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RPRC Studies - Update



DMID 12-0004 Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection and Identification of Factors (PI: Ed Walsh)

Many study activities have been on hiatus this summer, including study team meetings. In the RSV offseason, PIs Ed Walsh and Mary Caserta have been working with study team members to draft an amendment aimed to improve subject retention and identification of mild RSV infection. Microbiomics and Genomics are also processing samples from Season 1. Recruitment and enrollment for Season 2 will begin in late summer with amendment changes in place.



DMID 12-0012 Impact of Respiratory Virus Infections and Bacterial Microbiome Shifts on Lymphocyte and Respiratory Function in Infants Born Prematurely or Full Term (PI: Gloria Pryhuber)

The 12-0012 team has been busy with recruitment, enrollment and study visits of both the Full Term and Pre-Term Cohorts, with 18 currently enrolled in the Full Term Cohort, and 10 enrolled in the Pre-Term Cohort. Several Interim Monitoring Visits have been completed, and an amendment is in progress to optimize study processes. The team meets every other week to discuss the project status and any issues that arise.



DMID 12-0047 Collection of Blood and Body Fluids from Normal Donors for Assay Development for the Respiratory Pathogens Research Center (PI: Ann Falsey)

The purpose of this protocol is to provide cells, serum and other body fluids from normal donors to develop and validate assays for respiratory pathogen diagnosis, immune response and human microbiome. These assays will then be used in studies to assess the etiology of respiratory illness and to develop and evaluate strategies for their treatment and prevention. This protocol is used as needed.



DMID 13-0016 Natural History of Pulmonary Nontuberculous Mycobacterial (NTM) Disease: A Longitudinal Population-Based Outcomes Assessment (PI: Kevin Winthrop)

Activated in June, this study is located at Oregon Health Science University and is the newest DMID protocol for the RPRC. The goal of the study is to determine the public health impact of NTM lung disease. The current project consists of laboratory and medical record follow-up of a cohort previously identified by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) who had NTM isolated from respiratory cultures in 2005-2006. Patients will also be asked to complete a phone interview evaluating the impact of NTM infection of disease in the context of co-morbidities, concomitant medications, and antibiotic treatment for NTM. NTM progression will be described for patients who previously did not meet the case definition for confirmed pulmonary disease.

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RPRC Research in Motion

“RPRC Research in Motion (RIM)” is a monthly meeting to discuss ongoing work in and around the RPRC. It is intended to be informal, more similar to a large lab meeting than a formally presented seminar. See below for an upcoming schedule of presenters.



Date	Presenting Lab
August 6	Ben Miller – Arrayed Imaging Reflectometry
September 3	Tom Mariani – Genomics
October 1	Steve Gill – Microbiomics

RPRC RIM will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, in KMRB 3-9654 West Conference Room at 1:00 PM EST.

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In the News...

[Is the MERS virus worth the worry?](#)

June 26, 2013

Written by John Treanor

Over the last several months, I've been peppered with questions from folks wondering what to make of the latest viral threat: Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome, or MERS. Is it all headline hype, or is it worth a little worry? And with news of cases now in Europe, are there special considerations for those whose summer plans involve crossing the Atlantic?

The best way to fight fear is facts. Cases of the acute respiratory illness – caused by a previously unknown virus – continue to climb.

The illness gets its name because the first cases were isolated in Saudi Arabia, and the majority have since occurred in that region. To date, there have been 55 cases recognized, of which 32 (58 percent) have proven fatal. And although most have occurred in the Middle East, there have been a handful in returning travelers to England, France and Italy. Several are the result of person-to-person transmission, some of which occurred in health care settings. [Read more...](#)



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Changes in Personnel – an Administrative Reminder

Please be reminded that anytime an employee is added or removed from an RPRC project, this change must be communicated to the RPRC Administrator, [Anne Dickinson](#) and RPRC Project Manager, [Donna Neu](#). This information is needed to ensure inclusion in any RPRC communications, and to complete HR and IT Security functions to maintain contract compliance.

This requirement applies to both personnel new to University of Rochester and existing UR employees whose efforts change to support the RPRC. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this requirement, please contact RPRC_PM@urmc.rochester.edu.

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RPRC Seminar Series

Date	Speaker	Research Interest
July 31	Stephania Cormier, LSU	Neonatal Respiratory Immunology
August 7	Ralph Tripp, University of Georgia	Viral Immunology
August 28	Daniel Platt, IBM <i>*Will be held in KMRB 3-9624 East CR</i>	Computational Biology
Sept. 25	Ralph Budd, University of Vermont	Immunobiology Medicine



All listed talks will be held at 12:00 PM EST in 1-9555 Louise Slaughter CR unless otherwise noted.

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Reminder: RPRC Internet Calendar

RPRC calendar of events is available on the internet through Outlook. Enter the below URL into your web browser to subscribe to the calendar in Outlook or iCal.

webcals://calendars.office.microsoft.com/pubcalstorage/wm0qqc4z4130420/RPRC_Events_Calendar.ics

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