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.

News

ARLG Innovation and Evolution Supplement Published in Clinical Infectious Diseases Journal

The ARLG has published a new supplement in Clinical Infectious Diseases (CID) that features ARLG’s scientific accomplishments and future directions (Volume 77, Supplement 4, 15 October 2023). As part of the Infectious Diseases Society of America’s (IDSA) family of journals, the focus of CID is presenting novel research, reviews, and perspectives about all aspects of infectious diseases with an emphasis on clinical practice-changing studies. CID Supplement 4 entitled “The Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group (ARLG): Innovation and Evolution” includes eight individual articles authored by a host of ARLG members on topics ranging from the operational structure and goals of each ARLG Center, the progress made in gram-positive and gram-negative bacterial infection research, diagnostics, innovations, and mentoring.
ARLG member, Kerry LaPlante, named Dean of the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy

Kerry LaPlante, PharmD, FCCP, FIDSA, FIDP has been named Dean of the University of Rhode Island (URI) College of Pharmacy. Dr. LaPlante, a member of both the ARLG Pharmacokinetics Working Group and the ARLG Diagnostics Subcommittee, will be the first woman to serve as Dean, beginning her tenure January 2024.
Robin Patel, MD Appointed to the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria

Robin Patel, MD, Director of ARLG’s Laboratory Center, has been named a Voting Member of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria (PACCARB). PACCARB is a federal advisory council that provides advice, information, and recommendations to the President’s Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) regarding the fight against antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the fields of human, animal, and environmental health.

Read More

ARLG Spotlight - Darek Hareza, MD, MHS

Dariusz (Darek) Hareza, MD, MHS
ARLG Fellow
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

About my role
As an infectious diseases fellow, I am conducting research investigating the molecular epidemiology and clinical outcomes of patients infected with non-CTX-M extended-spectrum beta-lactamase producing Enterobacterales (ESBL-E).

About my research
I aim to investigate the significance of identifying non-CTX-M extended-spectrum beta-lactamases (ESBLs) in enhancing patient outcomes. More specifically, I am studying whether there are particular antibiotics that can optimize the clinical outcomes of patients with non-CTX-M ESBL-E bloodstream infections utilizing whole genome sequencing of a cohort of 500 hospitalized patients with ceftriaxone-resistant Enterobacterales bloodstream infections.

Why is this research important?
This research aligns with ARLG’s mission to identify ways to optimize treatment for gram-
negative bacterial infections. While rates of most other multidrug-resistant organisms have remained stable in the United States, ESBL-E infections have been rising over the past decade, and clinical outcomes of patients infected with these organisms are poor.

SNAP Study Summary Now Available

The Study Network of *Acinetobacter baumannii* as Carbapenem-Resistant Pathogen (SNAP) study is part of the Multi-Drug Resistant Organism (MDRO) Network of studies aimed at providing observational data to help design randomized clinical trials for MDRO infections, developing new diagnostic and treatment paradigms, and informing clinical practice.

The SNAP study investigated differences in how Carbapenem-resistant *A. baumannii* affects patients around the world, enrolling cases from five different global regions. Learning which strains of *A. baumannii* are most prevalent in various parts of the world and why, as well as which strains pose the greatest risk for poor health outcomes, is essential in helping doctors better treat patients at risk.

Events

7th Annual Texas Medical Center AMR and Stewardship Conference

Join us for the 7th Annual Texas Medical Center Antimicrobial Resistance and Stewardship Conference. The event, which will be held January 17-19 in Houston, Texas features an outstanding line-up of internationally-renowned experts in...
antibacterial resistance research, including presentations from many ARLG members.

## Past ARLG Grand Rounds Now Available

Have you missed any of the ARLG Grand Rounds events? If so, you're in luck. ARLG's Events page now contains an archive of past presentations. There, you will find information about the topics and speakers along with links to presentation videos and slides.

Here are the most recent Grand Rounds presentations currently available:

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<th>Title</th>
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| Brave New World: Promise And Perils Of Generative AI For ID Professionals | Ilan Schwartz, MD  
Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Duke University School of Medicine | January 5, 2024   |
| En Vogue Trends: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly: Opportunities and Pitfalls for the ARLG | Toshimitsu Hamasaki, PhD, MS  
Scott Evans, PhD, MS | October 6, 2023 |
| Evolving Clinical Resistance and Treatment Strategies for Novel β-lactam Agents against Pseudomonas aeruginosa | Ryan K. Shields, PharmD, MS | June 2, 2023 |

## Study Milestones

View recent ARLG study updates.

- **PHAGE** Study of the Safety and Microbiological Activity of Bacteriophages in Persons with Cystic Fibrosis
- Stage 2a Complete – Interim Analysis
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Colonized with <em>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</em></td>
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<td>DIFFR</td>
<td>Clostridioides DIFFicile RNA</td>
<td>Manuscript in Progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>MeChaTeBla</td>
<td>Mechanistic and structural characterization of the interaction of a novel antibiotic with clinically relevant β-lactamases</td>
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<tr>
<td>REPROCESS</td>
<td>Racial Disparities in CarbaPenem-Resistant Bacteria: Epidemiology and OutComEs of US PatientS</td>
<td>Data Analysis</td>
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|INNOVATIONS QoL | Quality of life (QoL) assessments in studies of patients undergoing treatment for intra-abdominal infections, complicated urinary tract infections, skin and skin structure infections, and hospital-acquired or ventilator-associated bacterial pneumonia. The first study includes a systematic review of the literature and subgroup analysis and the second study involves conducting interviews with clinicians and patients with c-UTIs. | First study: Manuscript in Progress  
Second study: Data Analysis |
|SNAP-MDRO | Study Network of Acinetobacter baumannii as Carbapenem-Resistant Pathogen-Multi-Drug Resistant Organism Network | Published |
|DARMA | Disparities in Antibacterial Resistance: A Series of Meta-Analyses | Data Analysis |

Go to the ARLG Studies page for more milestones and updates!
Recent Publications

View the following recent ARLG publications.


