Welcome to the ARLG Newsletter! Here, you will receive important updates from ARLG regarding recent events, grants, publications, and the committees that help us work toward our mission: to prioritize, design, and execute clinical research that will impact the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infections caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Get Involved with ARLG

ARLG continuously accepts proposals for clinical studies designed to prevent, diagnose, treat, or eradicate antibiotic-resistant bacterial pathogens. We also award grants and fellowships to qualified investigators. If you are interested in getting involved with ARLG, apply now or contact us for more information.

Submit a Proposal
Contact Us

ARLG Announces New ESI Award Opportunity!

We have big news! ARLG has added a new opportunity for early stage investigators (ESI) called the Early Faculty Seedling Award. In addition to providing salary support and research funding, the new opportunity is open to a wide range of applicants.

The Early Faculty Seedling Award provides 50% of current salary support per year to conduct protected research for up to two years and up to $25,000 in direct costs for research over the two years.

Infectious diseases fellows at the 4th or 5th year of fellowship are eligible to apply for the new award as well as individuals with an MD or non-MD PhD in any discipline with a faculty appointment of less than five years.
January 2021 brought news of the passing of John Bartlett, MD, who was a mentor, colleague, and friend to many. In the initial years of our grant, he played a fundamental role in building ARLG and made significant contributions to our mentoring program. As a tribute to his leadership and legacy, we have given our fellowship program a new name, the Dr. John G. Bartlett ARLG Fellowship.

John’s early work to design and lead the ARLG Mentoring Committee stemmed from his dedication to support early career researchers and sustain ongoing exploration into the threat of antibacterial resistance. The program has now provided development opportunities to more than 45 mentees, and it continues to grow.

ARLG Spotlight: Daria Van Tyne

About my role in the ARLG

I received an early-stage investigator award from ARLG to isolate and characterize bacteriophages that can target antibiotic-resistant gram-negative bacteria, like *P. aeruginosa*, *Enterobacter* spp., *E. coli*, and *K. pneumoniae*. I have a PhD, which makes my role a bit different from other ARLG researchers. Even though I am not a medical doctor, I work closely with physicians on research that directly informs treatment courses for patients.

About my research

The looming threat of antibiotic resistance has driven a renewed interest in the potential utility of bacteriophages (also called phages) to treat drug-resistant bacterial infections. Because phages can be very specific for the bacteria they will target, we need to find and study many different phages to find the ones that will be most useful for treating antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
Impact of ARLG mentoring and funding on my career

ARLG support has allowed my lab to build libraries of phages that are available for screening against clinical bacterial isolates from infected patients. We now receive periodic phage screening requests from our physician colleagues, and are working to develop tailored phage cocktails for patients we think might benefit from phage therapy. I have also become involved in the ARLG-sponsored PHAGE trial, which has given me valuable exposure to the process of planning and running a clinical trial.

News

Herman Goossens Receives ESCMID Award and Presents Keynote on the Importance of Collaboration

The European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) selected Prof. Herman Goossens (University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium) to receive its most prestigious award, the ESCMID Award for Excellence in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases 2020. At the recent European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (ECCMID) 2021 online conference, Prof. Goossens presented his keynote recipient lecture and accepted his award, which was delayed due to last year’s COVID-19 cancellations.

His keynote presentation titled “Transcending European clinical research in infectious diseases through collaboration to break down traditional silos” outlined difficulties in the EU COVID-19 clinical research response and highlighted the need to focus on partnerships and clinical trial networks to streamline research. The alliance between ARLG and COMBACTE is one example of this type of collaboration and correlates to Prof. Goossens’ work as vice-chair of the European Clinical Research Alliance on Infectious Diseases (ECRAID)-Base and the coordinator of The Platform for European Preparedness Against (Re-) emerging Epidemics (PREPARE).
A July WebMD article titled “Antimicrobial Resistance Threat Continues During COVID” highlighted commentary from Vance Fowler, MD, and Tori Kinamon, MD Candidate at the Duke University School of Medicine, and recipient of the FDA Antibacterial Drug Resistance (DOOR) Fellowship.

The input came from an online media briefing sponsored by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) the previous day and formed the foundation of the article’s content.

The Stewardship Interventions in Duke Infection Control Outreach Network (DICON) community hospitals summary of results is now available. The purpose of this study was to learn if antibiotic review strategies could be put in place in community hospitals. This research shows that community hospitals can implement antibiotic review strategies. These review strategies can increase the interaction between pharmacists and clinicians, which may provide additional opportunities to guide the appropriate use of antibiotics.
Events and Deadlines

ECCMID 2021 On Demand

Did you miss the European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (ECCMID) 2021? On demand access is now available for all sessions. Keep an eye out for sessions from ARLG’s leaders and experts discussing the latest AMR topics.

Learn more

Connect at IDWeek 2021

Stay tuned! IDWeek 2021 will be here before you know it. This year’s event will happen September 29-October 3, 2021 and will offer access to networking and collaborative opportunities with ARLG thought leaders and other experts in infectious diseases. The annual meeting will give participants a chance to learn from one another, while working to improve public health and patient care.

Learn more

Study Milestones

View recent ARLG study updates.

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Data analysis
Go to the ARLG Studies page for more milestones and updates!

Recent Publications

View the following recent ARLG publications.


