



Pan American Society For Clinical Virology

July 2011



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Message from the President of PASCV, Angela Caliendo, M.D., Ph.D.

Emory University, Atlanta GA

Greetings to all, it was great to see everyone at the 27th annual CVS meeting in May! Once again the meeting was a tremendous success, providing outstanding clinical and scientific content as well as the opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues. For those that were unable to attend I would like to update you on a few important topics.

The Pan American Society for Clinical Virology received a very generous gift from Roche Diagnostics this year. The Council decided to use the funds to increase our support for PASCV travel awards and the Latin American companion meeting which is held every three years. Marcela Echavarria, PhD, our Latin American Correspondent, and Prof. Guadalupe Carballal, MD, PhD organized the III International Clinical Virology Symposium and Advances in Vaccines meeting held in Buenos Aires, Argentina November 8th-10th, 2010 and the program was a great success. There were 372 participants from 31 countries, and the organizers provided 11 travel grants to young Professionals from Latin America. We look forward to the 2013 meeting and thank Roche for providing us with the means to further support the meeting.

On June 1st 2011 the FDA released a Draft Guidance entitled "Commercially Distributed In Vitro Diagnostic Products Labeled for Research Use

Only or Investigational Use Only: Frequently Asked Questions". This document is intended to clarify the types of in vitro diagnostic products (reagent or instrument) that are properly labeled for "research use only" or "for investigational use only" and provide guidance on how such products should or should not be marketed. As written this guidance will have a very significant impact on the practice of clinical virology. The document is available at <http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/default.htm> PASCV will be working with ASM to provide a response to this draft guidance. **Please send any comments to me as soon as possible so that we can meet the 90 day (end of August) time period for responses** (acalien@emory.edu).

We are still awaiting the draft guidance regarding FDA regulation of laboratory developed tests, once released there will be request for comments from the membership so that we can submit a formal response.

2012 is an election year for PASCV! Now is your opportunity to get involved! Nominations are open for the following offices: President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, three Council Members and the Latin American Correspondent. Please send any nominations to acalien@emory.edu, self nominations are encouraged. A reminder email will be sent to the membership in early September.

PASCV is a supporting society for the upcoming "International Symposium on Influenza and Other Respiratory Infections" meeting on August 2-4, 2011 in Beijing, China. The meeting is hosted by

the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, USA, and the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention.

Please remember to pay your annual dues (\$25), this can be done easily on-line (www.virology.org); it's a great way to support PASCV!

Report on the 27th Clinical Virology Symposium, May 8-11, 2011 Daytona Beach, Florida

Dr. Steven Specter, Chair of the CVS, reported that the attendance for the 2011 CVS and the Molecular Virology Workshop was approximately 850 and 280, respectively, a decline of approximately 20% from 2010. Vendor support remained high with 64 exhibitors registered. Approximately 10% of attendance was from outside the US with 19 other countries represented. The 28th Clinical Virology Symposium will be held April 22-25 2012 in Daytona Beach Florida and will be preceded the Molecular Virology Workshop which will be held on April 20-21 at the same location.

PASCV Award Recipients

Karl M. Johnson, M.D.
2011 Ed Nowakowski Sr. Memorial Clinical
Virology Award
Sponsored by MBL International

Karl M. Johnson, M.D., studied botany at Oberlin College and medicine at the University of Rochester. Two



years of training in internal medicine at Columbia University were succeeded by a soft landing in the laboratory of Robert Chanock at the National Institutes of Health. After researching the emerging swarm of viruses causing acute respiratory disease (parainfluenza 4, five

rhinoviruses, Coxsackie A21), he took his leave from Bethesda to work in a small NIH field laboratory in the Panama Canal Zone. From that base he became intimately acquainted with the first of several new agents causing hemorrhagic fever, Machupo virus, from the llanos of eastern Bolivia.

Working on Machupo virus with Fred Murphy at the CDC, their team described a new virus family designated the Arenaviridae. Subsequent adventures in Africa and Korea were mounted from

CDC, where Dr. Johnson established the laboratory of "Special Pathogens." This rock-turning in far places eventually led to the description of another new virus family and a unique genus; the Filoviridae (Ebola and Marburg viruses) and the hantaviruses.

Beyond discovery and description of new zoonotic viruses, Dr. Johnson has worked on the epidemiology and experimental therapy of several of these agents. Work of his team on clinical virology and antiviral therapy of Lassa Fever in Sierra Leone is classic. Retired from active research, he is adjunct professor of biology at the University of New Mexico, where he assists in developing an integrated research program comprising both laboratory and field studies of pathogenic Hantaviruses of the Americas.

Max Q. Arens, Ph.D. 2011 PASCV Diagnostic Virology Award Sponsored by BD Diagnostics

Max Arens, PhD, is Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Washington University Medical School in St. Louis. He is also co-director of their Retrovirus Laboratory and co-director of the St. Louis Children's Hospital Clinical Virology Laboratory.

Born in South Bend, IN, Dr. Arens graduated with a B.S. in biochemistry from Purdue University in 1967. He attended graduate school at Virginia Tech where his course work emphasized chemistry, biochemistry and microbiology and his research was on plant RNA and DNA polymerases. He received a Ph.D. in Microbiology in 1971. He moved to St. Louis University Medical School for a postdoctoral research position with Dr. Maurice Green at the Molecular Virology Institute and later joined the faculty at the Institute. His basic research during this period was with various aspects of adenovirus transcription and replication.

In 1979 Dr. Arens had the good fortune to join the Department of Pediatrics at St. Louis University Medical School and began working with Dr. Ella Swierkosz. There his interests and training emphasis changed from basic research on viruses to clinical and diagnostic aspects of virology. These were the early years of the use of new methods such as fluorescent antibodies for rapid detection and identification of viruses in clinical specimens and molecular techniques such as restriction enzyme analysis.

In 1988 Dr. Arens had a unique opportunity to join the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics at Washington University Medical School in St. Louis and set up a new lab that specialized in testing for HIV. Over the past 23 years the Retrovirus Lab has been co-directed by Gregory Storch, M.D., and



more recently also Richard Buller, Ph.D., and has become a high-tech lab of three main activities: (1) support for the AIDS Clinical Trials Unit at Wash U, (2) clinical testing for HIV, HCV and HBV, and (3) various research projects, mainly development and testing of new molecular assays for viruses (and occasionally other microorganisms).

Dr. Arens is a long-time member of the Pan American Society for Clinical Virology and served as a Councilor from 2004-2008. He has served on volunteer committees for the writing of consensus standards for the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute, has written many review articles and book chapters and has published more than 75 peer-reviewed papers. He has been on the editorial board for the Journal of Clinical Microbiology and Journal of Clinical Virology (JCV) and for the past 5 years he has been an Associate Editor for JCV.

Rosemary She, M.D.

2010 Roche Young Investigator Award
Sponsored by Roche Diagnostics



After completing an undergraduate degree in biology at Harvard University, Dr. She spent one year at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, as a guest researcher in the Department of Clinical Immunology. She received her medical degree at

UC San Diego School of Medicine and completed a residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at the University of Utah. Under the mentorship of Dr. Cathy Petti, she was introduced to the field of clinical virology, studying the biology of pathogens in the herpesviridae family, as well as the characteristics of tissue culture for the isolation of enteroviruses. She completed a fellowship in Medical Microbiology at ARUP Laboratories and studied the characterization of enterovirus serotypes using nucleic acid sequencing and flow cytometry, which was done under the mentorship of Dr. David Hillyard and Dr. David Bahler.

After completing her training, Dr. She was appointed as assistant professor of pathology at the University of Utah School of Medicine. She was also appointed at ARUP Laboratories as medical director of the virology, sexually transmitted infection testing, and parasitology laboratories. Her research interests in virology extended into other commonly tested viruses, including respiratory viral pathogens and human papillomavirus. In particular, she has enjoyed studying laboratory testing for influenza virus, development of oseltamivir

resistance in the 2009 H1N1 influenza strain, and respiratory virus testing in older adults and children. Currently she serves as the Assistant Medical Director of the Regional Reference Laboratories for Southern California Kaiser Permanente. She is grateful for the excellent mentors she has had and looks forward to making contributions to the field of clinical virology.

Travel Award Winners

A total of 10 Travel Awards to the CVS were bestowed:

Mario Escobar Award sponsored by the CVS and presented by Dr. Steven Specter, Symposium Chairman

Regina Pérez, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile
Abstract Title: Description of HCMV gN genomic variants in a subset of Chilean patients.

Herman Friedman Award sponsored by the CVS and presented by Dr. Steven Specter, Symposium Chairman

Akhalesh Shakya, Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, India
Abstract title: Measles outbreak: Clinical, epidemiological characteristics and genotypic characteristics.

Edwin Lennette Award Sponsored by Diagnostic Hybrids, Inc.

David Peaper, Yale-New Haven Hospital
Abstract title: Contribution of HCV viral load testing in patients with serologic evidence of infection

Edith Hsiung Award Sponsored by Diagnostic Hybrids, Inc.

Virginia Pierce, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Abstract Title: Real-time PCR for detection of five major gastrointestinal viruses in infants and children.

PASCV Sponsored Travel Awards

Kimberly Benschop, Department of Microbiology Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Abstract Title: Detection of human enterovirus and human parechovirus (HpeV) genotypes from clinical stool samples: polymerase chain reaction and direct molecular typing, culture characteristics and serotyping.

Elisabeth Blanchard, CDC, Atlanta, GA.

Abstract Title: Development of a recombinant truncated nucleocapsid protein based immunoassay for detection of antibodies against human coronavirus OC43.

Andrea Granados, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Abstract Title: Quantitative real-time PCR for determining rhinovirus viral loads in children and adults.

Amy Greer, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD
Abstract Title: Performance characteristics of a highly automated real-time PCR assay for BK virus quantification: Comparison to laboratory developed assays.

Jill Johnson, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX. Abstract Title: Performance of a new lateral flow immunochromatographic assay for rapid detection of human metapneumovirus (HPMV) in respiratory samples.

Malgorzata Kowerska, North Shore-LIJ Health System Labs, Lake Success, NY.
Abstract Title: Analytical and clinical evaluation of the Argene Adenovirus R-Gen assay

PASCV News

The annual PASCV business meeting was held on Sunday May 8, 2011 in the Ocean Center, Daytona Beach, Florida. Highlights are:

Membership. As of May 2011, PASCV membership numbered 703, 366 of which are lapsed members. Members are reminded that the annual membership fee (\$25) is due in January of each year.

Advantages of PASCV membership. PASCV membership entitles members to a \$50 reduction in the registration fee for the Molecular Virology Workshop (\$110 for PASCV members, \$160 for non-members). Annual membership dues are \$25. Also, PASCV members receive a reduced subscription price (\$102 US) for the Journal of Clinical Virology, the official journal of PASCV and the European Society for Clinical Virology.

Membership Directory on line. A feature on the PASCV website (www.virology.org) is the membership directory. To access, log onto the website, select "membership", then "member services, web interface". Under member login, enter your email address and password. (Follow instructions to retrieve a temporary password if you don't remember your password). You can edit your profile, search for an individual member, or list the entire membership by typing an asterisk (*) in the box for last name. Only active members, who have paid dues for 2009, are listed.

Membership dues. Reminder: Annual membership fees were due January 1, 2011. You will not be considered an active member of PASCV if annual dues are not paid.

Finances. As of December 31, 2010, the PASCV account balance was \$43,033.87. Major expenses are annual travel awards to the CVS, support of the South American Clinical Virology Symposium, and fees to maintain our web database and mailserver. The major sources of income for PASCV are the Molecular Virology Workshop and membership fees. A full financial report is available from Jeanne Jordan, PASCV Secretary-Treasurer (sphjaj@gwumc.edu).

Journal of Clinical Virology Report. Christine Ginocchio, Editor of JCV, reported that the 2009 impact factor was 3.124, a slight decrease from the previous year (3.320) and that the Journal was ranked 11th out of 30 journals in the Virology category. The impact factor for 2010 was just released and has increased significantly to 4.023. Congratulations to all who have worked tirelessly to improve the quality of JCV.

JCV has competitive turnaround times for all stages of the editorial process. On average, 2010 issues took 26.2 weeks from submission of articles to print.

There were 647 submissions to JCV in 2010 with a 64% rejection rate. The majority of submissions were from Asia, North America, and Western Europe.

III International Clinical Virology Symposium was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from November 8 – 10, 2010. Marcela Echavarría, Ph.D., a councilor of PASCV and our Latin American Correspondent, was the program President. Prof. Guadalupe Carballeda, MD, PhD was the Vice-President. It was sponsored by the Center for Medical Education and Clinical Investigation (CEMIC) and PASCV. A total of 372 participants, including virologists, infectious diseases physicians, pediatricians, gynecologists, biochemists, technical personnel and students attended the symposium. A total of 113 posters were presented on respiratory viruses, viral infections in transplant patients, immunity, vaccines, antivirals, HIV human papillomavirus, Dengue, emerging and other viruses. A total of 109 registration scholarships were given and 11 travel grants were given to young professionals from Argentina and Latin America.

Future Meetings

International Symposium on Influenza and Other Respiratory Infections" meeting on August 2-4, 2011 in Beijing, China. The meeting is hosted by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, USA, and the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention.

**14th Annual Meeting of the European Society
for Clinical Virology**

Funchal, Portugal: 21- 24 September 2011

Centro de Congressos da Madeira

Funchal, Madeira - Portugal



<http://www.escv2011madeira.com/>

The **28th Clinical Virology Symposium** will be held April 22-25 2012 in Daytona Beach Florida and

will be preceded the Molecular Virology Workshop which will be held on April 20-21 at the same location.

Visit the ESCV website at www.escv.or for additional information on upcoming virology meetings.

Available position:

 Department of Pediatrics	 CHILDREN'S HEALTH SYSTEM®
PEDIATRIC Infectious Disease	
Director, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory	
<p>Academic Position at the level of Assistant, Associate or Professor. Primary duties include managing a full-service diagnostic virology laboratory. The potential director should have experience in running a CLIA approved laboratory that performs diagnostic studies including cell culture, serology, and molecular diagnostics and the introduction of new diagnostic procedures. Candidates should be familiar with Laboratory Developed Tests (LDT) which are currently used to quantitative CMV, EBV and BK. The director will be expected to design, develop and validate additional LDTs for respiratory viruses. The Diagnostic Laboratory is equipped with 3 nucleic acid extraction robots, 2 ABI 7300 systems and has a staff of 6 technicians. The Diagnostic Virology Laboratory serves the 270 bed Children's Hospital and also receives specimens for the University Hospital and several private hospitals.</p>	
<p>The anticipated start date is October 1, 2011. Salary will be commiserate with rank.</p>	
<p><u>Interested applicants should contact:</u> Fred Lakeman, PhD Professor, Dept of Pediatrics Director, Diagnostic Virology Lab 1600 7th Ave South, 752 CHT Birmingham, Al 35233 Email: flakeman@peds.uab.edu 205/934-6750</p>	
<p>University of Alabama Birmingham - www.uab.edu UAB Pediatrics - medicine.uab.edu/Peds Children's Health System - www.chsys.org</p>	
<p><i>UAB is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer</i></p>	

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2010-2012

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PAN AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL VIROLOGY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please type or print all information

Member's Name _____ Degree: _____

Organization or Hospital Affiliation:

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE

New Membership (\$25)

Renewal of Membership (\$25)

Members from U.S. and Canada:

Please make checks (U.S. dollars only) payable to PASCV.

Members outside of the U.S. and Canada:

PASCV can now accept VISA and MasterCard. Please include your card number, expiration date, and signature.

VISA/MasterCard number: _____ Expiration date: _____

Signature: _____

Return completed form with check or credit card information to:

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