

15th Annual Vaccine Conference Highlights

The Fifteenth Annual Conference on Vaccine Research (ACVR), sponsored by the **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)**, was held on May 7-9, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, MD.

The three-day conference, devoted to vaccines and related technologies for disease prevention and treatment, focused on basic science and clinical research in both human and veterinary medicine. The ACVR is the premier venue for cutting-edge presentations and networking for scientific collaboration in vaccine research.



Dr. Samuel L. Katz (left) and Dr. Stanley A. Plotkin attend the 15th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research

The keynote address was delivered by **Stanley A. Plotkin, MD**, emeritus professor of pediatrics, University of Pennsylvania. In his presentation, "Vaccine Discovery – A Varied Process," Dr. Plotkin outlined how vaccines are actually developed by examining past and future strategies.

Dr. Plotkin stated, "new approaches to vaccine development are necessary. Although trial and error will continue to be a major way forward, it is likely that single antigens will not be sufficient for optimal protection and indeed that more than one immune response will have to be induced."

F. Marc LaForce, MD, director of the Meningitis Vaccine Project at the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), presented the Mary Lou Clem-

ents-Mann Memorial Lecture in Vaccine Sciences, "Introduction of an Affordable Group A Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine in the African Meningitis Belt."

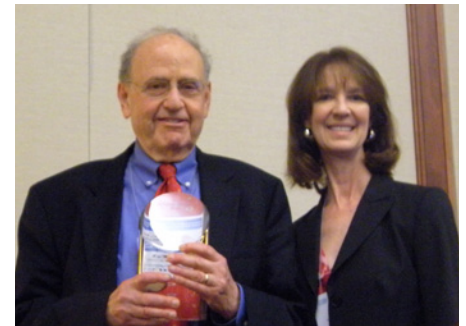
NFID's Charles Mérieux Award was presented to **Arnold S. Monto, MD**, the Thomas Francis, Jr. Collegiate Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. This award is presented to an individual who demonstrates a commitment to science-based medicine and research in infectious diseases, shows excellence in clinical and research activities, and has an unsurpassed dedication to improving public health. The Charles Merieux Award is supported by a grant from sanofi pasteur.

The ACVR also included the presentation of the Robert Austrian Memorial Lecture by **Thomas M. File, Jr., MD**, professor, internal medicine, master teacher and chair of the infectious disease section, Northeast Ohio Medical University. Dr. File is NFID's newly elected president.

The lecture, underwritten by a grant from Merck & Co, Inc., is named in honor of the late Dr. Robert Austrian, former chair of medical research at the University of Pennsylvania, who developed the first multivalent vaccine against pneumococcus bacteria.

In its sixth year, the Maurice R. Hilleman Early-Stage Career Investigator Award recognizes promising scientists who are beginning their careers in vaccinology. The 2012 award was presented to **Olga A. Lihoradova, PhD**, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX for her presentation "Characterization of Rift Valley Fever MP-1 Vaccine Encoding the NSs Gene Derived from Other Phleboviruses."

The two semifinalists were **Mohammad Khan, MBBS, MSc, PhD** of the International Vaccine Institute in Seoul, Korea and **Jian Wu, PhD** from the Center for Biolog-



Dr. Arnold S. Monto receives the 2012 Charles Mérieux Award from NFID Medical Director, Dr. Susan J. Rehm.

ics Evaluation and Research in Bethesda, MD. The Maurice R. Hilleman, Early Stage Career Investigator Award is supported by unrestricted educational grant from Merck & Co, Inc.

Once again, NFID sponsored an international travel grants program. This activity supported the travel and participation of 10 researchers from developing countries with limited resources. The travel grant program provides an annual forum for discussion of pressing global vaccinology issues.

(VACCINE CONFERENCE, continued on page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

15th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research Highlights.....	1
Clinical Vaccinology Course Scheduled	3
Campaign for Adult Immunization	3
NFID Board Election	4
Calendar of Events	4

THE DOUBLE HELIX

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.

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(ANNUAL CONFERENCE, from page 1)



Dr. Olga A. Lihoradova receives the 2012 Hillel Award from Dr. Bruce Weniger, Annual Conference on Vaccine Research Conference Co-Chair.

Other invited and submitted presentations highlighted advances in vaccine discovery, rotavirus vaccines, vaccines for enteric diseases, food safety vaccines, vaccine adjuvants, and vaccine candidates. Poster presentations covered preclinical and clinical studies, immunization policies and programs, immunologic science, the impact of vaccines on disease burden, vaccine safety, vaccine adjuvants, and scientific assessment of vaccine adverse events.

The Annual Conference on Vaccine Research is sponsored by NFID in collaboration with:

- American Pharmacists Association
- American Veterinary Medical Association
- Center for Vaccine Development, University of Maryland
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Edward Jenner Society
- Emory Vaccine Center
- FDA Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research
- Fondation Mérieux
- International Alliance for Biological Standardization
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH
- One Health Initiative
- Sabin Vaccine Institute
- Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists
- USDA Agricultural Research Service
- University of Texas Sealy Center for Vaccine Development

Financial support for the conference was provided through unrestricted educational grants from:

- Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation
- BD Diagnostics
- Crucell Holland B.V.
- CSL Biotherapies
- Dynavax Technologies
- Epivax, Inc.
- Genvec
- Inovio Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- LigoCyte Pharmaceuticals
- Liquidia Technologies
- MedImmune, Inc.
- Merck & Co., Inc.
- Novartis Vaccines
- Novavax, Inc.
- Sanofi Pasteur
- US Food and Drug Administration

The Sixteenth Annual Conference on Vaccine Research will be held April 22 - 24, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, MD. A call for abstracts will be available November 2012 for the 16th Annual Conference. Please visit www.nfid.org for more information in the fall.

Clinical Vaccinology Course Scheduled

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) announces the dates for its Clinical Vaccinology Course. The course, co-sponsored by NFID, Emory Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases and the Emory Vaccine Center will be held November 2 - 4, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency Miami in Miami, FL. The course will also be held in Chicago, March 9 - 10, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago, IL.

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.

The Clinical Vaccinology Course will feature sessions addressing:

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

Keynote presentations include:

- *An Overview of Vaccinology*—Walter A. Orenstein, MD
Emory Vaccine Center
- *Pneumococcal Vaccines Across the Lifespan*—Matthew R. Moore, MD, MPH
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- *Influenza Vaccine: Strains, Supply, and Schedule: Give the Right Dose at the Right Time*—Wendy A. Keitel, MD, Baylor College of Medicine

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

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 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.

Online registration is now open for the November course. The cost to attend is \$590 prior to September 17, 2012 and \$690 after this date. 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.

National Adult Immunization Campaign Launched

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID), in partnership with leading medical experts and national health organizations, launched its **Campaign for Adult Immunization** at the inaugural National Adult Immunization Summit in Atlanta, GA. The Campaign is a multi-disciplinary, unified national effort to bring all stakeholder groups interested in adult immunization under one advocacy umbrella to support adult immunization issues.

The Campaign for Adult Immunization aims to reduce the more than 50,000 annual vaccine-preventable deaths by increasing awareness of, and access to, recommended adult vaccines. Currently, vaccine-preventable diseases kill more US adults than breast cancer, HIV/AIDS, or motor vehicle traffic accidents.

Several national organizations have already signed on as Campaign partners. A complete list of partners is available at

www.adultimmunization.org. According to Campaign Chair and adult vaccine expert, **William Schaffner, MD**, "Vaccine-preventable diseases are taking a heavy toll on the country's health, unnecessarily draining medical and financial resources at a time when the nation should be focused on curbing costs through prevention. Immunizing adults is an easy way to save tens of thousands of lives and billions of dollars."

The Campaign for Adult Immunization will seek to address immunization barriers, such as awareness and cost issues, that the public health community has encountered for years. "We know the problems," noted Campaign advisory board member **Gregory A. Poland, MD**, director of the Mayo Vaccine Research Group. "But now we need implementable, effective solutions. This campaign will offer out-of-the-box thinking to deliver real increases in adult vaccination rates."

Deborah J. Wexler, MD, campaign advisory board member and executive director of the Immunization Action Coalition added, "The impact of disease spreads further than people think: unvaccinated adults leave themselves, their loved ones, and their communities vulnerable to contracting often deadly diseases."

In addition to the clear medical impact of infectious diseases on the country, these preventable diseases also have huge financial burdens for individuals and society-at-large. "The cost of treating just influenza and pneumococcal disease reaches into the tens of billions of dollars every year," explained **Litjen Tan, PhD**, Campaign advisory board member and director of Medicine and Public Health at the American Medical Association.

New Members Elected to NFID Board of Directors

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) elected new members to its Board of Directors board meeting this month.



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Bach & Godofsky, MD, PA

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Outgoing NFID President,
William Schaffner, MD
Vanderbilt University became
NFID's Immediate Past President.

Calendar of NFID Events and Meetings

September 21, 2012

NFID Flu Awareness Night

NFID Flu Awareness Night
Nationals Park

Washington Nationals
vs.

Milwaukee Brewers

Visit www.nfid.org for
additional information

November 2–4, 2012

Clinical Vaccinology Course

Hyatt Regency Miami in
Miami, FL

March 8–10, 2013

Clinical Vaccinology Course

Hyatt Regency Chicago in
Chicago, IL

April 22–24, 2013

Sixteenth Annual Conference on Vaccine Research

Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Hotel
in Baltimore, MD

For more information about
NFID sponsored events and
meetings, please contact:

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www.nfid.org

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

On Friday, September 21, 2012, NFID will be sponsoring a “Flu Awareness Night” at the Washington Nationals baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers in Washington, DC. During the event, the NFID public service announcement “Are You That Guy?” will be shown on the Jumbotron prior to the start of the game, NFID staff will be at the community kiosk distributing flu information flyers and giveaways as well as vouchers for those receiving flu vaccines at local Harris Teeter grocery stores, and a special welcome message will be displayed on the scoreboard between the 4th and 5th innings. A customized online purchase page has been developed (www.nationals.com/flu) for tickets available at a discounted group rate, with a portion of ticket sales being donated to NFID. Come out and join us for this special evening!



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 • 7:05 P.M.

