/S2211-1247(20)30645-8?dgcid=raven_jbs_etoc_email)

Dysregulation of type I interferon responses in COVID-19

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41577-020-0346-x>

Imbalanced Host Response to SARS-CoV-2 Drives Development of COVID-19

[https://www.cell.com/cell/pdf/S0092-8674\(20\)30489-](https://www.cell.com/cell/pdf/S0092-8674(20)30489-X.pdf?_returnURL=https%3A%2F%2Flinkinghub.elsevier.com%2Fretrieve%2Fpii%2FS009286742030489X%3Fshowall%3Dtrue)

[X.pdf?_returnURL=https%3A%2F%2Flinkinghub.elsevier.com%2Fretrieve%2Fpii%2FS009286742030489X%3Fshowall%3Dtrue](https://www.cell.com/cell/pdf/S0092-8674(20)30489-X.pdf?_returnURL=https%3A%2F%2Flinkinghub.elsevier.com%2Fretrieve%2Fpii%2FS009286742030489X%3Fshowall%3Dtrue)

First results from human COVID-19 immunology study reveal universally effective antibodies

[https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-05-results-human-covid-immunology-](https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-05-results-human-covid-immunology-reveal.amp?fbclid=IwAR2T5udrM3lZ_3jTRLdePsZ8CbsOFi9Sf9scNQZ52saBDtoQfbYm4pWTFn4)

[reveal.amp?fbclid=IwAR2T5udrM3lZ_3jTRLdePsZ8CbsOFi9Sf9scNQZ52saBDtoQfbYm4pWTFn4](https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-05-results-human-covid-immunology-reveal.amp?fbclid=IwAR2T5udrM3lZ_3jTRLdePsZ8CbsOFi9Sf9scNQZ52saBDtoQfbYm4pWTFn4)

COVID-19 Vaccine Researchers Mindful of Immune Enhancement

There is no evidence that any of the coronavirus vaccines in development worsen a coronavirus infection rather than confer immunity to it, but the phenomenon is something scientists are closely monitoring.

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/covid-19-vaccine-researchers-mindful-of-immune-enhancement-67576>

Trained Immunity: a Tool for Reducing Susceptibility to and the Severity of SARS-CoV-2 Infection

[https://www.cell.com/cell/fulltext/S0092-8674\(20\)30507-9?dgcid=raven_jbs_etoc_email](https://www.cell.com/cell/fulltext/S0092-8674(20)30507-9?dgcid=raven_jbs_etoc_email)

How countries are using genomics to help avoid a second coronavirus wave

Scientists in New Zealand, the United Kingdom and other places are using sequence data to track new infections as lockdowns ease.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01573-5>



Serum IgA, IgM, and IgG responses in COVID-19

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41423-020-0474-z>

Can plasma from COVID-19 survivors help save others?

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/can-plasma-covid-19-survivors-help-save-others>

Merck, one of Big Pharma's biggest players, reveals its COVID-19 vaccine and therapy plans

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/merck-one-big-pharma-s-biggest-players-reveals-its-covid-19-vaccine-and-therapy-plans>

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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