

25h Annual St. Jude/PIDS Pediatric Infectious Diseases Conference
March 4-6, 2026 | St. Jude Children's Research Hospital | Memphis, TN

**Symposia in Pediatric ID Research, Transplant/Immunocompromised Hosts
Infectious Diseases, Career Development and Global Health**

TUESDAY, MARCH 3	
6:00 – 8:00 PM Peabody Memphis Venetian Ballroom Foyer	Early Conference Check – In
4:30 – 5:30 PM	Networking and Cocktail Reception
5:30 – 7:00 PM Peabody Memphis Venetian Ballroom	<p>Dinner and Career Panel Presentation Moderator: Kari Neeman, MD University of Nebraska Medical Center</p> <p><i>Careers in Peds ID – Administration as Part of the Mission in an Academic Health Center</i> Carrie I. Byington, MD University of California, San Diego</p> <p><i>Careers in Peds ID – Medical Education</i> Shaina M. Hecht, MD Riley Hospital for Children/Indiana University School of Medicine</p> <p><i>Careers in Peds ID – Antimicrobial Stewardship</i> Jack G. Schneider, MD Riley Hospital for Children</p> <p><i>Careers in Peds ID – Hospital Epidemiology/Infection Control</i> Ibukun Christine Kalu, MD Duke University School of Medicine</p>

	<p><i>Careers in Peds ID Panel – Transplant ID</i> Surabhi (Sara) Vora MD, MPH Seattle Children's Hospital/University of Washington</p> <p><i>Careers in Peds ID Panel – Public Health</i> Annabelle M. de St. Maurice, MD, MPH Los Angeles County Department of Health University of California Los Angeles</p>
7:00 – 8:00 PM	Open Forum – Tabletop Conversations
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4	
8:00 – 8:15 AM Auditorium	<p>Welcome and Introduction Miguela A. Caniza, MD, MPH Director, Infectious Diseases Program Department of Global Pediatric Medicine St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</p>
8:15 – 9:30 AM	<p>Luminaries in Global Health Moderator: Aslam Khan, DO Stanford Children's Health</p> <p>Luminary 1 (30 minutes) <i>Vector-borne Disease Prevention</i> A. Desiree LaBeaud, MD, MS, FASTMH Stanford University</p> <p>Luminary 2 (30 minutes) <i>The Complex Epidemiological and Immunological Interactions Between Dengue and Zika Viruses</i> Eva Harris, PhD University of California, Berkeley</p> <p>Q & A with Luminaries (15 minutes)</p>
9:30 – 10:00 AM	<p>Oral Abstracts Session 1 Moderator: Elizabeth P. Schlaudecker, MD, MPH Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center</p>

	<p>Abstract Presentation 1: Transplant (10 minutes) <i>It Takes Two to Tango: Impact of a Reverse Two-Step Algorithm for Clostridioides difficile Infection Diagnosis in Pediatric Oncology and Hematopoietic Cell Transplant Populations</i> Dolores Freire Jijon, MD Nationwide Children's Hospital</p> <p>Abstract Presentation 2: Global Health (10 minutes) <i>Enterovirus D68 Detection Among Hospitalized Children with Acute Respiratory Illness in Amman, Jordan</i> Haya Hayek, MD Vanderbilt University Medical Center</p> <p>Abstract Presentation 3: General Research (10 minutes) <i>Proteomic Signatures in Cerebrospinal Fluid Reveal Biomarkers for Central Nervous System Infections</i> Kayley Anderson, MPH University of Nebraska Medical Center & Children's Nebraska</p>
10:00 – 10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30 – 11:45 AM	<p>Frontiers in Pediatric Infectious Diseases Moderator: Gwenn Skar, MD, PhD University of Nebraska Medical Center</p> <p>Frontiers Lecture 1 (30 minutes) <i>Leading the Charge: Advancing Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship, One Child at a Time</i> Rana El Feghaly, MD, MSCI, CPHQ Children's Mercy Kansas City</p> <p>Frontiers Lecture 2 (30 minutes) <i>Leveraging Virtual Reality to Address Vaccine Hesitancy and Top Threats to Childhood Health</i> Joe Real, MD Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center</p> <p>Q & A with Frontier Speakers (15 minutes)</p>
11:45 AM – 1:45 PM	LUNCH

<p>12:00 – 1:00 PM Lecture Hall</p>	<p>Peds ID Fellowship Panel and Discussion</p> <p>Scott James, MD Director, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program University of Alabama at Birmingham</p> <p>Maulin Soneji, MD Fellowship Director, Division of Infectious Diseases Children's Hospital of Philadelphia</p>
<p>12:00 – 1:00 PM Auditorium</p>	<p>IPFN Meeting</p>
<p>1:15 – 1:45 PM Auditorium</p>	<p>SPECIAL PRESENTATION TBA</p>
<p>1:45 – 3:15 PM</p>	<p>State of the Art – CMV Moderator: C. Buddy Creech, MD, MPH, FPIDS Vanderbilt University Medical Center</p> <p><i>CMV Research - Universal Screening (25 minutes)</i> Mark R. Schleiss, MD University of Minnesota</p> <p><i>Biomarkers in Congenital CMV (25 minutes)</i> Asuncion Mejias, MD, PhD, MsCS St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</p> <p><i>Updates to the Diagnosis and Management of Refractory/Resistant CMV in Transplant Recipients (25 minutes)</i> Ajit Limaye, MD University of California, San Francisco</p> <p>Q & A with State of the Art Speakers (15 minutes)</p>
<p>3:15 – 3:30 PM</p>	<p>BREAK – POSTER SET UP</p>
<p>3:30 – 4:30 PM Board Room</p>	<p>Poster Session 1* General Research and Global Health *Poster Sessions are non-accredited.</p>

Thursday, March 5

7:50 – 8:00 AM Auditorium	Welcome and Announcements Monica I. Ardura, DO, MSCS, FPIDS Medical Director of the Host Defense Program and Section Chief of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases Nationwide Children's Hospital Chair, St. Jude/PIDS Symposium Planning Committee Gabriela Maron, MD, MSc Director IDS – BMTCT Department of Infectious Diseases St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
8:00 – 9:00 AM	St. Jude Grand Rounds Moderator: Gabriela Maron, MD, MSc St. Jude Children's Research Hospital <i>HHV-6: Advances and Ongoing Challenges in Immunocompromised Hosts</i> Joshua Hill, MD, FIDSA Fred Hutch Cancer Center
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Pediatric Transplant/Immunocompromised Hosts Platform 1 (30 minutes) Moderator: Jonathan D. Albert, MD UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh <i>"Do I Accept This Donor?" Discussion on Calls About Infectious Risks in Prospective Solid Organ Donors</i> Marian G. Michaels, MD, MPH UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Q & A (15 minutes)
9:45 – 10:15 AM	BREAK
10:15 – 10:45 AM	Updates from the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Transplant (PIDTRAN) Gabriela Maron, MD, MSc Director, IDS-BMTCT Department of Infectious Diseases St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

<p>10:45 – 11:15 AM</p>	<p>Oral Abstracts Session 2 Moderator: Surabhi (Sara) Vora, MD, MPH Seattle Children's Hospital</p> <p>Abstract Presentation 4: Transplant (10 minutes) <i>Outcomes of Blood Culture Best Practice Implementation in Immunocompromised Children: A Multi-Center Study</i> Zeinab Houmani, MD Children's Hospital at Montefiore</p> <p>Abstract Presentation 5: General Research (10 minutes) <i>Frequency of Asymptomatic Bordetella pertussis Colonization in Healthy Children and Adolescents</i> Dakota Musgrave Vanderbilt University Medical Center</p> <p>Abstract Presentation 6: Global Health (10 minutes) <i>Outbreak of Ralstonia spp. Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections in Pediatric Intensive Care Units, Peru 2025</i> Luzgarda Medalit Luna Vilchez, MD, MSc Instituto Nacional de Salud del Niño San Borja</p>
<p>11:15 AM – 1:00 PM</p>	<p>LUNCH</p>
<p>11:45 AM – 12:45 PM Auditorium</p>	<p>TID Jeopardy</p>
<p>1:00 – 1:45 PM</p>	<p>Challenging Cases Moderator: Victoria Statler, MD Norton Children's and the University of Louisville School of Medicine</p> <p><i>Chronic Cough Conundrum (15 minutes)</i> Kerry Iles, MD Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center</p> <p><i>The Month-long Bellyache that Wasn't What it Seemed (15 minutes)</i> Madison Murphy Western Michigan University Homer Stryker School of Medicine</p>

	<p><i>Osteoarticular Infection in an Immunocompromised 12-Year-Old Patient (15 minutes)</i> David Rongo Tower Health/St. Christopher's Hospital for Children</p>
1:45 – 2:15 PM	<p>Pediatric Transplant/Immunocompromised Hosts Platform 2 (30 minutes) Moderator: Monica I. Ardura, DO, MSCS, FPIDS Nationwide Children's Hospital</p> <p><i>PTLD in Children</i> Kaitlin J. Devine, MD, MS Children's Hospital of Philadelphia</p>
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM	<p>Interactive Panel Discussion – Vaccines in Special Immunocompromised Populations</p> <p><i>Vaccines After CAR-T: What, When and How</i> Joshua A. Hill, MD, FIDSA Fred Hutch Cancer Center</p> <p><i>Immunizations in Special Populations</i> Alexandra Freeman, MD National Institutes of Health</p>
3:15 – 3:30PM	Q & A with Platform and Interactive Debate Speakers
3:30 – 3:45 PM	BREAK – POSTER SET UP
3:45 – 4:45 PM Board Room	<p>Poster Session 2* Transplant/ICH Abstracts and Cases *Poster Sessions are non-accredited.</p>
6:00 – 10:00 PM The Peabody Skyway	25th Anniversary Celebration

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

8:00 – 8:15 AM
Auditorium

Welcome and Announcements

Debra Palazzi, MD, MEd, FPIDS

President, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society

Octavio Ramilo, MD

Chair, Department of Infectious Diseases

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

8:15 – 9:00 AM

Frontiers in Pediatric Infectious Diseases Lecture 3 (30 minutes)

Moderator: Matthew Kelly, MD, MPH

Arkansas Children's Hospital

Early Life Microbiome and Immune Development/Infection Risk

Michael Silverman, MD, PhD

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Q & A with Frontier Speaker (15 minutes)

9:00 – 10:30 AM

State of the Art – CNS

Moderator - Miguela Caniza, MD, MPH

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

From Outbreak to Answers: Zika CNS Pathogenesis (25 minutes)

Emma Mohr, MD, PhD

University of Wisconsin – Madison

Advances in Sequencing-based Infectious Disease Diagnostics in Children and Immunocompromised Hosts (25 minutes)

Charles Chiu, MD, PhD

University of California, San Francisco

Closing the Gap: Improving Outcomes in Paediatric TB Meningitis (25 minutes)

Julie Huynh, MD

Oxford University Clinical Research Unit

	Q & A with State of the Art Speakers (15 minutes)
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Oral Abstracts Session 3 Abstract Presentation 7: Top Abstract - RESEARCH Moderator: Gwenn Skar, MD, PhD University of Nebraska Medical Center & Children's Nebraska <i>Defining Mechanisms of Neurodevelopmental Injury in Congenital Zika Virus Infection</i> Dhyana Magesh University of Washington
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	BREAK/LUNCH
12:00 – 1:00 PM	2026 John H. Erskine Lecture in Infectious Diseases Moderator: Octavio Ramilo, MD St. Jude Children's Research Hospital <i>Nucleoside Modified mRNA-LNP Therapeutics</i> Drew Weissman, MD, PhD University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
1:00 PM	Closing Remarks and Adjournment
1:15 – 1:45 PM	Global Pediatric Medicine ClinResTRN Graduation