

CF-AIR & CF@LANTA NEWSLETTER

Cystic Fibrosis Center of Excellence

Emory University - Children's Healthcare of Atlanta -
Georgia Tech - Augusta Univ. - Georgia State - UGA



JUNE 2026



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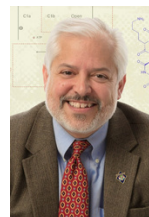
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Director's Update

Dr. Nael McCarty



Dear colleagues and friends,

Greetings, from an already-hot Atlanta. I hope your summer is off to a great start. In this newsletter, there are three important things to note. First, I am so pleased to report that the CF@LANTA comprehensive team really showed up for the CFF Georgia Chapter's landmark event, the Great Strides Walk-a-Thon. The team photo is just below, and more can be found on page 3. Our team had a new t-shirt with fresh patient-supplied artwork on the back. We also were asked, again this year, to lead off the walk at the head of the column. That allows all of the patients and families to see our large group of team members dedicated to the health of our CF community's members. Great Strides Day is one of my favorite days of the year!

Second, we are gearing up for the North American CF Conference, to be held in Atlanta this October! In association with the Conference, we will hold two special events. During the day on October 6, we will host the first-ever CF Data Science workshop, where experts from near and far will come together to discuss opportunities and roadblocks to making use of data science approaches to solve problems in CF. That evening, we will host an expanded version of the CF@LANTA reception that we usually have at the Conference. This year's special event will be dedicated to the memory of our friend, Mr. Andy Lipman, a CF Warrior and local icon who we lost over a year ago. We also will launch a special CF care/research program in his name. Please see page 2.

Third, take a look at the huge number of publications from our team, just since the last quarterly newsletter, which this time spreads over three pages! Further details on these team publications can be found at www.cfatl.org.

Thanks for your interest in our work!



Mark Your Calendar

North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (NACFC) October 6-10, 2026 in Atlanta, Georgia

We are excited to welcome the cystic fibrosis research and care community to Atlanta for the North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (NACFC). In addition to the conference, we are hosting two special events on **Tuesday, October 6th**.

CF Data Science Workshop

Time: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: National Center for Civil and Human Rights

This free, one-day workshop will explore how data science can advance cystic fibrosis research and care.

The program will highlight the Georgia CF Data Exchange & Warehouse (GACFDEW), a cloud-based platform that integrates longitudinal clinical, research, and biorepository data from people with CF across Georgia.

Sessions will cover:

- Data science needs and opportunities in CF
- Existing data resources and infrastructure
- Data integration, standardization, and ethics
- Real-world applications of data science

The workshop will conclude with a hands-on mini-hackathon using de-identified datasets.

Interested in attending?

Complete the interest survey to receive registration updates: <https://bit.ly/4sv0hw4>

CF@LANTA Welcome Reception Honoring Mr. Andy Lipman

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Complimentary Access to NCCHR Exhibits for attendees 4:00-6:00 PM)

Location: National Center for Civil and Human Rights

Join us as we welcome our team to NACFC, national leaders to Atlanta, and connect with colleagues across the CF community.

The reception will include:

- Opening remarks from CF@LANTA leadership
- A celebration of key milestones across our research, adult clinical, and pediatric clinical programs
- Networking with researchers, clinicians, trainees, and community partners
- Launch of the Andy Lipman Program in Wellness in CF

Full RSVP details coming in early July.



Recent News & Updates



2026 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Atlanta Great Strides

On Saturday, May 16th, CF-AIR, CF@LANTA, and the CF Care Team supported the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation with the Great Strides walk at Suwanee Town Center. This CFF community event brought together all those working towards a cure for CF, raising awareness and support. Our team was honored to lead the walk and enjoyed being part of this special day!



Recent News & Updates

Kudos to Our Investigators

Vin Tangpricha, MD, PhD, has been recognized as a **Master of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology**. This is a very prestigious honor bestowed to individuals who have reached the highest level of competence and mentorship. Dr. Tangpricha is Professor of Medicine and Eminent Physician, Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Lipids, Department of Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine.



Vin Tangpricha, MD, PhD



Rishi Kamaleswaran, PhD

Rishi Kamaleswaran, PhD, was awarded as a **2026 Fellow of the Association for Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS)** on April 22nd in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This award recognizes outstanding contributions, leadership, and lasting impact in advancing the field of clinical and translational science. Dr. Kamaleswaran is an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery and Department of Anesthesiology at the Duke University School of Medicine and Director, Informatics Core, Duke University.



Congratulations to co-senior authors **Arlene Stecenko, MD** and **Rishi Kamaleswaran, PhD (Duke University)** on the publication of "[Machine learning analysis of continuous glucose monitoring identifies a novel dysglycemic phenotype found in most people with cystic fibrosis](#)," in the *Journal of Cystic Fibrosis*. Co-authors included a collaborative and interdisciplinary team of data scientists (**Jiafeng Song** and **Alastair Gent, PhD**, from Duke), biostatistician **Scott Gillespie**, physician scientist **Tanicia Daley, MD, MPH**, registered dietician and PhD researcher **Jessica Alvarez, RD, PhD**, PhD researcher **Ryan Harris, PhD** (Augusta University), and research coordinator **Jocelyn McNeany**.

Congratulations to **Joanna Goldberg, PhD (Emory)**, on her recent grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, "Within-Patient Variation in *Staphylococcus aureus* from the Cystic Fibrosis Lung." This two-year grant is a collaboration with **Tim Read, PhD (Emory)** and **Steve Diggle, PhD (Georgia Tech)**. This study will be recruiting people with cystic fibrosis of all ages that are enrolled in the [Cystic Fibrosis Biospecimen Repository \(CF-BR\)](#) to provide samples. The CF-BR is led by **Arlene Stecenko, MD**.

Congratulations to first author **Su Yeon Oh**, co-corresponding authors **Joshua Chandler, PhD** and **Jessica Alvarez, PhD, RD**, and co-authors **Susan Kim, PhD**, **James Lyles, PhD**, **Sonja Ajani, MPH**, **Randy Hunt, MD**, **Nael McCarty, PhD**, **Tanicia Daley, MD, MPH**, **Arlene Stecenko, MD**, **Vin Tangpricha, MD, PhD**, and **Thomas R. Ziegler, MD, MS (all Emory)** on the publication of "[Multi-omics identification of amino acid and redox dysregulation in cystic fibrosis-related diabetes](#)," in the *Journal of Cystic Fibrosis*. Su Yeon Oh is co-mentored by Dr. Chandler and Dr. Alvarez.

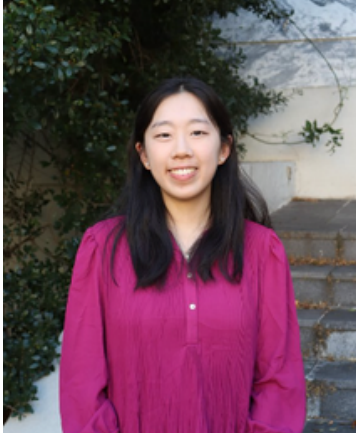
Congratulations to **Dio Kavalieratos, PhD** who recently received the Research Excellence and Collaboration Award from the Emory University Office of Research Administration, recognizing exemplary partnership with research administrative staff.

Recent News & Updates



Congratulations to our May 2026 Graduates

From Dr. Rabin Tirouvanziam's Lab



Emma Kingwell
graduated from Emory University
(Chemistry and Biology). Emma will
attend medical school at Vanderbilt
University in Nashville, Tennessee.



Nola Pickering
graduated from Georgia Tech
(Biology). Nola will be starting
a job in technology in
Chicago, Illinois.

From Dr. Kathryn Oliver's Lab



Ella Rintala
graduated from Emory University
(Environmental Biology, Pre-
Medicine). Ella will be working at
Emory in Dr. Oliver's lab as a
Research Specialist.



Yolanda Yang
graduated from Emory University
(Biology, Pre-Dentistry). Yolanda will
be attending Tufts University to
pursue an MBS, which transitions
directly into a DMD program.

Publications Since Our Last Newsletter



Kudos to our CF-AIR/CF@LANTA investigators

Mapping the respiratory microbiome in intubated children over time, *Microbiol Spectr*, 2025 Dec 2.

Machine learning model for daily prediction of pediatric sepsis using Phoenix criteria, *Pediatr Res.*, 2026 Feb. Epub 2025 Jun 19.

Reliability of diffuse optical spectroscopies for evaluation of cerebral hemometabolic stress in children with sickle cell anemia, *Biomed Opt Express*, 2026 Feb 4.

Interkingdom signaling elicited by bacterial extracellular vesicles in human cystic fibrosis airway epithelium and neutrophils, *Front Cell Infect Microbiol.*, 2026 Mar 2.

Infant Infection With Respiratory Syncytial Virus Genotypes and Subsequent Childhood Asthma Risk, *J Infect Dis.*, 2026 Mar 3.

Gene expression profiling identifies potential biomarkers for vaso-occlusive episodes in sickle cell disease, *JCI Insight*, 2026 Mar 9.

Respiratory syncytial virus mRNA vaccine-induced immunity and protection against subgroups A and B in mice, *Immunohorizons*, 2026 Mar 10.

The interplay between temperature and growth phase shapes the transcriptional landscape of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *J Bacteriol.*, 2026 Mar 11.

Mechanisms of thermoregulation in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *J Bacteriol.*, 2026 Mar 11.

Clinical Outcomes in Food Allergy: Implications for Patients, Clinicians, and Health Systems, *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.*, 2026 Mar 18.

Protocol for identifying surface membrane proteins and their associated proteome from mouse cortical neuron cultures by in situ biotinylation, *STAR Protoc.*, 2026 Mar 20.

Navigating Oral Food Challenges in Clinical Trials to Keep the Science Moving Forward, *Allergy*, 2026 Mar 23.

Updates in Cystic Fibrosis Bone Disease in Adults, *Endocr Pract.*, 2026 Mar 25.

Screening for Diabetes and Prediabetes in Cystic Fibrosis Using a Nonfasting 50-Gram 1-Hour Oral Glucose Challenge Test, *Diabetes Care*, 2026 Mar 30.

Changes in nutritional priorities and management in people with CF, *J Cyst Fibros.*, 2026 Mar 31.

Management of Gastrointestinal Symptoms During Oral Immunotherapy: Guidance from OUTMATCH Investigators, *J Allergy Clin Immunol Pract.*, 2026 Apr

RBC Alloimmunization Impacts Pediatric Sickle Cell Disease Transplant Outcomes and Transfusion Burden: A STAR Registry Report, *Am J Hematol*, 2026 Apr. Epub 2026 Jan 12.

Evidence of sex-related differences in vascular health among people with cystic fibrosis, *Respir Med.*, 2026 Apr-May.

From the pages of AllergyWatch, *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.*, 2026 Apr.

Click to link to the publication. Full citations available at <https://cfatl.org/recent-publications>.

Publications Since Our Last Newsletter



Kudos to our CF-AIR/CF@LANTA investigators

Highly Effective Modulator Therapies Restore Neutrophil Dysfunction in People with Cystic Fibrosis, *Am J Respir Cell Mol Biol.*, 2026 Apr 6.

Reprogramming Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell Lines from Frozen Buffy Coat Samples, *J Vis Exp.*, 2026 Apr 10.

"It Felt Like Throwing in the Towel": Family Caregiver Perspectives on End-of-Life Decision Making in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, *J Palliat Med.*, 2026 Apr 13.

The epidermal growth factor receptor regulates bacterial clearance in cystic fibrosis airway neutrophils, *J Clin Invest.*, 2026 Apr 14

Leveraging the lipoprotein trafficking pathway for the development of novel antimicrobials, *RSC Chem Biol.*, 2026 Apr 14.

Managing Renewed Food Avoidance Following an Allergic Reaction for Patients With Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder, *Clin Exp Allergy*, 2026 Apr 14.

An early window into immune developmental trajectory of asthma, *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*, 2026 Apr 15.

Stability and Age-Specific Patterns of Rhinovirus Circulation in Children Over Three Decades, *J Allergy Clin Immunol.*, 2026 Apr 20.

camlhmp: a simple framework for building reproducible microbial genome-based typing tools, *Microbiol Resour Announc.*, 2026 Apr 20.

Quantifying the role of pre-existing tissue resident cellular immunity in limiting respiratory virus transmission, *PLoS Pathog.*, 2026 Apr 21.

The interplay between temperature and growth phase shapes the transcriptional landscape of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *J Bacteriol.*, 2026 Apr 23.

Machine learning analysis of continuous glucose monitoring identifies a novel dysglycemic phenotype found in most people with cystic fibrosis, *J Cyst Fibros.*, 2026 Apr 23.

Mechanisms of thermoregulation in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *J Bacteriol.*, 2026 Apr 23.

Single-cell multi-omic analysis of mesenchymal cells reveals molecular signatures and regulators of lung allograft fibrosis, *JCI Insight*, 2026 Apr 23.

Community-Based Case-Finding for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and Self-Management Education in Partnership with Faith-Based Organizations, *Int J Chron Obstruct Pulmon Dis.*, 2026 Apr 24.

Treatment of *Pseudomonas* by Removal of Cloaking Antibodies: Is Common Polysaccharide Antigen a Factor?, *J Infect Dis.*, 2026 Apr 29

Variable Staphylothrombin Activity in *Staphylococcus aureus* Bloodstream Infections, *J Infect Dis.*, 2026 Apr 29.

The Guild Model of CF Airway Microbial Ecology, *mBio*, 2026 Apr 30.

Click to link to the publication. Full citations available at <https://cfatl.org/recent-publications>.

Publications Since Our Last Newsletter



Kudos to our CF-AIR/CF@LANTA investigators

Changes in nutritional priorities and management in people with CF. *J Cyst Fibros.*, 2026 May.

Derivation and validation of the Pediatric Community-Acquired Pneumonia Severity (PedCAPS) score: A prospective cohort study. *J Hosp Med.*, 2026 May.

Endocrine Care During Transition in Emerging Adults With Cystic Fibrosis: A Single Center Retrospective Study. *Endocr Pract.*, 2026 May.

It's Not About Winning or Losing: How Consultants Navigate Disagreement in Serious Illness. *J Pain Symptom Manage.*, 2026 May.

Machine learning analysis of continuous glucose monitoring identifies a novel dysglycemic phenotype found in most people with cystic fibrosis. *J Cyst Fibros.* 2026 May.

When Medically Required Food Avoidance Goes Awry: A Conceptual Framework of ARFID as an Underrecognized Clinical Complication of Food Allergy. *Int J Eat Disord.*, 2026 May.

Screening for Diabetes and Prediabetes in Cystic Fibrosis Using a Nonfasting 50-Gram 1-Hour Oral Glucose Challenge Test. *Diabetes Care*, 2026 May 1.

Echocardiographic Detection of Pulmonary Hypertension and Right Ventricular Failure in Infants with Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia: A Survey of the BPD Collaborative. *Children (Basel)*. 2026 May 5.

Safety of Sildenafil in Premature Infants with Severe Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (SILDI-SAFE): A Randomized Controlled Trial. *J Pediatr.*, 2026 May 7.

Identification of DksA as a novel pro-inflammatory mediator of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* under conditions mimicking chronic cystic fibrosis lung infection. *Virulence*, 2026 Dec, Epub 2026 May 12.

Structural Diversity and Analytical Characterization of Acylhomocarnitines. *J Proteome Res.*, 2026 May 13.

Azithromycin for Preschoolers with Wheezing in the Emergency Department. *N Engl J Med.*, 2026 May 18.

"I feel like you should buy an umbrella before it starts raining": Caregiver Perspectives on Illness Inflection Points in COPD. *Ann Am Thorac Soc.*, 2026 May 18.

A polyvalent phage shapes bacterial dynamics. *J Virol.*, 2026 May 19.

Broadening activity of checkpoint blockade agents by intratumoral nucleoside cleavage. *JCI Insight*, 2026 May 22.

Multi-omics identification of amino acid and redox dysregulation in cystic fibrosis-related diabetes. *J Cyst Fibros.*, 2026 May 25.

Interrelationships among handgrip strength, body composition, physical activity, and quality of life in adults with cystic fibrosis: A cross-sectional study. *Nutr Clin Pract.*, 2026 Jun.

FAK modulates immune response and fibroblast activation in biomaterial-induced fibrosis. *Biomaterials*, 2026 Jul. Epub 2026 Jan 19.

Click to link to the publication. Full citations available at <https://cfatl.org/recent-publications>.

Recent Events and Fall Schedule

Summer 2026 Bipartite

The **Children's + Emory CF Care Center's Summer Bipartite** was held on Wednesday, May 27th at the Children's Support building. This afternoon event provided an opportunity for clinical and research staff serving children and adult patients with cystic fibrosis to share updates and connect with each other on their current and future work. The afternoon kicked off with social time, followed by an "Alyftrek Update" by Kelly Ko, PharmD, Kim Bentley, RN, and Holly Stark, RN. Arika Akin, MS, CGC then provided a "Genetics Update: Counseling and infant testing for mothers taking CFTR modulator." The afternoon concluded with a Jeopardy game for participants.



Pictured above: Randy Hunt, MD, FAA, FACP (left) and Rachel Linnemann, MD (right)

Upcoming CF-AIR Science Huddle Fall 2026 Schedule

FALL 2026 SCHEDULE			
Date	Time	Type	Presenter
27-Aug	1-2 PM	Social	Summer Birthdays/Social
3-Sept	1-2 PM	Research Highlight	Diego Moncada, PhD
10-Sept	1-2 PM	Journal Club	Su Yeon Oh
17-Sept	1-2 PM	Trainee Focused	Kathryn Oliver, PhD
24-Sept	1-2 PM	Research Highlight	Andras Rab, MD
1-Oct	1-2 PM	Journal Club	NACFC Practice Talk Session
15-Oct	12-2 PM	Journal Club	What We Learned at NACFC
22-Oct	1-2 PM	Research Highlight	Lindsey Seldin, PhD
29-Oct	1-2 PM	Social	Halloween Social
5-Nov	1-2 PM	Guest Lecturer	Patrick Harrison, PhD (Cincinnati)
12-Nov	1-2 PM	Journal Club	Erica Browne
19-Nov	1-2 PM	Trainee Focused	Malinda Wu, MD, MSCR (Johns Hopkins)
3-Dec	1-2 PM	Guest Lecturer	Finn Hawkins, M.B., B.Ch. (Boston University)
10-Dec	1-2 PM	Social	Holiday Social/White Elephant Gift Exchange

Please contact [Megan Stewart](#) with questions or for additional information regarding the CF-AIR Science Huddle.

Around the Research Organization

Pediatric Core Services

Offer the equipment, tools, and skilled professionals to make research faster and more impactful. From imaging and data analysis to clinical trial support, our pediatric cores provide key resources and expert support to help researchers at every step. Researchers, check out details about our pediatric research core services [here](#) or via the QR code.

For questions or details, please reach out to Cores Administrator, [Kevin Loop-Tapp](#).



15th Annual Southeastern Pediatric Research Conference

**Bench to Bedside and Beyond:
Risk Factors and Intervention Strategies
in Childhood Disease and Injury**



AUGUST
28

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM EDT
Georgia Aquarium

Event Highlights

- ▶ Keynote Lectures
- ▶ Networking Opportunities
- ▶ Selected oral abstract presentations
- ▶ Poster sessions & competition
- ▶ Complimentary evening aquarium admission & door prizes

SUBMIT ABSTRACT

All child health research topics welcome!
Deadline: June 26, 2026

REGISTER HERE!

Early bird rate: Until Aug 14
\$125 General | \$75 Trainees
Regular rate: Aug 15 - 28
\$200 All (subject to availability)



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