



Research Round-Up

CF-AIR and CF@LANTA

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026



EMORY
UNIVERSITY



Children's
Healthcare of Atlanta

Note from the Director, Dr. Nael McCarty

Hello team,

I hope everyone had a great summer, and got lots done! We are back in full-swing, and getting ready for next month's big event when ATL will host the North American CF Conference. We will be sharing the schedule of CF-AIR team-member presentations very soon, as soon as the CFF posts that schedule, so that you can plan your activities at the conference. Also see the banner at right for two special events CF@LANTA is hosting the day before the Conference, and register if interested. The Spotlight below is on Ms. Jonica Brown, a doctoral student in the McCarty lab, who took on a paid internship with Novartis this summer. This was highly useful to Jonica for making informed decisions on her career choices. Jonica's evaluation from the Medical Director, Renal Diseases, who was her supervisor, ranked her as "Excellent" across the board, who also said that Jonica was eager, proactive, and ready to contribute on Day One. Well done, Jonica!

Best wishes to all,
Nael



Upcoming CF-AIR Science Huddle Schedule

Date	Time	Type	Presenter
Thurs. 9/24/26	1-2 PM	Research Highlight	Andras Rab, MD
Thurs. 10/1/26	12-2 PM	Journal Club	NACFC Practice Talks
Tues. 10/6/26	8 AM-5 PM	Special Event	CF Data Science Workshop
Thurs. 10/15/26	12-2 PM	Journal Club	What We Learned at NACFC

[Click here for the Fall 2026-Spring 2027 Science Huddle schedule](#)

Spotlight: Jonica Brown

This summer, **Jonica Brown** completed an internship with Novartis Pharmaceuticals in the US Renal, Medical Affairs department. She worked directly with Medical Directors to gain valuable insight into the pharmaceutical industry while developing skills in strategic planning and cross-functional collaboration. She had the opportunity to build an AI-powered chatbot to improve access to medical information, network with professional across various departments, and experience a "day in the life" of a Medical Science Liaison.



Jonica Brown is a PhD student in Dr. Nael McCarty's lab.

North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (NACFC) October 6th-10th

*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

8 AM – 5 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. **Register here!***

CF@LANTA Welcome Reception Honoring Mr. Andy Lipman

6 PM – 8:30 PM (Complimentary Access to NCCHR Exhibits for attendees from 4-6 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 program includes remarks from CF@LANTA leadership, celebrating key milestones across our research, adult clinical and pediatric clinical programs, networking with researchers, clinicians, trainees and community partners, as well as the launch of the Andy Lipman Program in Wellness in CF.



Submit your Research Wows!

We want to hear about your research successes! Scan the QR code to submit your Research Wows or contact Megan Stewart (megan.stewart@emory.edu).



CF-AIR is now on BlueSky! Follow us and tag us @emory-choa-cfair.bsky.social

Follow and tag us on X: @EmoryCHOA_CFAIR and @CFAtlanta

