

# 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Pediatric Infectious Diseases

## “Meet the Speakers”

### Guest Speakers



**Jane C. Burns, MD**, is a native of San Francisco, California. She received her M.D. degree at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in 1978 and completed her pediatric residency and chief residency at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver, Colorado. In 1983, Dr. Burns moved to Boston Children’s Hospital for additional training in pediatric infectious diseases and molecular virology. She joined the faculty at Harvard in 1986 and, in 1990, moved to San Diego where she joined the faculty at the University of California, where she advanced to Professor of Pediatrics in 1999. Dr. Burns began her career-long passion for Kawasaki disease (KD) while still a resident at the University of Colorado and saw her first KD patient in 1979. In 1991, Dr. Burns created the Kawasaki Disease Research Center at UCSD/Rady Children’s Hospital where she serves as Director and leads a multidisciplinary team that cares for 80-100 new Kawasaki disease patients each year. At the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic, the team at the KDRC pivoted to care for and study children with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C).

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**James Conway, MD**, is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine & Public Health in the Divisions of Infectious Diseases & Global Pediatrics. He serves as Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program Director and Medical Director for UW Health Immunization Programs, as well as well as Director of the Office of Global Health. He is responsible for coordinating global health educational programs involving health professional students at UW-Madison and oversight of international programs in the UW School of Medicine & Public Health.

Dr. Conway has spent much of his career working to improve immunization systems and address vaccine hesitancy in the US and abroad. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, where he serves as a Global Sustainability advisor, and he received an AAP Special Achievement Award in 2009 for his global immunization projects and another in 2016 for HPV advocacy. He is a member of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society Vaccine Advocacy Committee and has served on the American Board of Pediatrics Subboard of Pediatric Infectious Diseases since 2018, serving as Chair for 2022-2024.

His most recent project involves serving as a Technical and Global Sustainability Advisor for a collaborative program between the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control, working to simultaneously strengthen pediatric professional societies and immunization programs in over a dozen high priority countries in Africa and Asia.

Dr. Conway served on the UW System & UW-Madison Emergency Operations Committees as well as the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee on COVID19 vaccines throughout the pandemic. He has been a scientific advisor to many pharmaceutical, healthcare and public health organizations regionally and internationally, including work on an array of vaccine development programs.

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**James Gaensbauer, MD, MScPH**, is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Mayo Clinic, based in Rochester, MN. Prior to joining the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Gaensbauer practiced and trained in a variety of environments, including American Samoa, rural Washington State, the Republic of Ireland and at an urban safety-net hospital in Denver. In addition to the care of children with severe or complex infectious diseases, he is highly active in public health, collaborating with the Minnesota Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, particularly in the area of tuberculosis. Dr. Gaensbauer serves as the Medical Director for Education of the Mayo Clinic Center for Tuberculosis (<https://centerfortuberculosis.mayo.edu>), one of four national CDC-sponsored TB Centers of Excellence for TB Training and Consultation. He is an associate editor of the *Journal of Clinical Tuberculosis and other Mycobacterial Diseases*. He also has a longstanding interest in global health and is the director of the Global Health Pathway for the Pediatric Residency Program at Mayo Clinic School of Medicine.



**Laura Hammitt, MD**, is Director of Infectious Disease Programs at the Center for Indigenous Health and an Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she has been on faculty since 2011. Her research focus is the epidemiology and prevention of infection in populations affected by health disparities. Dr. Hammitt works in partnership with Native American communities in the southwest United States to understand and address infectious diseases in a culturally informed manner. She has 20 years of experience studying viral and bacterial respiratory infections, monitoring infectious diseases through population-based surveillance, and conducting clinical trials of interventions to reduce the burden of disease. Embedded in all of her research is a focus on capacity building.

Dr. Hammitt earned her medical degree at the University of Utah and completed a residency in pediatrics at Primary Children’s Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, followed by an appointment as chief resident. She subsequently joined the CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS), serving at the Arctic Investigations Program in Anchorage, Alaska, where she worked on infectious diseases of particular significance in the Alaska Native population. Following EIS, Dr. Hammitt completed a fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the Children’s Hospital in Denver, Colorado. In 2008, after finishing her fellowship, Dr. Hammitt moved to Kenya where she worked as a clinical epidemiologist. Dr. Hammitt resides in southwest Colorado and, when not at work, she enjoys having outdoor adventures with her family.

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**Michael Radetsky, MD, CM**, is a consultant in Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Pediatric Infection Control for the Presbyterian Health System in Albuquerque, NM. He is the Medical Director for Hospice del la Luz in Albuquerque, NM, providing adult hospice services. He is on the clinical faculty of the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. He obtained his undergraduate degree at Harvard College and his medical degree at McGill University School of Medicine. He completed his pediatric residency and Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Radetsky received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award – Who’s Who in the World, and he has been voted into Best Doctors in America five times. He is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honorary Fraternity. He has more than 45 publications. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> year that Dr. Radetsky has reviewed the medical literature to select the Top Ten Pediatric Infectious Disease articles of the year for the benefit of the office-based clinician.



**José R. Romero, MD, FAAP, FIDSA, FPIDS, FAAAS**, is the Director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, where he leads CDC’s efforts to detect, prevent, and respond to vaccine-preventable and respiratory infectious disease threats. Dr. Romero has been active in public health and clinical research for more than three decades. Before joining CDC, Dr. Romero served as the Arkansas Secretary of Health and the Director of the Arkansas Department of Health, where he led the state’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He has also worked as Chief Medical Officer of the Arkansas Department of Health and Director of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases section at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Dr. Romero earned his medical degree from the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico and is board-certified in pediatrics and pediatric infectious diseases. As a professor and clinician scientist, Dr. Romero has made important contributions through his nearly 200 publications and extensive work on antivirals, pneumococcal surveillance, and enteroviral pathogenesis and disease. Dr. Romero is passionate about improving the health of underserved communities and addressing health equity.

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### University of Colorado School of Medicine/Children’s Hospital Colorado Pediatric Infectious Diseases Faculty Speakers



**Marsha Anderson, MD**, is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. She is the Director of Mentored Scholarly Activity and an Associate Pediatric Residency Program Director for the Dept. of Pediatrics and Assistant Dean for Longitudinal Curriculum for the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Anderson completed her medical degree at the University of Tennessee. She completed her pediatric residency, chief residency, and Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and she joined the faculty in 1998. Her academic and research interests are in medical education and Kawasaki Disease. Dr. Anderson is a Fellow in the Infectious Disease Society of America and a member of the Academy of Medical Educators at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She has served as faculty for the Leadership in Educational Academic Development (LEAD) program of the Association of Pediatric Program Directors since 2017 and is a member of the American Board of Pediatrics Infectious Disease Subboard. She serves on many other local and national educational committees.



**Edwin J Asturias, MD**, is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine (Section of Infectious Diseases & Epidemiology); Professor of Epidemiology at the Center for Global Health, a WHO Collaborating Center, and the Dept. of Epidemiology in the Colorado School of Public Health; and Jules Amer Chair in Community Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital Colorado. Dr. Asturias received his medical degree from San Carlos University in Guatemala and completed his pediatric residency at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and his Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at Johns Hopkins University. He worked for 11 years as a Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health research scientist in (vaccine research and policy) in Guatemala and Latin America before joining the faculty at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and School of Public Health. His research includes studies of the epidemiology of and efficacy and safety of vaccines against poliomyelitis, pertussis, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, pneumococcus, *E. coli*, dengue, Zika, malaria and SARS-CoV2. Dr. Asturias served on the Guatemalan National Committee for Immunization Practices; the Poliovirus Contention Commission; advisory groups for the WHO, including the Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety; and the Committee of Vaccines of the Latin American Society of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. He has written more than 75 peer-reviewed articles.



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**Jessica Cataldi, MD, MSCS**, is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. Dr. Cataldi obtained her undergraduate degree in Science, Technology, and International Affairs at Georgetown University. She obtained her medical degree at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and her Master of Science of Clinical Science at the University of Colorado Denver. Dr. Cataldi completed her pediatric residency and Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She worked as a Global Health Corps physician with the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative in Mwanza, Tanzania and Lilongwe, Malawi before returning to join the faculty at the University of Colorado. Dr. Cataldi’s research interests include how to address vaccine hesitancy and improve vaccination delivery and acceptance.



**Donna Curtis, MD, MPH**, is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Epidemiology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. She holds a joint appointment at the Colorado School of Public Health. She is the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Outpatient Clinical Medical Director, Co-Director of the Transplant Infectious Disease service at Children's Hospital Colorado and is the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program Director. Dr. Curtis obtained her undergraduate degree at Georgetown University and obtained her MD and MPH degrees from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and School of Public Health. She completed her pediatric residency at the University of California Los Angeles and her Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and has been faculty at the University of Colorado since 2011. Her clinical and research interests include prevention and management of opportunistic infections in immunocompromised children, improving vaccine rates pre- and post-transplant, and vaccine immune response in immunocompromised hosts.

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**Samuel R. Dominguez, MD, PhD**, is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. He serves as the Medical Director for the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory and is the Associate Medical Director for Infection Prevention and Control at Children's Hospital Colorado. He obtained his undergraduate degree in chemistry and mathematics at Houghton College. He then completed the MD/PhD program at the University of Chicago. Dr. Dominguez completed his pediatric residency at the University of Chicago and his

Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado, joining the faculty there in 2007. He has research interests in clinical diagnostics and diagnostic stewardship, emerging infectious diseases, pediatric respiratory viral infections and enteroviruses, and Kawasaki disease. He is a member of the National Pediatric Clinical Microbiology Laboratory Directors Group and has over 130 peer-reviewed publications.



**Myron Levin, MD**, is a Professor of Pediatrics & Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology and is the Associate Director of the Pediatric HIV Clinic. He graduated from Harvard Medical School and completed a residency in internal medicine at the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center (Einstein Medical School). He spent the next three years at the National Institutes of Health performing research in molecular virology. He returned to Harvard to complete an Infectious Diseases fellowship in the

combined adult-pediatric training program at Children's Hospital and Beth Israel Hospital. He became the first Chief of Infectious Diseases at the Sidney Farber Cancer Center (now the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute). From 1982 to 2000, Dr. Levin was Chief of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Director of the Clinical Virology Laboratory at the University of Colorado Hospital. Dr. Levin directs a research clinic that evaluates experimental vaccines and antiviral drugs, and he attends in the HIV clinic for children and pregnant women at Children's Hospital Colorado. Dr. Levin's clinical interests include antiviral therapy, immune response to herpesvirus infections, and vaccine science. His past laboratory studies have focused on latency of herpesviruses in human neurons and varicella virus pathogenesis. His clinical studies have focused on the immune response to established and experimental vaccines and correlates of protection. Dr. Levin was a member of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (CDC) for 5 years and served as its Chair. Dr. Levin has authored more than 355 original articles, 87 chapters, and edited 18 books.

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**Kevin Messacar, MD PhD**, is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the section of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. He obtained his undergraduate degree in biochemistry and his medical degree at the University of Michigan. Dr. Messacar completed his pediatric residency and Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and joined the faculty there in 2014. He completed his PhD in Clinical Investigation at the University of Colorado Graduate School. His clinical research interests involve designing diagnostic and antimicrobial stewardship strategies for the implementation of rapid molecular diagnostic technologies to improve the clinical care of hospitalized children with suspected infections and improving the understanding, diagnostic testing, and treatment of central nervous system infections, including meningitis, encephalitis, and acute flaccid myelitis. He is a founding member of the Acute Flaccid Myelitis Working Group and is a member of the CDC Board of Scientific Counselors' Acute Flaccid Myelitis Task Force. He received the first Astute Clinician Award from the Colorado Department of Public Health, the Gary Way Award for outstanding teaching, the Children's Hospital Colorado Century Award, and the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society's Young Investigator Award. He has been recognized as a 5280 Magazine Top Doctor from 2017-2020. He is an associate editor of the Journal of Clinical Virology and is a member of the US National Polio Containment Certification Committee. He currently is principal investigator of the Pandemic Response Repository: Microbial and Immunologic Surveillance & Epidemiology (PREMISE) clinical research study which is a core component of the US government's pandemic preparedness plan.



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**Sean O'Leary, MD, MPH**, is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. He is a pediatric infectious diseases specialist, an investigator at ACCORDS (Adult and Child Center for Outcomes Research and Delivery Science), and the Director of the Colorado Children's Outcomes Network (COCONet), Colorado's pediatric practice-based research network. After completing college at Brown University and medical school at the University of Texas at Houston, Dr. O'Leary did his pediatric residency and Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Children's Hospital Colorado/University of Colorado. Prior to his fellowship, Dr. O'Leary was a partner in a large general pediatric practice in Fort Collins, Colorado for 8 years. Dr. O'Leary's research focuses on prevention of vaccine-preventable diseases through understanding clinical, attitudinal, and infrastructural barriers to vaccination and developing and testing interventions to address those barriers. Dr. O'Leary is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Council on School Health and serves as the Chair of the Committee on Infectious Diseases (the Red Book Committee) for the AAP. Dr. O'Leary serves as the liaison to the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for the AAP and currently represents the AAP on ACIP's COVID-19 and RSV Work Groups.



**Daniel Olson, MD**, is an Associate Professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology, and Bioengineering. He is also the Global Health Fellowship Director and Investigator at the Center for Global Health in the Colorado School of Public Health. He obtained his undergraduate degree from Grinnell College in Iowa and his medical degree from Michigan State University. He completed his pediatric residency at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Olson completed his Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and joined the faculty there in 2015. His research interests include low-cost solutions to disease surveillance, outcomes-related research, and vaccine effectiveness, focusing on emerging infectious diseases such as arboviruses (dengue, Zika, chikungunya), respiratory viruses (influenza, RSV, COVID-19), and enteric pathogens. His current work focuses on the transmission and the clinical and economic consequences of respiratory infections in agricultural workers and vulnerable populations in Guatemala.

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**Sarah K. Parker, MD**, is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. She is Medical Director of the Pediatric Antimicrobial Stewardship program at Children’s Hospital Colorado and innovated “Handshake Stewardship,” considered a leading methodology by The Joint Commission. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Spanish Literature at the University of Colorado and her medical degree at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She completed her pediatric residency and her Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Colorado. Dr. Parker’s research interests include judicious use of antimicrobials in pediatric patients, antimicrobial dosing in pediatrics, quality improvement, and orthopedic infections. She is the IDWeek PIDS Vice Chair-elect for IDWeek and Chair for ID Week’s Best Practices for Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs Workshop. She has more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, and she mentors trainees at all levels in various sections and departments.



**Nicole Poole, MD, MPH**, is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology and Associate Medical Director of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at Children’s Hospital Colorado. Dr. Poole obtained her medical degree at the University of Texas School of Medicine and a Master of Public Health at the University of Texas School of Public Health, in Houston. She completed her pediatric residency at the University of Chicago School of Medicine in Chicago and her Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at Seattle Children’s Hospital in Seattle. Dr. Poole’s research area of interest is antimicrobial stewardship in ambulatory and community settings. Dr. Poole uses epidemiologic and quality improvement research methods to describe antibiotic prescribing patterns, identify targets for improvement, and study interventions to improve the quality of antibiotic use in children. She is particularly interested in socio-behavioral drivers of antibiotic prescribing. Dr. Poole leads the Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship Program that serves as a resource for providers who care for children across the State of Colorado.

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**Sara Saporta-Keating, MD, MS**, is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the Section of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She obtained her Master of Science, Biomedical Science – Clinical Microbiology and Immunology and medical degrees at the University of South Florida College of Medicine. She also completed her pediatric residency and chief residency at the University of South Florida Department of Pediatrics. She then completed her fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine before joining the faculty in 2018. Sara is now providing Infectious Diseases consultation services at Children’s Hospital Colorado – Colorado Springs and is Associate Medical Director for Infection Prevention and Control.



**Justin Searns, MD**, is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in the sections of Pediatric Hospital Medicine and Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology. He received dual undergraduate degrees in Physiology and Philosophy from the University of Washington and went on to receive his medical degree from Oregon Health and Sciences University. He returned to Colorado for his pediatric residency and elected to stay for his Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship training. During fellowship, Dr. Searns received the national Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society Antimicrobial Stewardship Fellowship Award and completed the certificate training program in quality improvement methodology through the Institute for Healthcare Quality, Safety and Efficiency. He went on to join the University of Colorado Department of Pediatrics faculty, where his primary research focuses on improving the care of children hospitalized with acute musculoskeletal infections through clinical pathway implementation and rapid diagnostic development. His greater academic interests center on the intersection of antimicrobial stewardship, quality improvement efforts, and clinical effectiveness. He received a Research Scholar award from the Children's Hospital Colorado Research Institute and was awarded the Children’s Colorado Pediatric Hospital Medicine Researcher of the Year award. He has continued to advance his clinical research skillset by joining the Surgical/Subspecialists Clinical Outcomes Research Fellowship, and he is pursuing a master’s degree in Clinical Science.

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**Adriana Weinberg, MD**, is a Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine and Pathology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and the Medical Director of the Clinical Virology and Molecular Laboratories at the University of Colorado Hospital. She obtained her medical degree and completed an Infectious Diseases residency at the University of Sao Paulo School of Medicine. She then completed a fellowship in Infectious Diseases at Stanford University School of Medicine and subsequently joined the faculty of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Weinberg is a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and a member of the American Association of Immunologists and American Society of Microbiology. She is a member of the TrialNet Steering Committee, the Complications and Vaccines Scientific Committee of the International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Group (IMPAACT), and the Women’s Health Collaborative Science Group of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG). Dr. Weinberg is the recipient of the Constance B. Woofsy Women’s Health Investigator Award for outstanding research and clinical contributions to the care of women living with HIV. Her research has focused on cellular and molecular immune mechanisms of protection against viral infections and efficacy of vaccines in people living with HIV and other immune compromised hosts. She has more than 250 publications and receives research funding from federal agencies and pharmaceutical companies.

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### University of Colorado School of Medicine/Children’s Hospital Colorado Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellow Speakers



**Joana Dimo, DO**, is a fellow in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She received her undergraduate degree in Biology at Cleveland State University in Cleveland. She obtained her medical degree at Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in Athens, OH. She completed her Pediatric Residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals, Inc in Milwaukee. Dr. Dimo’s research interests are in the field of antimicrobial stewardship and quality improvement. Her main project in fellowship involves development of a mobile application to improve antimicrobial use throughout the State of Colorado.



**Erin Ho, MD**, is a Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellow at the University of Colorado and Children's Hospital Colorado. She received her undergraduate degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. She obtained her medical degree at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. She completed her pediatric residency at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Erin’s research interests include novel diagnostic testing and diagnostic stewardship.



**Monika Jelic, MD**, is a fellow in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She received her undergraduate degree in Microbiology at the University of Washington. She obtained her medical degree at the University of Washington School of Medicine, taking part in the WWAMI program. She completed her pediatric residency at University of California San Diego/Rady Children’s Hospital. She has served as an investigator for the Children and COVID-19 in Colorado (CCC) study during the COVID-19 pandemic, and her research interests also include working with the Children’s Hospital Colorado Microbiology Laboratory to enhance provision of clinically meaningful tracheal aspirate culture results.



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**Karim Lalani, MD, MPH**, is a fellow in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He received his undergraduate degree in Biology and Psychology at Emory University in Atlanta and his medical degree at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG). While at MCG, he took a gap year to complete his MPH in Global Health at Rollins School of Public Health. Karim completed his pediatric residency at New York University School of Medicine, where his research focused on COVID-19 in infants with bacterial sepsis.

His current research project is evaluating the clinical epidemiology and serotype associations of pediatric invasive pneumococcal disease.

