The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) announces its honorees for the 2012 annual awards dinner on Tuesday, March 27, 2012, Drs. George L. Drusano and Helene D. Gayle.

NFID will present the Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement to Dr. Drusano for his distinguished scientific career in the area of anti-infective pharmacology, antimicrobial resistance and infectious disease chemotherapy. The Maxwell Finland Award is given to a scientist who has made outstanding contributions to the understanding of infectious diseases or public health.

Dr. Gayle will be honored with the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award for her dedication to global public health and social service. This award recognizes outstanding humanitarian efforts and achievements that have improved the health of humankind.

George L. Drusano, MD

Dr. George L. Drusano is a distinguished scholar and scientist who “helped redefine infectious disease chemotherapy as we know it today. Indeed, few scientists have made as many outstanding contributions to the understanding of infectious disease chemotherapy,” stated Paul G. Ambrose, MD president of the Institute of Pharmacodynamics.

Dr. Drusano received a Bachelor of Science degree in physics from Boston College in 1971 and an MD degree from the University of Maryland in 1975. In 1979, he became chief resident at the University of Maryland Hospital and in the summer of 1992 a Professor of Medicine, division of Infectious Diseases, at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He then took a position as professor at the Albany Medical Center Hospital.

Robert C. Moellering, Jr., MD, the Shields Warren-Mallinckrodt Professor Medical Research at Harvard Medical School and the 2006 NFID Maxwell Finland awardee, said that Dr. Drusano “is one of the brightest individuals I know. He has an encyclopedic knowledge of medicine and science which he has applied very effectively to create important new knowledge.”

“No not only is Dr. Drusano an accomplished clinician, but he has the gift of being able to see patients exposed to microbials as more than just single patients, or a cohort of patients in aggregate, but to see them in terms of statistical populations with respect to the ways in which pathogens ‘see’ antimicrobials at the site of infection, and how they respond to such exposure,” added John S. Bradley, MD, professor and chief of the division of infectious diseases, University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Drusano is the director of clinical pharmacology and associate director of the clinical research institute at Albany Medical College. He is a fellow of both the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the American Academy of Microbiology. He also serves as a reviewer for several scientific journals, including the Journal of the American Medical Association, the New England Journal of Medicine and the Annals of Internal Medicine. He has received numerous awards including the Rhone-Poulenc Award for innovative research with fluoroquinolones and the American Society of Health System Pharmacy Research and Education Foundation Drug Therapy Award for outstanding contributions to the scientific pharmaceutical literature.

Helene D. Gayle, MD, MPH

Physician, researcher, executive, and global caregiver Dr. Helene D. Gayle is the 2012 recipient of the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award. "Helene Gayle is perhaps the most trusted global public health leader and rightly so,” stated David Satcher, MD, 16th Surgeon General of the United States, Director of the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at the Morehouse School of Medicine, and recipient of the 1999 NFID Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award. “She has a unique ability to understand and identify with diverse cultures throughout the world and to join them in moving to improve the health of communities.”

Dr. Gayle graduated from Barnard College in 1976 with a degree in psychology.

(AWARD RECIPIENTS, continued on page 6)
The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) public foundation established in 1973 to educate the public and health care professionals about the causes, treatment, and prevention of infectious diseases.

CDC Director “Leads by Example” During NFID’s Influenza/Pneumococcal News Conference

To set an example, Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), rolled up his sleeve and got his influenza vaccine during the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases’ (NFID) annual influenza/pneumococcal news conference, held at the National Press Club in Washington, DC on September 21, 2011.

His act of getting vaccinated was in line with NFID’s new influenza prevention campaign, called “Leading by Example,” which urges healthcare professionals, government officials, business, and community leaders to demonstrate their commitment to influenza vaccination and encourage others to follow.

NFID once again rallied strong support from the nation’s leading public health and medical groups to reinforce the need for all Americans to get vaccinated against influenza. As keynote speaker, Dr. Frieden shared his outlook for the 2011–2012 influenza season, noting an upward trend in vaccination rates that represent a steady increase over the last several years. He urged Americans to continue this progress, reminding everyone 6 months of age and older to get the influenza vaccine this, and every year.

With more vaccine options, supply, and venues this season than ever before, William Schaffner, MD, NFID president and moderator of the news event, emphasized that there is no reason anyone should go unprotected. Dr. Schaffner also shared encouraging results from NFID’s most recent survey of adults, which showed an increasing number (63 percent) of people who intend to get vaccinated this season.

NFID’s diverse panel included representatives from 12 collaborating partner organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), American Medical Association (AMA), American Pharmacists Association (APhA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Indian Health Service (IHS), National Influenza Vaccine Summit (NIVS), National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), and National Medical Association (NMA). MedStar Health Visiting Nurse Association also joined the news conference this year to provide an on-site vaccination clinic for all panelists and news conference attendees following the event.

Panelists also discussed two key populations that share a large burden of disease...
Clinical Vaccinology Course Scheduled

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) will hold its next Clinical Vaccinology Course, March 9–11, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The course is co-sponsored by the NFID, Emory Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases and the Emory Vaccine Center.

The course is specifically designed for primary care physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, physician assistants, public health specialists, infectious disease specialists and other health care professionals involved with clinical aspects of vaccinology.

In addition, the course will feature Meet the Experts breakfast sessions to allow attendees an opportunity to network with seasoned colleagues specializing in vaccinology.

Course collaborating organizations include the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College Health Association, American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, and the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists.

The Clinical Vaccinology Course has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). NFID designates this educational activity for a maximum of 19 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. NFID is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Maryland Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. This educational activity has been approved for a maximum of 19 contact hours. The course will also offer pharmacy education credits through PharmCon which is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider for continuing pharmacy education. Participants may earn up to a maximum of 19 credit hours.

Online registration is now open for the course. Discounted course registration will be offered to medical students, doctoral students, residents, fellows, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and NFID supporting members. Additional information about the course, including full course agenda and faculty listing, is available on the NFID website, www.nfid.org.

Advanced Vaccinology Course Travel Grant Applications Sought

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) invites applications for the travel grants to the Advanced Vaccinology Course. The grants are intended to assist recent postdoctoral graduates who have a demonstrated interest in a career in vaccinology. NFID will award two travel grants for the course.

The Advanced Vaccinology Course will be held at Fondation Mérieux’s Conference Center, Les Pensières, Veyrier-du-Lac, France from May 14–25, 2012 and will provide participants with a comprehensive overview of critical decision-making in vaccinology.

The grants each in the amount of $4,000 (US dollars) are provided to defray the costs related to attending the course. In order to qualify to apply for a grant applicants must first make an application to the course. The candidate must be a citizen of and reside in the United States at the time of the course, must have a demonstrated commitment to vaccinology as a career, and must be conducting research or working in a recognized and accredited US institution of higher learning or in a governmental agency. For additional information about the course please visit www.advac.org. The grant application is available for download at NFID’s website, www.nfid.org.

Applications must be received by December 31, 2011. The travel grants are made possible by a grant to NFID by sanofi pasteur.
The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) will sponsor the Fifteenth Annual Conference on Vaccine Research: Basic Science, Clinical Research and Veterinary Medicine on May 7–9, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland.

The conference is designed to bring together the diverse disciplines involved in the research and development of vaccines. Expert faculty from various disciplines will present the latest vaccine-related scientific data, results, and issues via symposia and panel discussions. The conference plenary sessions will focus on the following topics:

Clinical Developments in Vaccines/Vaccine Discovery, Rotavirus, Vaccines for Enteric Diseases, Food Safety Vaccines, Vaccine Adjuvants, and Scientific Assessment to Recent Adverse Events Discovery.

Stanley A. Plotkin, MD, University of Pennsylvania will deliver the keynote presentation, Vaccine Discovery. F. Marc LaForce, MD, PATH, will present the Mary Lou Clements-Mann Memorial Lecture, Vaccine Sciences New Group A Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine: Introduction in Africa.

The Conference will also feature the presentation of the Maurice R. Hilleman Early-stage Career Investigator Award, which memorializes the lifetime achievements of Dr. Maurice R. Hilleman in the field of vaccinology. The award recognizes individuals in the early stages of their careers in any field of vaccinology, from basic research, through pre-clinical and clinical studies, manufacturing and production, to related research in public health, agriculture, health delivery, policy and regulatory matters.

The conference will include meet the experts breakfast sessions.

Applications for the International Travel Grant program are now being accepted. The deadline for applications and abstracts submission is December 16, 2011.

The conference will offer pre and post affiliated events. A writing workshop Creating Outstanding Scientific Communications: Talks, Abstracts, and Posters will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2012. This program will help scientific authors prepare sound scientific presentations while addressing issues such as conflict of interest, authorship, copyright, and submitting to an appropriate journal. The International Alliance for Biological Standardization (IABS) will hold its program, Potential Use of Biomarkers of Inflammation and of Early Immunological Events to Assess Vaccine Safety on May 10–11, 2012.

Collaborating organizations include the American Veterinary Medical Association; Center for Vaccine Development-University of Maryland; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the Edward Jenner Society; Emory Vaccine Center; Fondation Mérieux; International Association for Biological Standardization; National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Sabin Vaccine Institute; and Sealy Center for Vaccine Development, University of Texas Medical Branch.

The conference was developed for researchers, scientists, epidemiologists, microbiologists, immunologists, molecular biologists, physicians and veterinarians, vaccine manufacturers, and public health officials who have an interest in vaccine research. NFID designates this CME activity for a maximum of 19.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

Continuing Education credits will be offered for nurses. NFID is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Maryland Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. This educational activity has been approved for a maximum of 19.25 contact hours.

Registration fees are $520 prior to March 26, 2012 and $620 after this date. NFID will offer discounted conference admission to medical students, doctoral students, residents, fellows, physician assistants, nurses, and NFID supporting members. For more information about registration or abstract submission, call NFID at (301) 656-0003 x19, fax: (301) 907-0878, e-mail: vaccine@nfid.org or you may visit the NFID website at www.nfid.org.
NFID Develops New Tracking Tools to Support Vaccination Efforts and Improve Record Keeping for US Adults

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) has created two new tools to help healthcare professionals (HCPs) and consumers better understand and track adult vaccinations. The “Adult Patient Vaccine Tracker” for HCPs and the “Adult Vaccination Tracker and Guide” for patients are now available on NFID’s website www.adultvaccination.org.

NFID identified a need for better tracking tools through ongoing discussions with members of its Pneumococcal Disease Advisory Board and with representatives of partner organizations who support NFID’s efforts to increase adult immunization rates.

Although there has been a gradual shift from paper charts to electronic medical records (EMRs), only about 44 percent of physicians report using all or partial EMR systems in their practices. While there were several existing paper trackers, it was clear from discussions that additional features could support improved record-keeping practices.

Interviews with physician assistants identified by the American Academy of Physician Assistants and a nurse from the American Nurses Association were conducted to gain more insight. They indicated that any tools that could help providers and patients keep an accurate record of vaccinations received and those needed would be a welcomed resource in clinical practice. Further, coupling a tracking grid with the current CDC vaccination schedule and tips for overcoming tracking challenges would be an added benefit compared to available trackers.

To address these needs, NFID’s “Adult Patient Vaccine Tracker” includes a tracking grid on one side and CDC’s Adult Immunization Schedule on the reverse side for easy reference. Tips for patient screening and vaccine tracking accompany the schedule.

Because adults can receive recommended vaccines in any number of healthcare settings, the professionals interviewed stressed the importance of engaging patients in self-tracking. To enhance its value, NFID designed the consumer tracker to double as an educational tool. It helps adults assess which vaccines they need based on their age and health condition, encourages them to speak with an HCP about vaccination, and provides space for tracking vaccinations as they get them.

NFID’s multidisciplinary Pneumococcal Disease Advisory Board is co-chaired by Dr. William Schaffner, NFID President and Dr. Susan J. Rehm, NFID Medical Director. The Advisory Board led the development of these tools.

The trackers are available at: www.adultvaccination.org/immunizationtracking. To extend the reach of these resources, NFID will highlight their availability through upcoming activities with partner organizations and encourage their dissemination. NFID will also look for feedback from providers in the coming months to assess their usability and make adjustments if needed.

The Challenges of Protecting Older Adults from Influenza

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) announces a new online activity focused on protecting older adults from influenza. Featuring NFID President, William Schaffner, MD, this new interactive online activity includes an introduction to the “Protecting Older Adults from Influenza” brief, practical advice for protecting your patients, as well as an overview of NFID’s adult immunization programs, resources, and tools. The online activity also includes a follow up ‘ask the expert’ feature, soliciting participant questions, and providing answers in several minute segmented talks. Click here to begin the presentation.

This online presentation is offered in collaboration with QuantiaMD, the largest online and mobile physician community. The QuantiaMD online community currently consists of over 125,000 healthcare providers, with 55% of the members as primary care providers.

2012 Traveling Professorship in Rural Areas Grant Applications

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) invites individuals to apply for the 2012 Traveling Professorship in Rural Areas. This grant is funded through the NFID Steven R. Mostow Endowment for Outreach Programs and is intended to provide support for the recipient to provide face-to-face infectious diseases education to practicing physicians in rural areas in the recipient’s state of residence or primary practice.

The grant will be made in a one-time cash payment of $10,000. All applications must be postmarked by January 6, 2012. For more information regarding eligibility and application instructions please visit the NFID website www.nfid.org/pdf/awards/professorship.pdf.
(AWARD RECIPIENTS, from page 1)

While attending her brother’s commencement from Oberlin she listened to Dr. D. A. Henderson speak about his efforts to eradicate smallpox and she was inspired. “He verified what I thought I wanted to do,” Dr. Gayle said. “His speech made me realize: Wow! You can eradicate diseases off the face of the earth. You can do something that makes a difference – not just as a physician, by treating one person at a time, but affecting whole populations. That was a true defining moment. She earned her degree in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University.

After a residency in pediatric medicine at the Children’s Hospital National Medical Center in Washington, DC, Dr. Gayle served in the Epidemic Intelligence Service at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Gayle later completed a residency in preventive medicine, before joining the CDC staff as epidemiologist. Dr. Gayle focused on the problems of malnourished children in the United States and around the world and she evaluated and put into place child survival programs in Africa. She also conducted research and worked on programs and policy in the field of HIV/AIDS.

In 1992, Dr. Gayle became AIDS coordinator and chief of the HIV/AIDS division for the U.S. Agency for International Development. In 1995, she was named Director for the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention at CDC. She became the director of CDC’s Washington office and a health consultant to various international agencies including the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank and UNAIDS.

In 2001, she was appointed director of the HIV, TB, and reproductive health program, which is responsible for research, programs and policies concerning HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, reproductive health issues, and tuberculosis, for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In 2006 Dr. Gayle became the president and CEO of Care, Inc.

“When I first met Dr. Gayle,” said Ann Lurie, “I was impressed by her passion for the disenfranchised and her fierce insistence that women and girls must be the recipients of all messages geared to changing access to medical care and the socioeconomic structure of families. In fact her entire distinguished career is testimony to her continual commitment to improving the health and well-being of all mankind by designing and instituting intelligent, innovative, and relevant programs that are proven change agents for a broad range of social issues. I am inspired by her indomitable spirit and accomplishments and consider her an exceptionally notable citizen, leader, and humanitarian.” Ann Lurie is the president of the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Foundation and recipient of the 2010 NFID Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter Humanitarian Award.

In addition to overseeing the vast operations of CARE, Dr. Gayle chairs the Obama Administration’s Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS and is a member of the President’s Commission on White House Fellowships. She has appeared on the list of Foreign Policy magazine’s “Top 100 Global Thinkers,” Newsweek magazine’s top 10 “Women in Leadership” and the Wall Street Journal’s list of “50 Women to Watch.” She was also named as one of the “100 Most Influential Georgians” and the “100 Most Influential Atlantans.”

John P. Utz Leadership Award

NFID will also honor its Medical Director, Susan J. Rehm, MD with the John P. Utz Leadership Award. The John P. Utz Leadership Award is given to individuals that have worked tirelessly in a leadership capacity, on behalf of NFID. Dr. Utz was one of the founders of NFID, and a champion in the fight against infectious diseases. Dr. Rehm has worked tirelessly on NFID’s initiatives since 1988. She was a member of the NFID Board of Directors from 1988-2004 and was president from 2001-2004. Since 2004 Dr. Rehm has been the “face” of NFID while serving as Medical Director, often appearing as a spokesperson for the organization on various infectious disease topics.

The Event

The Awards Dinner will take place on the evening of March 27, 2012 at the Ritz Carlton Pentagon City in Arlington, VA. Individual seats for the NFID Awards Dinner are $350 per person. Sponsored tables for ten are available for $9,000. NFID is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, and as a result most of this cost is tax deductible. Net proceeds from the event will be used for public and professional education about infectious diseases; research and training in infectious diseases; and to aid in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases. For more information please contact Sharon Cooper-Kerr at 301.656.0003 x14.
and for which vaccination can have a significant impact on health. Shari M. Ling, MD, acting deputy chief medical officer at CMS commended the traditionally high vaccination rates in the 65-plus population and highlighted the importance of this group continuing to receive influenza and pneumococcal vaccines to avoid complications from these diseases.

Richard H. Beigi, MD, MSc, assistant professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Services, University of Pittsburgh and representative of ACOG, advocated influenza vaccination as a safe, effective way for pregnant women to protect themselves and their newborn babies. He also addressed the safety and improved outcomes with influenza antiviral medication, and the importance of prompt treatment if pregnant women do get sick. He noted that instilling these behaviors now can establish a lifetime of good family health and infectious disease prevention.

Supporting panelists addressed important issues relating to their key constituencies and questions from the media who joined the news conference via webcast or teleconference.

Several panelists highlighted the need to close immunization gaps among all populations. Elena Rios, MD, president of the NHMA pointed out that minority populations are more likely to have underlying health problems, which increase the risk of influenza complications. His Chief Medical Officer Susan V. Karol, MD, noted that the influenza-related mortality rate for the American Indian/Alaska Native population is approximately four times the average rate, making it critical to support vaccination policies and programs. Winston Price, MD, of the NMA, called on healthcare professionals to support vaccine opportunities in nonmedical settings, saying “We must integrate approaches to promote vaccination across all practice settings and find ways to extend our efforts beyond clinic walls.”

O. Marion Burton, MD, president of the AAP noted that influenza spreads rapidly among children and resulted in 115 pediatric influenza-associated deaths last season. He reminded everyone that “annual influenza vaccine keeps our children safe and can slow influenza’s spread to the community at large.”

AMA Chair, Robert Wah, MD emphasized how important it is to hear a vaccination recommendation from someone on their healthcare team and called on physicians to receive the vaccine as well. “Physicians play an important role in reducing the spread of influenza by encouraging our patients to get vaccinated, and we also set an example by getting vaccinated ourselves,” he said.

Mitchel C. Rothholz, chief strategy officer at the APhA, said “pharmacists are one of the most accessible healthcare professionals and are in a unique position to educate the public about the importance of prevention and to administer influenza, pneumococcal, and other vaccines.” He also noted that more US pharmacists are trained to administer immunizations than ever before and an increasing proportion of influenza vaccinations are given in nonmedical settings.

To further extend the critical public health messages conveyed at the news conference to reach local communities across the country, NFID held a satellite broadcast media tour the following morning with Dr. Schaffner and Daniel B. Jernigan, MD deputy director of the CDC’s Influenza Division in the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. Fifteen interviews with local TV and radio stations were conducted, in key markets such as Detroit, Denver and Phoenix.

To view the news conference online, please visit www.visualwebcaster.com/NFID2011-NewsConference.

For more information, or to join the Lead by Example initiative, please visit www.nfid.org/influenza/leadingbyexample.