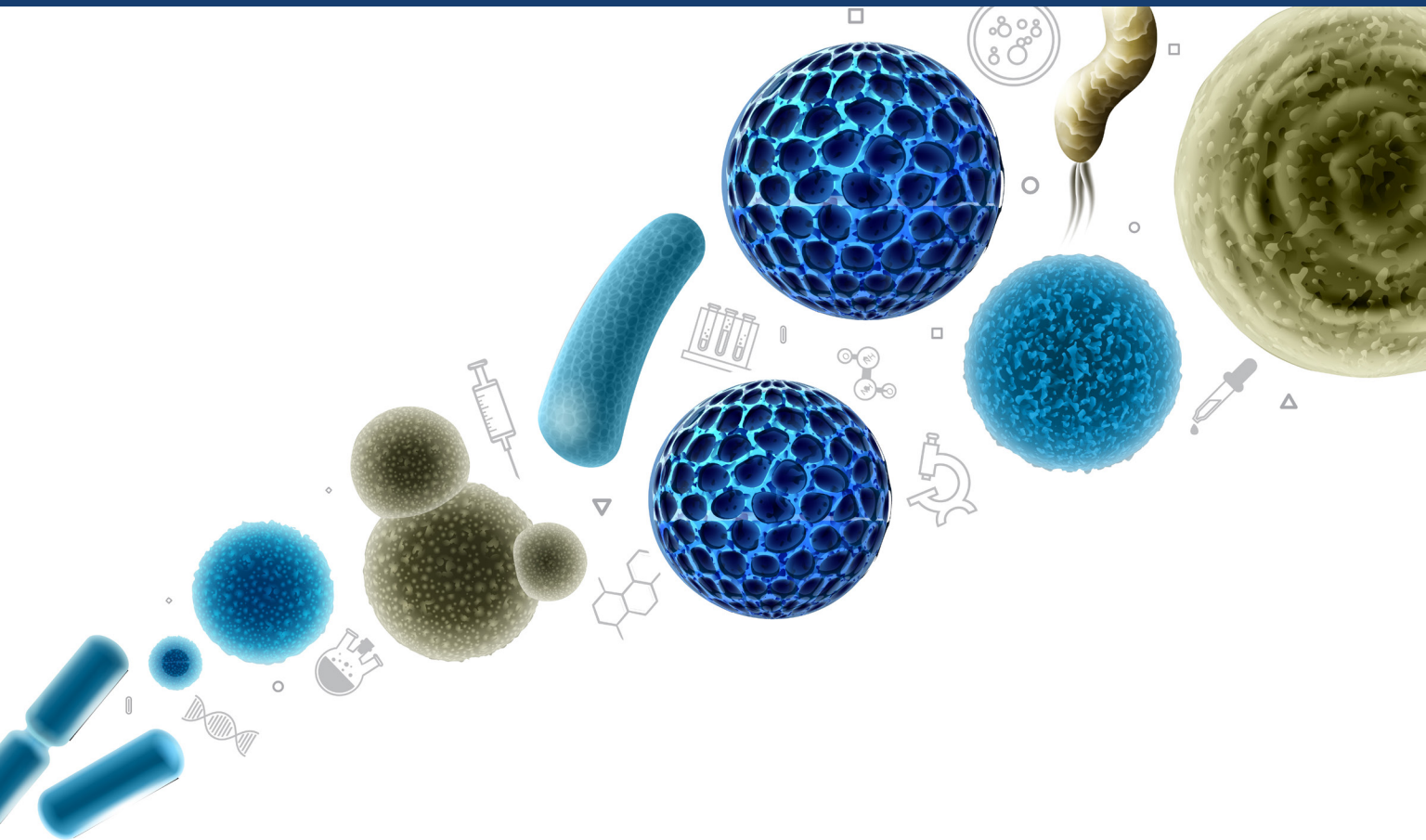


— *International Virtual Conference on* —
**STREPTOCOCCI & STREPTOCOCCAL
INFECTIONS**

| **September 27-28, 2023 | Virtual** |
Time zone: (Eastern Time USA (GMT -4:00))

Scientific Chair: Madeleine W. Cunningham
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, OK, USA



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PANDAS Network is dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of children with PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections) and PANS (Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome). We work with an international network of doctors, researchers and scientists, over 30,000 families worldwide who have been seen for PANDAS/PANS and we provide critical support for families to better inform parents and the medical community about these devastating and commonly misunderstood disorders.

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The Brain Inflammation Collaborative's mission is to revolutionize the diagnosis and treatment of neuroinflammatory illnesses through a coordinated research effort that connects both patients and researchers through centralized patient data. Through our unique online longitudinal data collection and biobank platform, grant funding, and research coordination, we look to empower patients, clinicians, and researchers with the tools they need to further the advancements in diagnosis, treatment and prevention of neuroinflammatory illness or brain inflammation. The connection between brain inflammation and health is often misunderstood and misdiagnosed – we feel strongly that the solution is hidden in plain sight.

For more information, please visit: <https://braininflammation.org/>

09:00 - 09:10 Opening Remarks by **Chair - Dr. Madeleine W. Cunningham**

Session I

Chair - Madeleine W. Cunningham, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, OK, USA

09:10 - 09:50 **Joseph J. Ferretti**, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, OK, USA
History of *Streptococcus pyogenes* Research

09:50 - 10:20 **Victor Nizet**, University of California, San Diego, CA, USA
Molecular Mimicry of Host Cell Surfaces in Streptococcal Immune Evasion and Anti-infective Nano-therapeutics

10:20 - 10:50 **Anna Norrby-Teglund**, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
Host-pathogen Interactions in Invasive Streptococcal Infections: A Toxic Relationship

10:50 - 11:20 **Ganesan Karthikeyan**, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India
An Alternative Hypothesis to Explain Disease Progression in RHD

11:20 - 11:30 Break

Session II

Chair - Chandra Menendez, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, OK, USA

11:30 - 12:00 **Jason W. Rosch**, St Jude Children's Research Hospital, TN, USA
New Insights into Pneumococcal Pathogenesis and Antibiotic Resistance

12:00 - 12:30 **Kelli Palmer**, University of Texas at Dallas, TX, USA
New Insights into Streptococcal Membrane Biology

12:30 - 13:00 **Edmondo Campisi**, Rockefeller University, NY, USA
A 100-year Journey: How CRISPR and Phages Have Shaped the Evolution of M1 *Streptococcus pyogenes*

13:00 - 14:00 Break

Session III

Chair - Patricia Ryan, Rockefeller University, NY, USA

14:00 - 14:30 **Partho Ghosh**, University of California, San Diego, CA, USA
Conserved 3D Patterns in M proteins as Vaccine Immunogens

14:30 - 15:00 **Sarah E. Clark**, University of Colorado School of Medicine, CO, USA
The Species-specific Impact of Airway Prevotella on Resilience against Pneumococcal Lung Infection

15:00 - 15:30 **Debra E. Bessen**, New York Medical College, NY, USA
Population Biology of Group A Streptococci Through the Lens of M-fibril and T-pilus Genes

15:30 - 15:40 Break

Session IV

Chair - **Elodie Burlet**, Vaxform LLC, PA, USA

- 15:40 - 16:10 **Mariela Segura**, University of Montreal, Canada
A New Generation Glycoconjugate Vaccine against the Swine and Zoonotic Pathogen *Streptococcus suis*
- 16:10 - 16:40 **Elodie Burlet**, VaxForm LLC, PA, USA
A Novel Group A Streptococcus Vaccine Targeting Exotoxins A and B is Safe and Immunogenic in Rabbits and Ready for First In-human Trial
- 16:40 - 17:10 **Nikki Moreland**, The University of Auckland, New Zealand
Antibodies in Acute Rheumatic Fever - The Good, the Bad and the Unexplained
- 17:10 - 17:40 **Michael F. Good**, Griffith University, Australia
Development of a Peptide-based Vaccine to Prevent Streptococcal Infections
- 17:40 - 18:10 **Josh Osowicki**, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Australia
Experimental Human *Streptococcus pyogenes* Pharyngitis. We did it. Now what?
- 18:10 **Day 1 Closing Comments**

09:00 - 09:10 Day 2 Opening Remarks

Session V

Chair - Debra E. Bessen, New York Medical College, NY, USA

09:10 - 09:40 **Natkunam Ketheesan**, University of New England, Australia
An Autoimmune Valvulitis Model to Determine the Early Events that Lead to Rheumatic Heart Disease

09:40 - 10:10 **Madeleine W. Cunningham**, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, OK, USA
N-acetyl-beta-D-glucosamine-specific IgG2 and Th17/Th1 Cooperation may Promote the Pathogenesis of Acute Rheumatic Heart Disease and be a Biomarker of the Autoimmune Sequelae of *Streptococcus pyogenes*

10:10 - 10:40 **Chandra Menendez**, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, OK, USA
Dopamine Receptor Autoantibody Signaling in Infectious Sequelae: Movement Vs Neuropsychiatric Disorders

10:40 - 11:10 **Alma Fulurija**, Telethon Kids Institute, University of Western Australia, Australia
The Australian Strep A Vaccine Initiative - Accelerating the Development of Strep A Vaccines to Prevent RHD

11:10 - 11:20 Break

11:20 - 11:35 **Sponsor's Presentation: Diana Pohlman**, Executive Director, PANDAS Network, CA, USA

Session VI

Chair - Sarah E. Clark, University of Colorado School of Medicine, CO, USA

11:35 - 12:05 **Liesl Zuhlke**, University of Cape Town, South Africa
State of Play for Prevention and Control of Rheumatic Heart Disease in Africa

12:05 - 12:35 **Shiranee Sriskandan**, Imperial College London, United Kingdom
What Just Happened? The 2022 Upsurge of Group A Strep in England

12:35 - 13:05 **Elena Aikawa**, Harvard Medical School, MA, USA
Prothymosin Alpha (ProT α) is a Novel Contributor to Autoimmunity and Sex Predisposition in Rheumatic Heart Valve Disease

13:05 - 13:30 Break

Session VII

Chair - Mariela Segura, University of Montreal, Canada

13:30 - 14:00 **Luiza Guilherme**, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil
Vaccine Against *Streptococcus pyogenes* to Prevent Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease

14:00 - 14:30 **Nina van Sorge**, Amsterdam UMC, Netherlands
One for All: The Group A Lancefield Antigen as Universal Vaccine Target

14:30 - 15:00 **Lisa Moore**, Bioinformatics Research Group, SRI International, CA, USA
New Curated Database in BioCyc.org for *Streptococcus pneumoniae* D39V, a Model of Pneumococcal Pathogenesis

15:00 Conference Closing Remarks



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