January 2019

INFECTIOUS DISEASES & GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

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Division Highlights:

For Asylum-Seekers Waiting in Mexico, Volunteers Offer Medical Help
Dr. Lucy Horton, Infectious Diseases Fellow, was highlighted in NPR because of her volunteer efforts at the Tijuana/San Diego border. Dr. Horton and several others are part of a medical group that crosses the San Diego border to provide medical care to individuals that are seeking asylum. The care they provide is “crucial to preventing any viruses that could spread like wildfire throughout the overcrowded camps and shelters.” To read more about this inspiring story, please click here.

*For more information, please contact Dr. Lucy Horton
*Photo by Guillermo Arias

2018 Inclusive Excellence Award
Congratulations to Dr. Kiyomi Tsuyuki for receiving the 2018 Inclusive Excellence Award for Health Sciences! This award reflects Dr. Tsuyuki’s dedicated efforts to improving the health of some of our most disadvantaged populations. The annual Inclusive Excellence Award honors staff, faculty, students, departments, and organizational units or groups that make outstanding contributions in the areas of inclusion, equity, and diversity.

2018 Excellence in Scientific Writing Award
Congratulations to Dr. Judit Tirado-Muñoz (NIDA INVEST Fellow working with Dr. Daniel Werb), on being awarded the prestigious 2018 Excellence in Scientific Writing Award from the European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction. To read more about the NIDA website, please click here.
Drs. Darcy Wooten and Anne Cowell are starting a pilot education intervention modeled after Paul Sax’s One-A-Day ID learning units. Each day while on service, Dr. Wooten will tweet out an article that meets the following criteria:

1. Has to be related to a case.
2. Has to have a reference.
3. Has to be interesting.
4. Has to have no patient confidentiality issues.

The goal is that others tweet out while they are on service, keeping us all up-to-date with little bits of ID wisdom.

Dr. Wooten’s handle is @Darcy_ID_doc. Follow us on Twitter!

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ID/GPH In the News:

**With OK From FDA, UC San Diego Researchers Prepare to Launch Novel Phage Study**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has accepted an Investigational New Drug application by physician-scientists at University of California San Diego School of Medicine to conduct the first U.S. clinical trial of an intravenously administered bacteriophage-based therapy.

**For Asylum–Seekers Waiting in Mexico, Volunteers Offer Medical Help**

In Tijuana, a caravan of Central American migrants arrived last month and are currently living in close quarters in shelters. As temperatures drop, there are concerns about the migrants' health. So, once a week, a group of doctors, nurses and volunteers cross the border from San Diego to provide medical care.

**UC San Diego AntiViral Research Center Launches New HIV Prevention Campaign**

UC San Diego is offering free combined testing for HIV and five sexually transmitted diseases at a newly remodeled clinic at University Ave. and Park Blvd…

**Substance use does not lower adherence to PrEP in MSM**

Study findings showed that substance use does not affect adherence to HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, among men who have sex with men or transgender women.

**UCSD Epidemiologist Named to TIME’s 50 Most Influential People in Health Care**

TIME magazine named, Steffanie Strathdee, PhD, associate dean of global health sciences at University of California San Diego School of Medicine, one of the 50 Most Influential People in Health Care for 2018…

**Charging ‘Dealers’ with Homicide: Explained**

The disparate impact of drug-induced homicide laws on people of color is a reminder that despite the newfound compassion, American drug policy still punishes people with substance use disorder.

**HIV+ volunteers are bequeathing their organs to a new project**

Much of the medical research conducted on HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, looks at patients’ blood. This is no surprise. Blood is both easy to collect and easy to preserve…

If you have any updates or requests for future newsletters, please send an email to Mayra V Miller at mvmiller@ucsd.edu. Thank you!