

## 16th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) will sponsor the Sixteenth Annual Conference on Vaccine Research on April 22-24, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, MD. The conference is designed to bring together the diverse disciplines involved in the research and development of vaccines. Expert speakers 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:

- Progress in Eradication
- Prospects for New Tuberculosis Vaccines
- Prevention of Infant Infections/Material Immunization
- Malaria Vaccines
- New and Emerging Vaccines for Respiratory Infections
- Vaccine Discovery and New Technology
- Meet the Experts breakfast sessions
- Awards luncheon with presentations of the Robert Austrian

Memorial Lecture and the Charles Merieux and Maurice R. Hilleman Early-stage Career Investigator Awards

General Abstracts submission deadline is Friday, December 21, 2012. Conference agenda and additional information is available at [www.nfid.org](http://www.nfid.org) or e-mail: [vaccine@nfid.org](mailto:vaccine@nfid.org).



## NFID Honors Leaders for Exemplary Work in Infectious Diseases

The **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)** will honor **Dr. Adetokunbo Lucas** and **Dr. Paul A. Offit** at its Annual Awards Dinner on Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement will be presented to Dr. Offit for his outstanding work in the pediatric vaccine arena and his ongoing commitment to vaccine advocacy. The Award is given to a scientist who has made outstanding contributions to the understanding of infectious diseases or public health. Dr. Lucas will be honored with the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award for his lifelong commitment to global public health in the area of neglected tropical diseases. This award recognizes outstanding humanitarian efforts and achievements that have improved the health of humankind.

### Paul A. Offit, MD



Dr. Paul A. Offit is an impassioned advocate for immunization. He has rallied the scientific counterattack against the anti-vaccine movement. Dr. Offit is the co-inventor of the RotaTeg<sup>®</sup> rotavirus vaccine which is recommended for universal use in infants in the US and is widely used in other countries. Dr. Offit is credited with saving countless lives worldwide.

“I believe Dr. Offit is a most appropriate candidate for the Maxwell Finland Awards for his broad influence on the pediatric vaccine field, from his development of the life-saving rotavirus vaccines, to his exemplary pediatric practice, to his staunch support of childhood immunization against zealous opponents. His insightful and approachable style of writing has helped bridge the gap between medical research and the general public. His legacy must include both the hundreds of thousands of lives already saved by the rotavirus vaccines, and the million more that will be saved by his advocacy for prudent vaccine

policy,” stated **Vijay Samant**, president and chief executive officer of Vical, Inc.

Dr. Offit earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Tufts University in 1973, and his MD degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1977. He completed his internship and residency in pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, where he went on to complete a fellowship in infectious diseases. His affiliation with the Children’s Hospital continues today, as he now serves as Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases and the Director of the Vaccine Education Center.

### **Adetokunbo Lucas, MD**



“Professor Adetokunbo Lucas’ lifelong excellence and contributions as a clinician, medical educator, researcher, administrator, policy specialist, and public health leader have benefited Nigeria, Africa and the world, and are the monumental legacy of a great humanitarian and distinguished global citizen,” writes **President Jimmy Carter**.

Born in Lagos, Nigeria almost eighty years ago, Dr. Lucas received his medical and postgraduate training in Newcastle, London and Boston. He returned to University College Hospital in Ibadan, Nigeria where he taught clinical and community medicine and chaired the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine from 1965 to 1976. Dr. Lucas was the founding director of the World Health Organization’s Special Program for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases from 1976 to 1986. In this position Dr. Lucas focused on six major tropical diseases: malaria, schistosomiasis, the trypanosomiasis, the leishmaniasis, the filariases and leprosy. He organized networks of co-operating scientists and institutions as well as industry and brought about many important scientific advances as well as the development of new and improved technologies such as multiple drug therapy for the control of leprosy. “The world is still benefiting from the fruits of his effective and pioneering leadership in that position,” said President Carter.

Since 1988 Dr. Lucas has served on the International Task Force for Disease Eradication formed at The Carter Center to evaluate disease control and prevention and the potential to eradicate other infectious diseases. The task force, composed of scientists and notable international health organizations, has identified seven diseases that could be eradicated including dracunculiasis, poliomyelitis, mumps, rubella, lymphatic filariasis, cysticercosis, and measles.

### **John P. Utz Leadership Award**

NFID will also honor past president, **William Schaffner, MD** with the John P. Utz Leadership Award. The John P. Utz Leadership is given to individuals that have worked tirelessly in a leadership capacity, on behalf of NFID. Dr. Utz was one of the founder of NFID, and a champion in the fight against infectious diseases. Dr. Schaffner continues to work tirelessly on NFID’s initiative. He has been a member of the NFID Board of Directors since 2001 and served as president from 2010–2012. Dr. Schaffner continues to serve as an NFID spokesperson, and is often interviewed regarding timely infectious disease topics on behalf of the organization.

### **The Event**

The Awards Dinner will take place on the evening of March 5, 2013 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 visit the NFID website at [www.nfid.org](http://www.nfid.org) or contact Sharon Cooper-Kerr at (301) 656-0003 x14 or [scooper-kerr@nfid.org](mailto:scooper-kerr@nfid.org).

## Clinical Vaccinology Course Scheduled

The **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)** will hold its next **Clinical Vaccinology Course** on March 8–10, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

The course is co-sponsored by **NFID, Emory Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases** and the **Emory Vaccine Center**.

Course collaborating organizations include the **American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College Health Association, American Medical Association, American Nurses Association, American Pharmacists Association, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Community Pharmacists Associations, Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine, and the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists.**

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



Sessions include:

- How Vaccines Work
- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)
- Childhood and Adolescent Immunization
- Clinical Cases in Vaccinology
- Adult and Adolescent Immunization Challenges
- Childhood Immunization Challenges
- Special Vaccine Issues
- Special Populations

The course includes keynote presentations on *An Overview of Vaccinology, Pneumococcal Vaccines Across the Lifespan, and Influenza Vaccine: Strains, Supply and Schedule: Giving the Right Dose*. In addition, the course will feature a panel discussion focused on Increasing Vaccination Rates through the Immunization Neighborhood and a Meet the Experts breakfast networking session.

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). 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.

Discounted course registration will be offered to medical students, doctoral students, residents, fellows, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and NFID supporting members. Online registration and additional information about the course, including full course agenda and faculty listing, is available at [www.nfid.org](http://www.nfid.org).

## 2012 Flu Outlook: Unpredictable Season, but Plenty of Vaccine Available

Public health officials and medical experts joined the **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)** at its annual Influenza/Pneumococcal news conference. The panel urged the public to get vaccinated and cautioned that influenza is unpredictable and that last year's mild season is not necessarily an indication of what to expect during the 2012-2013 flu season.

Assistant Secretary for Health at the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), **Howard K. Koh, MD**, announced the latest influenza coverage rates among children and adults, which reinforced the need for ongoing, collaborative efforts to improve influenza immunization. "I urge everyone to join me and get a flu vaccine this year," said Dr. Koh,



who was the first to receive his flu vaccine during the news conference. He was joined by leaders from the **American Medical Association (AMA)**, **American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)**, **American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)**, **American Pharmacists Association (APhA)**, **AARP**, **National Medical Association**, **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** and **NFID**, in partnership with the **National Influenza Vaccine Summit**, and called on everyone six months of age or older to follow CDC's universal recommendation by getting vaccinated against influenza each year.

Dr. Koh announced newly-released information about influenza immunization among pregnant women and healthcare personnel. Vaccination coverage among pregnant women remained consistent (47 percent), but still significantly higher than rates prior to the 2008-2009 influenza season, when rates were regularly lower than 30 percent. ACOG also recommends the influenza vaccine for pregnant women.

"Influenza is five times more likely to cause severe illness in pregnant women than women who are not pregnant," said **Laura Riley, MD**, director of Obstetrics and encourage others to join the effort are: a sample template announcement for your organization's website and/or newsletter and status updates/tweets for Facebook and Twitter. Please visit the website for additional information.

## NFID Partners with APIC in Honor of International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW)

In recognition of the importance of infection prevention and the role consumers can play to stay safe when they visit a healthcare provider, NFID joined with the **Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)** as a key partner for International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW), observed October 14-20, 2012.

IIPW promoted the belief that infection prevention is everyone's business. APIC used IIPW to remind consumers of three simple steps to prevent infection:

1. Wash your hands and cover your cough.
2. Ask your healthcare providers to do the same.
3. Speak up if you have any questions about your care.

As a partnering organization, NFID readers received free access to IIPW webinars, scheduled throughout IIPW. Established in 1986 by President Ronald Reagan, APIC has spearheaded the annual IIPW effort to highlight the importance of infection prevention among healthcare professionals, administrators, legislators, and consumers. It is now formally recognized in many areas around the world including the US, Australia, the United Kingdom, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. As IIPW expands, more patients benefit from safer healthcare practices and reduced threat of healthcare-associated infections.

## NFID Flu Awareness Night at Washington Nationals Baseball Game

On September 21, 2012, NFID sponsored a flu awareness night at the Washington Nationals baseball stadium in Washington, DC. The event was a tremendous success, with the NFID public service announcement "Are You That Guy?" featured on the Jumbotron prior to the start of the game. NFID was recognized with a welcome message on the scoreboard and staff volunteered at the community kiosk inside the stadium distributing educational materials, hand sanitizers, and vouchers for those receiving flu vaccines at Harris Teeter stores. A portion of all tickets sold through the online customized portal will be donated to NFID by the Washington Nationals.

