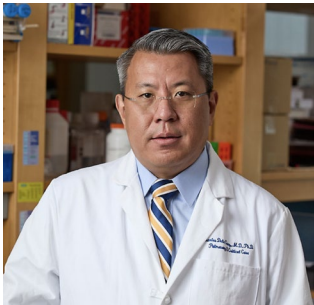


# Assembly on Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (PI-TB) Newsletter



Assembly Chair:  
**Charles S. Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF**

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## Message from the Assembly Chair

It has been more than 3 years since the appearance and identification of SARS-CoV-2, the causative respiratory pathogen of COVID-19, which we all have seen and experienced, has resulted in a global impact in pandemic and unprecedented proportion. This viral infection has affected our patients by exacerbating underlying disease and resulted in a renewed appreciation of the detrimental impact of respiratory infection on human health. As we convene at our annual ATS International Conference in Washington, D.C., we encourage our PI-TB members and others to continue their efforts and seek out opportunities for educational and advocacy activities to promote respiratory infection awareness, encourage disease prevention with vaccinations, and lobby for funding to support research, new anti-viral drug development and public health measures.

Our assembly has continued to be active through the leadership of our PI-TB executive committee and their respective committee members. Shannon Kasperbauer and Marcos Restrepo with their Program Committee members have superbly led the group to program an exciting series of Scientific Symposiums, Joint Symposiums, Mini-Symposiums, Poster Discussions, and Thematic Poster Sessions. We thank them for all their hard work and look forward learning about the cutting edge science and clinical advances in pulmonary infections.

Scott Evans led the Planning Committee along with Alison Morris to support the successful approval of two new workshops (Experimental Models of Acute Respiratory Infections and Post-infectious pulmonary complications) and renewal of all three existing projects. The PI-TB sponsored workshop Immunocompromised Host Pneumonia has been accepted for publication in 2023.

The PI-TB Early Career Working Group led by Ashley Losier as Chair and supported by Co-Chair Kelly Pennington continues to be busy with successful efforts with the PINE (Pulmonary Infection Network of Experts) series, Mentee-Mentoring Program, Apprentice Program, and the Teaching Competition. Benjamin Wu and Anukol Shenoy represents PI-TB and served as the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) as chairs this year. They led the multi-Assembly efforts in developing exciting research SIC program this year. Representing PI-TB, Samantha Yeligar has taken on the lead co-chairing the ATS PhD and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group developing programs to highlight and support the Ph.D. scientists of the Society. Scott Evans and I lead the Pneumonia Working Group, now Pneumonia Advisory Group.

Justin Ortiz has been taking the important charge of leading the Vaccine and Immunization Working Group. They have joined forces with recent ATS initiatives and collaboration with the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to increase COVID-19, influenza, and routine vaccination rates among high-risk adult pulmonary patients within the United States.

As the ATS rebranding process continues, our website is undergoing a major overhaul. We thank Colin Swenson, who leads the Web Committee with Anjad Kanj. They have been important in keeping our assembly informed of relevant events and updates.

I look forward to seeing all of you in person in Washington, D.C. for ATS 2023 International Conference. Through the efforts of many Assembly leaders and members, PI-TB has programmed a broad series of exciting scientific, clinical and educational sessions focused on pulmonary infections. The PI-TB executive committee look forward to seeing all of you at our business meeting as we present our conference abstract awards and the results of our Assembly awards (Rising Stars, Junior, Mid-Career, and Senior awards).

Charles S. Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF  
**Assembly Chair**

## PI-TB Membership Meeting

**Sunday, May 21, 2022**

**5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Building Marriott Marquis DC**

**Room: Liberty Ballroom M-P**

**Floor: M4**



American Thoracic Society  
ASSEMBLIES

**GET INVOLVED!**

Want to know how the ATS Assemblies and Committees really work?  
Would you like to get more involved?

This is your chance! You can now register here to become more involved in the ATS Assemblies, ATS Committees or both. There are many ways to grow within ATS and the Assemblies and Committees are a great starting point.

[www.thoracic.org/go/get-involved](http://www.thoracic.org/go/get-involved)

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## PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Scott E. Evans, MD, ATSF (Chair) and Alison Morris, MD, MS (Co-Chair)

The PI-TB Assembly Planning Committee fosters the development of Assembly projects, notably clinical practice guidelines and other reference documents, arising from the deep clinical and scientific expertise residing in the Assembly. The Planning Committee encourages and solicits proposals for such documents from the Assembly membership and reviews and evaluates submitted proposals and progress reports for projects already underway.

The PI-TB was again highly successful in achieving Society support for project proposals this year. The 2022 project application cycle saw approval of two new workshops: Experimental Models of Acute Respiratory Infections and Post-infectious pulmonary complications. All existing projects were also funded for renewal. These include continuations of the clinical practice guidelines on Selected Topics in Fungal Infections in Adult Pulmonary and Critical Care Patients, on Diagnosis and Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia and an Update to the Treatment of Drug Susceptible Tuberculosis. The workshop report on Immunocompromised Host Pneumonia was also renewed and is accepted for publication in 2023.

The Planning Committee strongly encourages Assembly members to start early to discuss and work together to submit proposals for Guidelines, Policy or Research Statements, Workshop Reports, and Technical Statements. It is recommended that new projects be specific and try to address two to three PICO questions in the GRADE methodology in order to complete the guideline process in a timely manner. To improve chances of preparing an application that is successful in the highly competitive ATS selection process, advance preparation and discussion with interested parties is highly recommended. This may include soliciting input and/or participation from the Planning Committee, ATS methodologists and topic experts in the Assembly or elsewhere, as appropriate.

Information on submitting proposals is available on the [Project Application Resource Center](#). The application portal usually opens on August 1 and the online applications usually must be submitted by August 31. However, the Planning Committee recommends working on such projects well in advance.

In addition to supporting project proposals, the Planning Committee also reviews and votes on nominations for the annual Assembly Awards. In 2022, James M. Beck, MD, ATSF, was honored with the PITB Senior Peer Recognition Award, the Midcareer Award was awarded to Robert Dickson, MD, and the Junior Peer Recognition Award went to Keira Cohen, MD. The Rising Star Awards for Basic Scientific and/or Translational Research went to Katherine B. Hisert, MD, PhD, and Anukul Taranath Shenoy PhD, PhD, MS, BS.

Thank you to the members of the Planning Committee and to those who submitted project proposals and award nominations. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.



#### **Keira Cohen, MD (Junior Peer Recognition Award)**

Dr. Keira Cohen received her medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where she was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society. After completing both Internal Medicine residency and Pulmonary and Critical Care fellowship at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts, she was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. She served as the founding director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Nontuberculous Mycobacteria and Bronchiectasis. Recently she joined Janssen Pharmaceuticals as a Senior Medical Director in Early Clinical Development for Infectious Diseases.



#### **Robert Dickson, MD (Midcareer Peer Recognition Award)**

Robert Dickson is an Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine) and Microbiology & Immunology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Dickson serves as Deputy Director for the Weil Institute for Critical Care Research & Innovation, as Associate Chief (Research) for the Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine and is the Program Director of his Division's T32 Training Program (T32HL007749, Multidisciplinary Training Program in Lung Disease).

As a clinician, Dr. Dickson cares for critically ill patients in the University's Critical Care Medicine Unit (CCMU) and as Medical Director of the Washtenaw County Tuberculosis Clinic. He also serves on the State of

Michigan's Tuberculous Control Program, providing consultative services to providers across the state regarding the management of patients with tuberculosis.

Dr. Dickson is a physician-scientist who studies the role of the microbiome in lung disease and critical illness. His research focuses on understanding how microbial communities in the respiratory tract and gut contribute to respiratory illness and health. He uses techniques of microbial ecology and molecular microbiology to understand how the body's bacteria are altered by lung disease and critical illness, and how they, in turn, contribute to the pathogenesis of disease. His laboratory performs integrative translational research, spanning from molecular characterization of respiratory microbiota to animal modeling of acute lung disease to prospective trials of human subjects. Areas of clinical research interest include the acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), sepsis, and pneumonia

Dr. Dickson is a Senior Editor at *Microbiome*, a Specialist Editor of *European Respiratory Journal*, and a member of the Editorial Boards of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* and *Lancet Respiratory Medicine*. His research is funded by the NIH and the European Commission.

Dr. Dickson's contributions to ATS and PI-TB include service on the ATS Scientific Advisory Board, the PI-TB Program Committee, and numerous guideline committees and working groups. He has chaired and spoken at multiple Postgraduate Courses, including a recurring PI-TB-sponsored Postgraduate Course ("A Hands-On Introduction to Studying the Lung Microbiome.") He has twice been awarded the Reviewer of the Year award by the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* and serves on the journal's Editorial Board.



**James Beck, MD, ATSF (Senior Peer Recognition Award)**



### Assembly/Committee Project Applications for FY2024

Assembly members interested in submitting a Project application should start developing their ideas. Applications for NEW Assembly Projects for 2024 will be accepted July 1 through July 31, 2023.

If you have an idea or suggestion for a project application and need assistance, please contact the **PITB Planning Committee Chair, Scott E. Evans**, at [seevans@mdanderson.org](mailto:seevans@mdanderson.org).

For questions regarding submissions, please see the Project Application Resource Center, or contact Miriam Rodriguez at: (212)315-8639 or [mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:mrodriguez@thoracic.org)

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Shannon Kasperbauer, MD (Chair) and Marcos I. Restrepo, MD, MSc, PhD (Chair elect)

We are grateful to be meeting in person again this May in Washington D.C. This year, we will have offerings covering a myriad of infections as well as sessions on host defense mechanisms and the microbiome.

As the fourth largest assembly in ATS, PI-TB members submitted excellent competitive proposals and abstracts. We continue to see an increase in abstract submissions, with over 480 abstracts reviewed this year.

In Washington D.C. we will have one Post Graduate Course on Saturday May 20, 2023. This year there are only 15 PG offerings compared to 19 last year. Four of these were research focused, one related to medical education and 6 with a clinical emphasis. Our submissions were strong but only one made the formal cut.

- PG11 A HANDS-ON INTRODUCTION TO STUDYING THE LUNG MICROBIOME

There are six scientific symposia developed by PI-TB members and four co-sponsored symposia programmed covering a variety of topics ranging from treatment of bronchiectasis, long term sequela of infections, precision medicine in pneumonia, diagnosis, and management of NTM and TB, biomarkers that determine viral disease severity, the biological impact of COVID, the relationship between air pollution and tuberculosis, as well as strategies to end tuberculosis. Please note below that the Wednesday afternoon session runs from 12:00-2:00 PM as there are no thematic poster sessions on the last day.

- A87: Sunday May 21, 2023 (2:15-3:45 PM); NEW TREATMENT APPROACHED FOR BRONCHIECTASIS (Selected for maintenance of certification)
- B11: Monday May 22, 2023 (9:00-10:30 AM); GLOBAL INSIGHTS ON THE LONG-TERM SEQUELA OF INFECTIONS: BEYOND COVID
- B12: Monday May 22, 2023 (9:00-10:30 AM); ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES: CLINICAL PRACTICE ON THE CUTTING EDGE
- B86: Monday May 22, 2023 (2:15-3:45 PM); PRECISION MEDICINE IN PNEUMONIA
- C8: Tuesday May 23, 2023 (9:00-10:30 AM); NEW CONCEPTS AND UPDATE IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF NTM AND TB INFECTIONS
- C12: Tuesday May 23, 2023 (9:00-10:30 AM); IMMUNOLOGY IN CONTEXT, MECHANISMS AND BIOMARKERS THAT DETERMINE VIRAL DISEASE SEVERITY
- C88: Tuesday May 23, 2023 (2:15-3:45 PM); BIOLOGIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 ACROSS THE LIFESPAN
- C90: Tuesday May 23, 2023 (2:15-3:45 PM); DOUBLE TROUBLE: AIR POLLUTANTS AND TUBERCULOSIS
- D86: Wednesday May 24, 2023 (12:00-2:00 PM); HUMANS, ANIMALS, THE ENVIRONMENT: WHY IS THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH NEEDED FOR EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES?
- D87: Wednesday May 24, 2023 (12:00-2:00 PM); THE UN HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TB 2023: A CHANCE TO BEAT THIS PARTICULAR PANDEMIC

The following Meet the Expert Sessions highlight topics of interest to our attendees by ATS experts:

- ME15: Sunday May 21, 2023 (12:00-1:00 PM): CYSTIC FIBROSIS PULMONARY EXACERBATIONS: BASICS FOR THE GENERAL PULMONOLOGIST
- ME25: Monday May 22, 2023 (12:00-1:00 PM); MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION ON COVID-19: HOW TO IMPROVE DISPARITIES AND INEQUITIES?
- ME59: Wednesday May 24, 2023 (11:00-12:00 PM); MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS IN SEVERE PNEUMONIA: THE EVIDENCE AND CASE-BASED DISCUSSION OF CLINICAL IMPLEMENTATION

There will be two symposia highlighted at the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) this year. Be sure to check them out.

1. Sunday May 21, 2023 (10:00-11:00 AM): NOT ALL THAT IT SEEMS: THE HETEROGENEITY OF THE CELLULAR IMMUNE RESPONSE ACROSS A SPECTIUM OF ACUTE EXPOSURES AND INFECTION
2. Wednesday May 24, 2023 (11:00-12:00 PM): PNEUMONIA SUB-PHENOTYPES: MULTIPLE DIFFERENT PATHS TO SUSCEPTIBILITY AND SEVERITY

Three mini-symposia with top rated scientific abstracts are scheduled for PI-TB this year.

- A98: Sunday, May 21, 2023 (2:15 PM – 4:15 PM); HOST VS. BUG
- B98: Monday, May 22, 2023 (2:15 PM – 4:15 PM); THE HAPPY COUPLE: BRONCHIECTASIS AND NONTUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA
- D95: Wednesday, May 24, 2022 (12:00 AM – 2:00 PM); CHALLENGES AND ADVANCES IN COVID-19

PI-TB received 486 abstract submissions for review, and we are very grateful to the members of the program committee who scored them and provided valuable comments and suggestions. These included 271 scientific abstracts and 215 case reports spanning over various topics of infectious diseases. As a result, we were able to program three mini-symposia (mentioned above), six poster discussions, and nine thematic poster sessions covering a variety of studies across all areas of pulmonary infections.

#### **Poster Discussion:**

- A27: Sunday May 21, 2023 (9:00-11:00 AM) WHITE PLAGUE (TUBERCULOSIS) RESEARCH
- A28 Sunday May 21, 2023 (9:00-11:00 AM) WHAT IS TRENDY IN THE PNEUMONIA WORLD?
- A106: Sunday May 21, 2023 (2:15-4:15 PM) MICROBIOME RESEARCH
- B28: Monday May 22, 2023 (9:00-11:00 AM) SOLVING THE PUZZLE OF BRONCHIECTASIS AND NONTUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA



- B106 Monday May 22, 2023 (2:15-4:15 PM) FROM ACUTE TO LONG COVID-19
- D107: Wednesday May 24, 2023 (12:00-2:00 PM) ADVANCING THE SCIENCE IN VIRAL INFECTIONS

#### Thematic Posters:

- A61: Sunday May 21, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) TUBERCULOSIS
- A62: Sunday May 21, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) B-A-C-T-E-R-I-A, FIND OUT WHAT IT MEANS TO ME
- A63: Sunday May 21, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) NTM AND BRONCHIECTASIS, STILL TOGETHER
- B61: Monday May 22, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) MORE OF COVID-19
- B62: Monday May 22, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) FUNGI EVERYWHERE!
- B63: Monday May 22, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST PROBLEMS AND COMPLICATIONS
- C65: Tuesday May 23, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) A LOT OF FUNGI!
- C66: Tuesday May 23, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) VIRAL INFECTIONS, COVID, AND BEYOND
- C67 Tuesday May 23, 2023 (9:00-4:15 PM) DON'T FORGET ABOUT THESE UNUSUAL LUNG INFECTIONS

As a committee, we can only program sessions that are submitted by our assembly membership. We would encourage you to start networking and thinking about what you want to see at ATS 2024. The number of allowed sessions is proportionate to the assembly membership and the number of submitted abstracts.

We would like to thank the members of the PI-TB Program Committee for their hard work over the year.

Shannon H. Kasperbauer, MD (Chair) and Marcos I. Restrepo, MD, MSc, PhD (Chair elect)	
Antonio Torres, MD, ATSF	Jane E. Gross, MD, PhD
Ashley Jane Lozier, MD	Katrina Traber, MD, PhD
Chadi A. Hage, MD, ATSF	Keira A. Cohen, MD
Carlos M. Luna, MD, PhD	Kelly Pennington, MD
Charles Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF	Maha Reda Farhat, CM, MD, MSc
Charles Feldman, MD, PhD, DSc, ATSF	Marc C. I. Lipman, MD
David J. Horne, MD, MPH	Monica Campo Patino, MD
Emily Henkle, PhD, MPH	Max R. O'Donnell, MD, MPH
Eva Maria Carmona Porquera, MD, PhD	Jezreel Pantaleón García, BS, MD
James D Chalmers, MD, PhD	Nathan C. Dean, MD
Jennifer R. Honda, ATSF	Sushma K. Cribbs, MD, MSCR, ATSF
Jerry Simbarashe Zifodya, MD, MPH	Robert Pickett Dickson, MD
Joseph Keane, MD	Samantha M Yeligar, MS, PhD
Joseph P. Mizgerd, ScD, ATSF	Georgios Kitsios, MD, PhD
Joshua Malo, MD	Oleg Epelbaum, MD, ATSF
Jussi J. Saukkonen, MD	
Beth Shoshana Zha, MD, PhD (PI-TB 2022-2023 Apprentice)	

**PI-TB Abstract Travel Award Winners**

### ATS 2023 International Conference Assembly on Pulmonary Infections and Tuberculosis (PITB) Sessions

Session Code	Session Title	Session Type	Session Date	Session Time Start	Session Time End
PG11	A HANDS-ON INTRODUCTION TO STUDYING THE LUNG MICROBIOME	Postgraduate Course	5/20/2023	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
A27	WHITE PLAGUE (TUBERCULOSIS) RESEARCH	Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
A28	WHAT IS TRENDY IN THE PNEUMONIA WORLD?	Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
A61	TUBERCULOSIS	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A62	B-A-C-T-E-R-I-A, FIND OUT WHAT IT MEANS TO ME	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
A63	NTM AND BRONCHIECTASIS, STILL TOGETHER	Thematic Poster Session	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
MTE15	CYSTIC FIBROSIS PULMONARY EXACERBATIONS: BASICS FOR THE GENERAL PULMONOLOGIST	Meet the Expert	5/21/2023	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
A87	NEW TREATMENT APPROACHES FOR BRONCHIECTASIS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A106	MICROBIOME RESEARCH	RAPiD: Rapid Abstract Poster Discussion Session	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
A98	HOST VS. BUG	Mini Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
B11	GLOBAL INSIGHTS ON THE LONG-TERM SEQUELAE OF INFECTIONS: BEYOND COVID	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM

B28	SOLVING THE PUZZLE OF BRONCHIECTASIS AND NONTUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
B61	MORE OF COVID-19	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B62	FUNGI EVERYWHERE!	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
B63	IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOST PROBLEMS AND COMPLICATIONS	Thematic Poster Session	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
MTE25	MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION ON COVID-19: HOW TO IMPROVE DISPARITIES AND INEQUITIES?	Meet the Expert	5/22/2023	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
B86	PRECISION MEDICINE IN PNEUMONIA	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B106	FROM ACUTE TO LONG COVID-19	Poster Discussion Session	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
B98	THE HAPPY COUPLE: BRONCHIECTASIS AND NONTUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA	Mini Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	4:15 PM
C8	NEW CONCEPTS AND UPDATE IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF NTM AND TB INFECTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C65	A LOT OF FUNGI!	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C66	VIRAL INFECTIONS, COVID, AND BEYOND	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
C67	DON'T FORGET ABOUT THESE UNUSUAL LUNG INFECTIONS	Thematic Poster Session	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	4:15 PM
MTE59	MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS IN SEVERE PNEUMONIA: THE EVIDENCE AND CASE-BASED DISCUSSION OF CLINICAL IMPLEMENTATION	Meet the Expert	5/24/2023	11:00 AM	12:00 PM
D87	THE UN HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TB 2023: A CHANCE TO BEAT THIS PARTICULAR PANDEMIC	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D107	ADVANCING THE SCIENCE IN VIRAL INFECTIONS	Poster Discussion Session	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
D95	CHALLENGES AND ADVANCES IN COVID-19	Mini Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
C12	IMMUNOLOGY IN CONTEXT: MECHANISMS AND BIOMARKERS THAT DETERMINE VIRAL DISEASE SEVERITY	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C90	DOUBLE TROUBLE: AIR POLLUTANTS AND TUBERCULOSIS	Jointly-Developed Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM

**ATS 2023 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ADDITIONAL SESSIONS OF INTEREST**

<b>Session Code</b>	<b>Session Title</b>	<b>Session Type</b>	<b>Session Date</b>	<b>Session Start</b>	<b>Session End</b>
A11	CARING FOR HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED PATIENTS: ETHICAL, LEGAL AND ADVOCACY PRIMER FOR PROVIDERS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM



A10	ASTHMA HOT TOPIC 2023: WHICH "ICS PLUS BRONCHODILATOR" RELIEVER FOR WHICH PATIENT?	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A9	USING TECHNOLOGY TO SAVE THE BRAIN AND BODY: NOVEL INTERVENTIONS TO MANAGE PAIN, ANXIETY, DELIRIUM, AND PROMOTE MOBILITY IN ICU	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A8	BRONCHOPULMONARY DYSPLASIA ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A7	THE NEW ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR PULMONARY REHABILITATION	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A6	BEYOND TRANSCRIPTOMICS: THE NEXT FRONTIER IN COPD/EMPHYSEMA	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
A89	CAN ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS CHANGE THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH?	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A87	NEW TREATMENT APPROACHES FOR BRONCHIECTASIS	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
A88	NEURO-IMMUNE INTERACTIONS IN LUNG DEVELOPMENT AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/21/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
	VACCINATING HIGH RISK ADULTS: REPORT FROM THE FRONT LINES ON VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES		5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:00 AM
B12	ATS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES: CLINICAL PRACTICE ON THE CUTTING EDGE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B7	SICKLE CELL LUNG DISEASE ACROSS THE LIFESPAN: WHERE ARE WE NOW?	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B8	BEYOND THE LUNGS: EXTRAPULMONARY MANIFESTATIONS OF PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B11	GLOBAL INSIGHTS ON THE LONG-TERM SEQUELAE OF INFECTIONS: BEYOND COVID	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B9	SEX-SPECIFIC MECHANISMS OF LUNG DISEASE PATHOGENESIS THROUGH THE LENS OF SINGLE CELL RNA SEQUENCING	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B6	NON-PAP ALTERNATIVES FOR OSA: FROM ACCEPTED TO REVOLUTIONARY	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
B10	REIGNITING THE CANCER MOONSHOT: ATS = MISSION CONTROL FOR LUNG CANCER	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
	IMMUNE BOOST! ADDRESSING VACCINE HESITANCY AND THE LANDSCAPE OF VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES		5/22/2023	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
B92	INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PERSONALIZED SEVERE ASTHMA MANAGEMENT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B90	IMPROVING THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF PEDIATRIC ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B88	LEAPS AND BOUNDS: REDUCING HEALTHCARE'S CARBON FOOTPRINT	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM

B87	CONTROVERSIES IN PEDIATRIC OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA: A PRO/CON DEBATE	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B89	TRANSCRIPTOMIC PROFILING OF PULMONARY VASCULAR LESIONS UNRAVEL MECHANISMS OF PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
B86	PRECISION MEDICINE IN PNEUMONIA	Scientific Symposium	5/22/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C11	ADVANCING CLINICAL ISSUES TO ATS AND CAPITOL HILL: THE OXYGEN THERAPY EXEMPLAR	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C6	DISPARITIES IN RESPIRATORY GENOMICS RESEARCH: STRATEGIES TO ADVANCE SCIENCE AND CLINICAL CARE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C5	DISMANTLING STRUCTURAL RACISM FROM RISK AND DISEASE PREDICTION IN PULMONARY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C8	NEW CONCEPTS AND UPDATE IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF NTM AND TB INFECTIONS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C9	REHABILITATION FOR THE POST-COVID POPULATION	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C10	OPIOID USE DISORDER, SLEEP DEFICIENCY, AND VENTILATORY CONTROL: BIDIRECTIONAL MECHANISMS AND THERAPEUTIC TARGETS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
C7	CANCER IN THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER SMOKED: NEW INSIGHTS FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
			5/23/2023	10:50 AM	11:20 AM
C89	ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY: REDUCING THE IMPACT OF SDOH THROUGH RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C85	A PATH TOWARDS A MORE DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE WORKFORCE	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C88	BIOLOGICAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 ACROSS THE LIFESPAN	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C87	A MEASURED RESPONSE: ASSESSING TREATMENT OUTCOMES IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
C86	BEYOND THE TRANSCRIPTOME: HOW THE MULTI-"OMIC" UNIVERSE PROVIDES NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO IPF/ILD PATHOGENESIS	Scientific Symposium	5/23/2023	2:15 PM	3:45 PM
D5	REVISITING BEST BUY INTERVENTIONS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASES IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D6	OBESITY-RELATED ASTHMA: MECHANISTIC STUDIES BEGIN TO INFORM THERAPEUTICS	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D10	AN AGE-FRIENDLY FRAMEWORK FOR CARING FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM

D7	WANT TO BE AN ADVOCATE FOR LUNG HEALTH? LEARN FROM SUCCESS!	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D8	UNDER THE MAGNIFYING GLASS: OMICS AND DEEP PHENOTYPING IN PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D9	IT'S ABOUT TIME! THE CIRCADIAN CLOCK IN LUNG DISEASE, FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D11	THE EVOLVING ROLE FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY IN LUNG CANCER	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	8:00 AM	9:30 AM
D86	HUMANS, ANIMALS, THE ENVIRONMENT: WHY IS THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH NEEDED FOR EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES?	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D87	THE UN HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TB 2023: A CHANCE TO BEAT THIS PARTICULAR PANDEMIC	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D88	BEYOND BIOENERGETICS: CELLULAR METABOLISM IN LUNG HEALTH AND DISEASE	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
D89	OSA-ASSOCIATED INFLAMMATION AND COMORBIDITIES: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES	Scientific Symposium	5/24/2023	12:00 PM	1:30 PM

## **Vaccine Initiative Sessions**

### **Monday, May 22 9:00 – 10:00am ET**

#### Location: Networking Center, Learning Studio

Title: Vaccinating high risk adults: report from the front lines on vaccine-preventable diseases  
Hear from pilot health system partners engaged in the ATS Vaccine Initiative. What's working and what's next.

#### Program:

- Overview of Advancing Adult Immunization Initiative (Amy Stern, MHS - 5 minutes)
- Overview of evidenced-based interventions (Mark Metersky - 10 minutes)
- Learnings & challenges from pilot health systems (Introduction by Laura Feemster, MD, MSc; Rob Stansbury, MD, George Su, MD, Sairam Parthasarathy, MD - 10 min each, 30 minutes total)
- Q&A (15 minutes)

### **Monday, May 22 12:00– 1:00pm ET**

#### Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Room 207 A-B (Level 2)

Title: Immune Boost! Addressing vaccine hesitancy and the landscape of vaccine-preventable diseases

- Introduction: Overview of importance of vaccines and immunization to respiratory health, discuss the CMSS initiative, and discuss vaccines on the horizon. (Justin Ortiz, MD/Tina Hartert, MD, MPH– 10 min)
- Patient Perspective (10 min): Making a shared decision: “How addressing my concerns moved me to vaccine action.” (Patient representative – 10 min)
- Clinician's perspective (30 min total):
  - “What I hear when I urge my patients to get vaccinated.” (Isaretta Riley, MD, MPH - 15 min)
  - Addressing hesitancy and misinformation to increase vaccine coverage among diverse populations with chronic lung disease (Kimberly Fisher, MD - 15 min)
- Q&A (10 min)

**Tuesday, May 23 10:50 – 11:20am ET**

Location: ATS Center

Title: ET Studio Talk with Pilot Health Systems

James Beck, MD and Laura Feemster, MD, MSc, will co-moderate a discussion with pilot health system partners

- The focus: highlighting the work of the health system partners participating in the Vaccine Initiative
- Insights from focus groups on misinformation will be mentioned.
- There will also be discussion on how clinicians can reach the public and engage the participants in discussing challenges and solutions in getting the word out.

## WEB COMMITTEE

Colin Swenson, MD (Web Director) and Anjad Kanj, MD (Co-Chair)

The Web Committee has been working to post more recorded media, such as the PINE presentations and Webinars, as well as links to events of interest to our assembly. Social media has played a more central role in this process, and our goal is to disseminate information quickly and consistently. Amjad Kanj (previously our Web Apprentice) helped manage our Twitter presence as Co-Chair. We look forward to future online growth, particularly in the areas of networking and social media, as well as more frequent journal clubs and podcast offerings.

 **Follow Us! @ATS\_PITB**



## EARLY CAREER WORKING GROUP

Ashley Jane Losier, MD & Kelly Pennington, MD (Co-Chairs)

The PI-TB Early Career Working Group has a mission to engage, support and create opportunities for junior members within our assembly. Here are some of the highlights from the past year for our working group's activities.

**Pulmonary Infection Network of Experts (PINE):** Since its beginning in February 2021, the virtual event series known as PINE have continued near-monthly with events highlighting different pulmonary infections. These popular web-based events often feature interactive case-based formats and allow a forum for junior members to present with senior expert discussants and engage audience members through polls, interactive questions, and discussions at the end of each session. Sessions continue to highlight pulmonary infections including NTM, TB and fungal infections and included a special session on Monkey pox this year. There were also PINE sessions held surrounding World Pneumonia Day and World HIV Day. These sessions will continue through 2023 with plans for our PINE committee to maintain this initiative as a feature of our working

group and assembly. The web-based recordings are available on the ATS website for those interested in listening after the live session.

**Mentoring Program:** The PI-TB Mentoring Program matches junior and senior assembly members with shared professional interests. Over the past several years, the COVID-19 pandemic has limited many networking opportunities for early career professionals and hybrid-virtual formats of the PI-TB Mentoring Program has helped alleviate some of these challenges. The Mentoring Program will continue this year with networking opportunities at the conference, along with ongoing virtual-hybrid opportunities. There will be a meeting space conveniently located at the convention center. We appreciate the many volunteers for mentors who are generous with their time, advice and guidance to our assembly mentees. Application process is ongoing and available on the ATS website.

**Apprenticeship Program:** The Apprenticeship Program allows junior assembly members the opportunity to apprentice and observe the standing committees of PI-TB assembly. This program provides insight into the Program, Planning and Web committees. Following a successful apprentice year, the selected delegates may earn their own seat on these committees. Interested early career members should submit applications each winter.

**Teaching Competition:** Since the initial teaching competition launched in 2-10 with the PI-TB assembly, the teaching competition has grown to a multi-assembly-wide event. At prior events, the PI-TB assembly has won first place (2021 - Krishna Desai from Emory University) and also second place (2022 - Kunal Jakhuria from UNC). Stay tuned for this year's competition at the conference. We appreciate all the judges and education mentors who have volunteered their time and teaching expertise. If any member is interested in applying for the teaching competition please apply online by February 15, 2023 at <https://www.thoracic.org/members/assemblies/assemblies-teaching-competition/>

Members: Ashley Losier (chair), Kelly Pennington (co-chair), Sara Auld, Cathy Gao, Gail Stanley, Divya Reddy, Christina Thornton, Holly Keir, Layla Barkal, Eva Otoupalova, Shivani Singh, Masfique Mehedi, Katie Hisert, Zohra Prasla, Greg Wigger, Dan Belz, Jane Gross, Sarah Voth, Deepkia Kulkarni, Zhenmai Shang, Noel Britton, and John Huston. A special thanks to recent members who have rotated off the early career working group including Ben Wu, Bashar Staitieh, John McGinniss, and Samantha Yeligar.

## PHD AND BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENTIST WORKING GROUP REPORT

Samantha M. Yeligar, M.S., Ph.D (PI-TB) and James D. Londino, Ph.D (RCMB)

The Ph.D. and Basic and Translational Scientist Working Group (PBTS WG) has been in existence since January 1, 2019 and is charged with enhancing the value of ATS membership for basic and translational scientists, specifically Ph.D. scientists. The PBTS WG consists of thirty-six members that are drawn from each of the fourteen ATS Assemblies. The WG meets monthly *via* Zoom to discuss issues of importance to (1) non-clinical ATS members (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) and (2) research-intensive physician-scientists. The current co-chairs of the PBTS WG are Drs. Samantha Yeligar (Assembly on PI-TB) and James Londino (Assembly on RCMB). Despite consisting of members from all fourteen ATS Assemblies, the Assembly on RSF is the administrative home for the PBTS WG, and we are very thankful to the Assembly on RSF for their strong and continuing support of our efforts. Shivani Singh, MD, Ph.D is a co-PI-TB Assembly representative for PBTS WG.

During the past year, the PBTS WG has been extraordinarily active in developing programs for its constituency as well devising strategies to recruit Ph.D. scientists to the Society. We have highlighted some of the WG's efforts in the subsequent text.

- 1. Research Integrity.** There is a need for formally recognized research integrity training for basic science and translational researchers as scientific organizations increasingly require training be specified in grant applications and for fellowships. The Research Integrity subcommittee, headed by Thomas Mariani, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB), was formed with the goal of promoting ATS as a recognized leader among professional societies in promoting the basic principles of Research Integrity through education, information dissemination and collaboration and to make integrity a part of all ATS members' research practices, procedures, and processes.
- 2. Seminar.** With the goal of highlighting Ph.D. scientists and innovative methods/techniques in a seminar format, the Seminar subcommittee was formed under the co-leadership of Nicholas Jendzjowsky, Ph.D.



(Assembly on All) and Lindsay McDonald, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The planned structure for 2-3 seminars per year with the co-sponsorship of assemblies within the ATS is a discussion of the research, preferably by a Ph.D. early career scientist, followed by discussion. We are also reaching out to stake holders in funding agencies to discuss how research techniques fit into their funding portfolio.

3. **Survey.** To understand the rationale as to why Ph.D. scientists attend the ATS International Conference but are not ATS members, Janette Burgess, Ph.D., ATSF (Assembly on RSF) has assembled a subcommittee of PBTS WG members to design a survey to answer this question. This survey will be distributed to all 2023 ATS International Conference attendees who hold a Ph.D. or equivalent and spend 50% or more of their time in research yet are not currently ATS members. The PBTS WG hopes to use the survey data to understand how the ATS and PBTS WG can be best equipped to address their needs.
4. **Equity and ATS Opportunities.** Under the co-leadership of Carolyn Cannon, M.D., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB) and Melissa Valerio-Shewmaker, M.D., M.P.H. (Assembly on BSHSR), among several focuses, the Equity and ATS Opportunities subcommittee is working on emphasizing a parity in the fee structure for Ph.D. scientists at the conference. This subcommittee has also worked with the ATS Health Equity and Diversity Committee to help promote diversity.
5. **Assembly Project.** On behalf of the PBTS WG, Bethany Moore, Ph.D., ATSF spearheaded the development and submission of an Assembly Project through the Assembly on RSF entitled “Ph.D.s in Clinical Departments: Barriers, Opportunities and ATS Membership”. This project addressed the perception that many Ph.D. scientists contribute to the mission of subspecialty clinical divisions within Departments of Medicine and of Pediatrics, yet barriers exist for them to attain tenure-track faculty status. By convening a virtual meeting in 2022 of Medical School Deans, Department Chairs, Division Directors, NIH Administrators, and Ph.D. scientists with a vested interest in adult and pediatric pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine, the organizers of this project hoped to demonstrate to Division Directors the importance of including Ph.D. scientists in their hiring plan and providing the necessary support for their ultimate success. A manuscript, currently in revision, detailing the contributions of Ph.D. scientists in clinical departments came out of this project’s successful completion.
6. **Brochure.** Along with graphic designers at the ATS, a PBTS WG subcommittee headed by James Londino, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB) has put together a two-sided brochure highlighting the advantages of ATS membership for Ph.D. scientists. This brochure specifically targets Ph.D. scientists who attend the ATS International Conference but who are not currently ATS members. A hard copy of this brochure will be available at various locales at the 2023 ATS International Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition, an electronic version will be available online.
7. **PBTS WG/Science and Innovation (SIC) Center Collaboration Events.** On February 8, 2022, PBTS WG members, Natalie Bauer, Ph.D. (Assembly on PC) and Samantha Yeligar, M.S., Ph.D. (Assembly on PI-TB), co-chaired a networking event along with the SIC entitled “Successful Collaborations”. At this event, two U.S.- and two European (U.K.)-based M.D. and Ph.D. scientific collaborators discussed how their professional scientific relationship evolved and became successful. Afterwards, participants went into separate breakout rooms for an in-depth discussion on the formation and endurance of these collaborations with either the U.S.- or European (U.K.)-based collaborators. The PBTS WG/SIC hope to provide more Ph.D.-centric events in the upcoming year. In addition, the PBTS WG co-hosted the Science and Innovation Center Ph.D. Reception at the 2022 ATS International Conference in San Francisco, CA.
8. **Awards.** A PBTS WG Awards subcommittee was established and is co-chaired by Karen Ridge, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB) and Anne-Karina Perl, Ph.D. (Assembly on RCMB). The purpose of this subcommittee is to identify and nominate worthy basic and translational scientists (i.e., Ph.D. scientists) for the annual Assembly- and ATS-wide awards.

Finally, if you would like to become involved with the PBTS WG or have any issues you feel that WG could effectively address, please feel free to e-mail either Samantha Yeligar ([samantha.yeligar@emory.edu](mailto:samantha.yeligar@emory.edu)) or James Londino ([james.londino@osumc.edu](mailto:james.londino@osumc.edu)).

## Reception for PhDs & Other Basic Science Researchers

**Sunday, May 21 from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.** The reception will be held in the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center (Reception area in Hall D, Level 2). There will be food provided and activities during the event will include an opportunity to get to meet and network with other scientists, to engage with leaders from the ATS and assemblies and provide feedback regarding activities or programs that ATS could offer to benefit the basic and translational science members, especially those who are not also clinicians.

**Register Here:** <https://conference.thoracic.org/program/events/reception-phd-other-basic-science-researchers.php>

## SCIENCE AND INNOVATION CENTER WORKING GROUP

Anukul Shenoy, PhD & Benjamin Wu, MD, MSCI (Co- Chairs)

We are excited this year to be sponsoring the Science and Innovation Center (SIC) as chairs. The SIC remains the central venue for basic and translational scientists to network and learn about emerging technologies. The SIC program has significant updates. We continue to work closely with the Respiratory Structure and Function (RSF), Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation (All), and Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (RCMB) Assemblies.

1. The SIC is now part of a larger organization called "The Learning Center" also known as Combined Networking Centers with Clinical Skills and Career Development Working Groups. Organization and presentation space is shared among all centers. We were informed that there would be plenty of space and time for all the programming to be available.

2. The SIC Schedule is now officially programmed into the American Thoracic Society International Conference app. Previous years it was difficult to find and schedule around presentations at the SIC. This will no longer be a problem as early programming allowed for the incorporation of the SIC into the schedule/app. Attendees can now schedule/book times into their day.

3. The PI-TB SIC is sponsoring two presentations: 1) Not all that it seems: the heterogeneity of the cellular immune response across a spectrum of acute exposures and infection presented by Drs. Shoshana Zha and Katrina Traber (Sunday May 21, 2023 @ 10-11AM) and 2) Pneumonia Sub-Phenotypes: Multiple different paths to susceptibility and severity with Dr. Joseph Mizgerd (Wednesday May 24, 2023 @ 11-12 noon). Please come to support PI-TB colleagues and basic and translational scientists.

## VACCINE WORKING GROUP

Justin R. Ortiz, MD, MS (Chair)

The PI-TB Vaccines and Immunization Working Group is composed of healthcare providers and scientists with a goal to promote and raise the profile of vaccines and immunization through identification of unmet needs, education, research, advocacy, health equity, and interaction with policy developers. In 2022, we began a webinar series. Presentations on communication with patients about vaccination and the status of adult immunization in the US are planned for the first half of 2023. To better understand the incorporation of vaccine and immunization advice in ATS clinical materials, the Working Group has reviewed all ATS patient education materials and is conducting a systematic review of respiratory clinical care guidelines for vaccine and immunization content. The Working Group has advocated for more ATS representation on vaccine policy committees and for more vaccine-related content at the International Conference.

Working Group members have also joined forces with the ATS Advancing Adult Immunization Initiative Advisory Panel. This effort is a collaboration with the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to increase COVID-19, influenza, and routine vaccination rates among high-risk adult patients within the United States. Using a quality improvement approach, ATS will partner with and fund 7-10 health care systems to test and implement interventions to improve vaccine uptake over the course of the 5-year award. The first three ATS member champions and health system partners are: Sai Parthasarathy, MD, University of Arizona/

Banner Health; Robert Stansbury, MD, West Virginia University Hospitals, Inc.; and George Su, MD, University of California San Francisco/San Francisco Health Network.

The Initiative will identify member QI champions to promote immunization improvement in respiratory health and serve as advocates to the ATS community, supporting other health systems in their efforts to increase vaccine coverage. ATS will review and update ATS immunization policy statements, clinical guidance, and member and patient educational materials and share those with the broader membership. More information about the ATS Initiative can be found here: <https://www.thoracic.org/vaccine-resource-center/specialty-societies-advancing-adult-immunization-ssaai.php#:~:text=ATS%20is%20one%20of%20seven,high%20risk%20adult%20respiratory%20patients.>

## PNEUMONIA WORKING GROUP

Scott E. Evans, MD, ATSF & Charles Dela Cruz, MD, PhD, ATSF (Co-Chairs)

The PI-TB Working Group on Acute Pneumonia was established in 2015. The multidisciplinary panel represents domestic and international ATS members, including early career members, who are interested in topics related to the pathogenesis, diagnosis and management of acute pneumonia, as well as structural means to reduce patient risks for acute pneumonia. Due to the success of the working group in promoting and producing clinical practice guidelines and workshops that bring together thought leaders in pneumonia, this group has now been transitioned into a standing Advisory Group that does not require routine renewal to avoid sunseting.

There are several ongoing assembly projects related to work from the Acute Pneumonia advisory group. The first ever workshop report on Immunocompromised Host Pneumonia has been accepted for publication. Workshops on Experimental Models of Acute Respiratory Infections and Post-infectious pulmonary complications are programmed for 2023. The updated clinical practice guideline on the Diagnosis and Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia is underway. Plus, we are always open to new ideas from the ATS community for additional pneumonia-related projects to support.

This PITB Acute Pneumonia Advisory Group's overarching goal remains working to enhance the voice of ATS and the PITB Assembly as advocates for improved research and clinical outcomes for patients with acute pneumonia. The current goals of the working group following the latest renewal are:

- 1) To improve understanding of pneumonia in the immunocompromised host;
- 2) To enhance awareness of pneumonia and pneumonia complications by establishing connection with ATS communications/marketing, ATS patient education unit and ATS patient organization (PAR);
- 3) To develop a policy brief on pneumonia (including antibiotic resistance) for internal and external advocacy purposes;
- 4) To enhance opportunities for early career investigators to address acute pneumonia as their research focus and, secondarily, to encourage researchers to find a home in PITB.

The working group continues to update the [Top 20 fact sheet on pneumonia](#). These facts will be made into single panel infographics to be sent out to the ATS, the pulmonary and critical care community and the public at large through social media such as Twitter. The goal of this initiative is to raise awareness of the importance of pneumonia. We have partnered with Just Actions and Save the Children to enhance pneumonia advocacy efforts. Our group has participated in the initiatives of the Pneumo-Strategy, an international nonprofit group of experts focused on the knowledge and experience of countries most affected with pneumonia. The working group also works with the NHLBI and NIAID on research priorities and strategy related pneumonia.

## ATS GUIDELINE METHODOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM

Kevin Wilson

The ATS has a Guideline Methodology Training Program that provides hands-on training in guideline development. An informational program is being held on Monday, May 22nd from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the Mint Room (meeting level 4) of the Marriott Marquis. Anyone who is interested in learning more about clinical practice guideline development and the

ATS training program is welcome to attend. Light appetizers will be served. Please RSVP to [kwilson@thoracic.org](mailto:kwilson@thoracic.org). Space is limited.

**Additional information:**

Clinical practice guideline development has changed dramatically over the past two decades. Formal standards must now be met as defined by the Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Medicine), which include a specific approach to identifying evidence, summarizing evidence, formulating recommendations, and rating both the quality of evidence and the strength of the recommendations. The ATS and other guideline developers have learned that to successfully adhere to these standards, a guideline methodologist is necessary on each guideline committee. Guideline methodologists are individuals who are capable of leading systematic reviews (i.e., develop search strategies, select studies, extract data, perform meta-analyses, and construct evidence tables and summary of findings tables) and leading the formulation and grading of evidence-based recommendations. The requirement that there be a methodologist on every guideline committee has created an imbalance, with the demand for methodologists far exceeding the supply. As organizations move toward continuously updating guidelines and demand increases, this imbalance will worsen.

To combat this trend and build methodological capacity, the ATS has a methodology training program that takes individuals who have an interest in learning guideline methodology and places them on a guideline panel that needs methodological support. The trainee does the hands-on methodological work for the panel with guidance from the ATS methodologist and, in return, gains experience and middle co-authorship on the guideline. After working on one or two such guideline projects, the trainee will likely have the skills necessary to become an independent methodologist. We believe that this is a potential career pathway, particularly well-suited for clinician educators. Additional benefits of the program include a) systematic reviews performed during the development of the guideline are often publishable as independent entities and the trainee would be the first author on such derivatives, and b) participation in a methodology training workshop.

For more information on the training program, see Wilson KC, et al. American Thoracic Society Guideline Methodology Training Program. *ATS Scholar* 2022; 3(3): 379-389. Available at <https://www.atsjournals.org/doi/full/10.34197/ats-scholar.2022-0037PS>.