

CCIV NEWSLETTER

CENTER FOR CHILDHOOD
INFECTIONS AND VACCINES



FY2025 Newsletter: A Year of Innovation, Impact, and Inspiration

As we close out Fiscal Year 2025, the Center for Childhood Infections and Vaccines (CCIV) celebrates a year marked by groundbreaking research, prestigious awards, and impactful publications. Our investigators continue to lead the way in pediatric infectious disease research, advancing science and improving lives. Here's a look at the highlights from each quarter.

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8th Annual CCIV Symposium:

A Record-Breaking Success



Last year's 8th Annual Center for Childhood Infections and Vaccines (CCIV) Symposium marked a milestone in our journey, drawing a record-breaking number of registrants and attendees from Emory University, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and partner institutions. The event celebrated innovation and collaboration, featuring over 30 oral and poster presentations from faculty, trainees, and students.

A highlight of the day was the keynote address by Dr. Grace John-Stewart, Professor of Global Health, Medicine, Pediatrics, and Epidemiology at the University of Washington. In her talk, "Pediatric HIV: Challenges and Opportunities," Dr. John-Stewart shared insights from her groundbreaking work in Kenya and her leadership in global maternal-child health. With over 500 peer-reviewed publications and a legacy of mentoring more than 100 trainees, her presentation inspired attendees to think boldly about the future of pediatric infectious disease research.

The symposium also featured compelling talks from internal guest speakers Dr. Vineet Menachery and Dr. Una O'Doherty, who explored the frontiers of SARS-CoV-2 and HIV research. The day concluded with a vibrant poster session and reception, fostering new connections and collaborations.

As we gear up for the 9th Annual CCIV Symposium, we are building on this momentum and aiming even higher. We hope to make this year's event an even greater success—one that continues to elevate the science and strengthen our community.



2025 Spring CCIV Seminar Series:

Doubling Impact, Expanding Reach

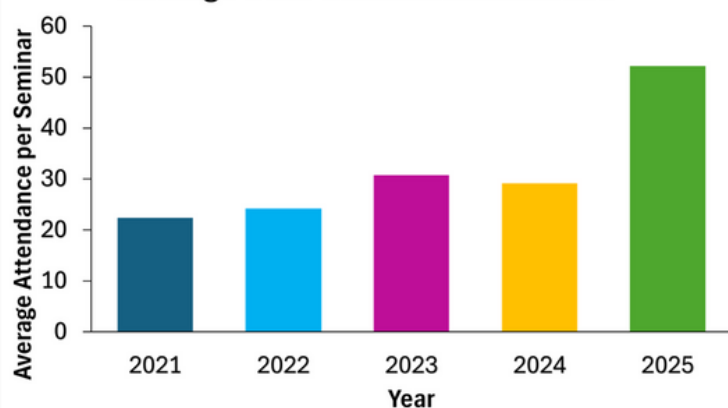


The CCIV Weekly Seminar Series has become a vital platform for advancing pediatric infectious disease research, and this year marked a significant milestone—overall attendance has doubled compared to previous years and semesters since 2021. This surge in participation reflects the growing interest and engagement across the research community, from faculty and clinicians to postdoctoral fellows and graduate students.

During the Spring 2025 semester, seminars were held every Monday from 1:00 to 2:00 PM in HSRB II Room N600 and simultaneously on Zoom, offering both in-person and virtual access to accommodate diverse schedules and preferences. The series ran from late January through early June and featured a dynamic lineup of speakers who shared cutting-edge research on topics such as emerging and re-emerging infections, novel diagnostic tools, vaccine development, and therapeutic innovations.

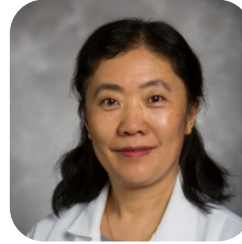
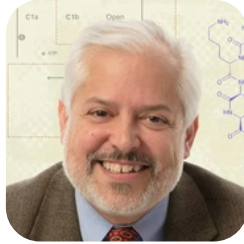
What sets the CCIV Seminar Series apart is its commitment to fostering collaboration and professional development. It serves as a critical training ground for early-career researchers, providing them with opportunities to present their work, receive feedback, and build networks that can shape their careers. The interactive format encourages lively discussion and cross-disciplinary learning, strengthening the collective expertise of our research community.

Average CCIV Seminar Attendance



Looking ahead, the Fall 2025 Seminar Series will continue this momentum, returning in September and running through December at the same time and location. With an exciting roster of speakers already in the works, we look forward to another semester of discovery, dialogue, and scientific growth.

Q1 Highlights (Sept–Nov 2024)



Sujit Sharma, MD, with **Drs. Nael McCarty & Guiying Cui** received the 2024 Pilot Center Award for their innovative project on real-time electrophysiological changes in human airway epithelia during viral infection.



Lydia Lu published a landmark study in the *Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society* on pediatric infectious disease telemedicine, showing its effectiveness and environmental benefits. The study saved over 31,000 miles in patient travel and highlighted telemedicine's potential as a sustainable care model.

Q2 Highlights (Dec 2024–Feb 2025)



Dr. Andi Shane was accepted into the prestigious Pediatric Leadership Development Program by the Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs.



Dr. Ann Chahroudi was appointed to the NIH Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council and named Strategy and Operations Officer for the Society for Pediatric Research (SPR) for 2025–2028.



Dr. Mehul Suthar published in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, demonstrating the effectiveness of the KP.2-adapted COVID-19 vaccine against emerging variants.



Drs. Andi Shane and Kristy Rostad co-authored a pivotal study on COVID-19 vaccine responses in pediatric kidney transplant recipients, published in *Transplantation Direct*.



Q3 Highlights (Mar–May 2025)



Dr. Maud Mavigner published a major study in the Journal of Clinical Investigation revealing that HIV persists in both naïve and memory CD4+ T cells in children, reshaping pediatric HIV cure strategies.



Dr. Samantha Hill and her team received a \$30,000 Emory IMPACT Circle award for the AAWC R.I.G.H.T. Path Program, mentoring underrepresented students in health research.

Dr. Hill also:

- Had a poster accepted at the International AIDS Society 2025 conference in Kigali.
- Received a \$40,000 R03 grant for a youth-driven HIV prevention messaging project using photo elicitation.

Q4 Highlights (Jun–Aug 2025)



Dr. Lisa Marie Cranmer received the 2025 Passionate Provider Award from Emory CFAR for her leadership in launching a breastfeeding support program for women with HIV at Grady.

She also recently co-authored a study published in the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease exploring the willingness to accept new TB vaccines among adolescents, adults, and their caregivers in Mozambique—a critical step toward guiding future rollout strategies for upcoming TB vaccine candidates.



Dr. Jairo Fonseca was awarded the PIDS International Medical Graduate Early Career Development Award for his research on HIV latency.



Dr. Ann Chahroudi secured a \$5.25M NIH R01 grant for immunotherapy research in SHIV-infected infant macaques.

Q4 Highlights (Jun–Aug 2025)



Drs. Preeti Jaggi, Latania Logan, and Andi Shane were named among Atlanta Magazine’s “Top Doctors 2025” for Pediatric Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Jaggi also led multiple publications on healthcare sustainability and climate change, emphasizing the role of infectious disease professionals in reducing the environmental impact of healthcare.

Center Events

Pediatric Grand Rounds



CCIV Research Grand Rounds will be on **Wednesday, November 19th, 2025** at 8 am. This year's speaker is Dr. Ann Chahroudi. *Registration coming soon.*

Weekly Seminars

The CCIV Weekly Seminar Series will resume on September 8th, 2025. Weekly seminars will continue to be held every Monday from 1 pm to 2 pm , in HSRB II-N600. View the full Fall 2025 schedule [here](#).

Resources

CCIV and Children's Publication Citation

Remember to cite CCIV and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in your publications. This is vital to ensure recognition of our work by both Emory and Children's. This requirement applies to all center members, whether lab-based or non-lab based. Children's has been a significant supporter of the research operations that make all of our work possible and should be acknowledged.

The proper affiliation citation is: **Center for Childhood Infections and Vaccines (CCIV) of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University Department of Pediatrics, Atlanta, GA USA.**



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Looking Ahead

FY2025 was a year of exceptional achievement for CCIV. From advancing HIV cure strategies to shaping national health policy and mentoring the next generation of researchers, our faculty continue to lead with purpose and passion.

We thank our investigators, staff, collaborators, and community partners for their dedication to improving child health through science. Here's to continued innovation and impact in FY2026!