

Y3 Pilot Grant Awardees



TRAC-G: ASSESSMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS ANTIBODIES IN THE CSF STUDY

Tinatin Bakuradze, MD, National Center for Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases, Tbilisi, Georgia

Aniruddh Sarkar, PhD, Georgia Institute of Technology

TRAC-03: EPIGENETIC CHANGES OF TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION AND THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH ACCELERATED AGING AND METABOLIC DISORDERS

Wassim Abdallah, MD, Emory University School of Medicine

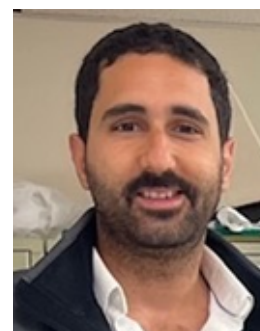
Co-funding support from:



EMORY UNIVERSITY

Emory Global Diabetes Research Center

of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center



TRAC-G: SINGLE CELLS IMMUNE PROFILING IN PREGNANT WOMEN WITH TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION

Fregenet Tesfaye, PhD, MSc, Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Cheryl Day, PhD, Emory School of Medicine

TRAC-03: DEVELOPING 3D NHP SPHEROID MODELS TO PROBE M.TB-HOST INTERACTIONS AND MYELOID CELL FUNCTIONS IN TUBERCULOSIS AND HIV CO-INFECTION

Nanda Kishore Routhu, PhD, Emory National Primate Research Center

Co-funding support from:



EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



EMORY UNIVERSITY

Center for AIDS Research

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine



Tuberculosis and Antimicrobial Resistance

Check out the article "[Have we entered a post-antibiotic age?](#)" in the latest issue of Rollins magazine in which Dr. Sarita Shah, Professor of Epidemiology and Global Health, and Director of the Clinical & Population Science Core at Emory/Georgia TB Research Advancement Center, shares insights on the dire and growing threat of drug-resistant tuberculosis.



Publication Highlight

Dr. Sara Auld, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Emory School of Medicine, and Epidemiology, Emory Rollins School of Public Health recently co-authored a paper titled "[Perspectives from the 2nd International Post-Tuberculosis Symposium: mobilising advocacy and research for improved outcomes](#)". The symposium was held in



Stellenbosch, South Africa, 17–19 April 2023, building on the work of the inaugural symposium in 2019 it aimed to update knowledge on post-TB life and illness, identify research priorities, and build collaborations. The multidisciplinary meeting included clinicians, researchers, TB survivors, funders, and policymakers, with ten working groups covering thematic areas such as patient engagement, epidemiology, pathogenesis, lung disease, cardiovascular complications, and advocacy. The symposium made progress in standardizing post-TB outcomes and definitions while highlighting the need to embed lung health outcomes in clinical and programmatic TB care services.

Job Posting

The Department of Epidemiology at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health is recruiting a Post Doctoral Fellow to join a collaborative group of researchers studying the epidemiology of TB and improving prevention, care, and treatment. Specific focus areas include TB transmission, drug-resistant TB, and TB/HIV co-infection. The group collaborates U.S. institutions as well as at international sites in



South Africa, Ethiopia, Brazil, the country of Georgia, India, and the Philippines. A candidate with a doctoral degree in epidemiology, biostatistics, or related field with strong statistical analysis and programming skills, substantive knowledge of infectious diseases and transmission is preferred. Candidates must have the ability to work independently and collaboratively; strong analytic and scientific writing skills; and an enthusiasm for inter-disciplinary engagement. Interested candidates may forward a CV to sarita.shah@emory.edu or apply directly online: <https://faculty-emory.icims.com/jobs/127442/job>



Student Spotlight

Congratulations to first year Emory Rollins School of Public Health MPH students **Carly Griffin, Ruth Dimissie, and Victoria Ontiveros** who received Global Fund Experience awards for their international field experience this summer!



Ruth and Victoria will be working with Dr. Matthew Magee and Georgian collaborators on a study entitled “*Knowledge, attitudes, and practice regarding latent tuberculosis infection treatment in the country of Georgia*”. Carly will be supporting Dr. Sara Auld’s Inflammation and Fibrosis in Patients with Pulmonary Tuberculosis (INFIN-TB) study and continue her independent research project with Dr. Auld for her RISE fellowship and GFE.

TRACcolades



Congrats to Pulmonary Fellow Dr. Michael Marll, for securing a post-doctoral fellowship with the Emory Center for AIDS Research’s [Translational Research To End the HIV Epidemic T32 Training Program](#). During his fellowship Dr. Marll will be working with [Dr. Sara Auld](#) and primarily engaging with the Inflammation and Fibrosis in Pulmonary Tuberculosis (INFIN-TB) Study.

Congratulations to Data Analyst Fay Willis on her Emory Rollins School of Public Health **Rising Star Award!** The award recognizes new staff members who demonstrate ongoing and exceptional growth in their contributions to the school. Awardees have championed innovative ideas with a proven record of cooperation, initiative, and a self-starting attitude.



Congrats to Louis Hopkins, Doctoral Candidate in Emory's [Immunology & Molecular Pathogenesis Program](#) for being awarded the Halloran Scholarship to attend the [2024 Summer Institute in Statistics and Modeling in Infectious Diseases \(SISMID\)](#). The prestigious scholarship is named in honor of SISMID Founding Director Dr. Elizabeth Halloran. Louis is conducting his doctoral research in the lab of TRAC Co-Director Dr. Jyothi Rengarajan.

Dr. Jeff Collins, Co-Director of the Emory-Georgia TRAC's Bioinformatics and Integrated Systems Biology (BISB) core recently received his Notice of Award following a perfect score for his new R01 "*Immunometabolic Biomarkers to Advance TB Diagnosis and Treatment Monitoring.*" **Congrats Jeff!**



Upcoming Events



TRAC PILOT AWARDEE VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM Thursday and Friday May 23 & 24, 12-3:30pm

Over the course of two afternoons, twelve TRAC Pilot Awardees representing each TRAC will share the research underlying their pilot grants. The symposium is open to NIAID staff and TRAC-affiliated scientists, staff, trainees, and collaborators.

Registration is free and required.

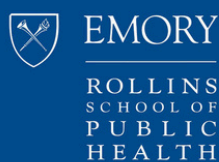
Register [here](#).

Emory-Georgia TRAC year 2 pilot grant awardees **Dr. Mari Buziashvili** will present her pilot project “A Dual AppRoach to Eliminating Tuberculosis and Hepatitis C (DARE TB/HCV) Study” and **Dr. Kristin Nelson** will present “Beyond BCG: evaluating attitudes towards new adult and adolescent TB vaccines in Mozambique”.

Bulletin Board

THE SUMMER INSTITUTE IN STATISTICS AND MODELING IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES (SISMID)

SISMID is designed to introduce infectious disease researchers to modern methods of statistical analysis and mathematical modeling. Since its founding in 2009 by Dr. Betz Halloran of University of Washington, SISMID has trained thousands of researchers from academia, government, and industry in cutting edge analytic methods. SISMID’s new home is at Emory University, and housed within the Rollins School of Public Health, under the direction of Dr. Natalie Dean and Dr. Ben Lopman. **More info [here](#).**



Summer Institute in
Statistics and Modeling
in Infectious Diseases

16TH ANNUAL SISMID
JULY 15 - 31, 2024
EMORY UNIVERSITY
ATLANTA, GA



THE UNION WORLD CONFERENCE ON LUNG HEALTH

TBScience, a part of the World Conference on Lung Health each year is accepting abstract submissions from 8 May-10 June 2024. [More info here.](#)



ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENTS AND NOTICES OF SPECIAL INTEREST WITH POTENTIAL INTEREST TO TRAC INVESTIGATORS

[RFA-AI-23-023: International Research in Infectious Diseases \(R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)_\(nih.gov\).](#)

[Early Stage Investigator Extensions |_grants.nih.gov](#)

[NOT-OD-23-170: Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry, Re-integration into, and Re-training in Health-Related Research Careers \(Admin Supp - Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)_\(nih.gov\).](#)

[NOT-OD-23-031: Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements to Promote Research Continuity and Retention of NIH Mentored Career Development \(K\) Award Recipients and Scholars](#)

[NOT-OD-23-032: Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Administrative Supplement for Continuity of Biomedical and Behavioral Research Among First-Time Recipients of NIH Research Project Grant Awards](#)

[NOT-AI-21-074: Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Primary Caregiver Technical Assistance Supplements \(PCTAS\)_\(Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional\)_\(nih.gov\).](#)

April Publications

Abdelgawad N, **Wasserman S**, Abdelwahab MT, Davis A, Stek C, Wiesner L, Black J, Meintjes G, Wilkinson RJ, Denti P. *Linezolid Population Pharmacokinetic Model in Plasma and Cerebrospinal Fluid Among Patients With Tuberculosis Meningitis*. *J Infect Dis*. 2024;229(4):1200-8. DOI: 10.1093/infdis/jjad413.

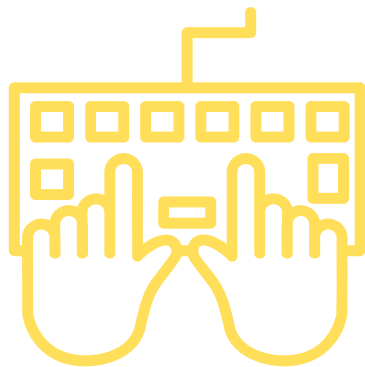
Auld SC, Queiroz ATL, Araujo-Pereira M, Maenetje P, Mofokeng N, Mngomezulu L, Masilela D, Dobosh B, **Tirouvanziam R**, Kornfeld H, Andrade BB, Bisson GP. *Inflammatory profiles in sputum and blood of people with TB with and without HIV coinfection.* medRxiv. 2024. DOI: 10.1101/2024.04.23.24306127.

Carter, J. J., Walker, T. M., Walker, A. S., Whitfield, M. G., Morlock, G. P., Lynch, C. I., Adlard, D., Peto, T. E. A., **Posey, J. E.**, Crook, D. W., & Fowler, P. W. (2024). Prediction of pyrazinamide resistance in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* using structure-based machine-learning approaches. *JAC Antimicrob Resist*, 6(2), dlae037. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jacamr/dlae037>

Castro, K. G., & Shah, N. S. (2024). *Beyond the Bacillus: Closing Gaps in Tuberculosis Health Disparities Requires Targeting Social Determinants.* *Ann Intern Med*, 177(4), 535-536. <https://doi.org/10.7326/m24-0548>

Sossen B, **Maartens G.** Tuberculosis screening in adults with HIV: beyond symptoms. *Lancet Glob Health*. 2024;12(5):e719-e20. DOI: 10.1016/s2214-109x(24)00081-0.

Tamene W, **Wassie L, Marconi VC**, Abebe M, Kebede A, Sack U, Howe R. Protein Expression of TLR2, TLR4, and TLR9 on Monocytes in TB, HIV, and TB/HIV. *J Immunol Res*. 2024;2024:9399524. DOI: 10.1155/2024/9399524.



**Have items to include in
a future newsletter?**

Email:

lisa.sharling@emory.edu

CITE THE TRAC
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@EMORYGATRAC

WEBSITE
TB.EMORY.EDU