

MAD-ID Newsletter

Volume 11: Issue 2

MAD-ID
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES®

MAD-ID 2022: Watching and Waiting

The MAD-ID Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 18-21 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Orlando Florida.



Stay tuned for news on the agenda as it relates to planned workshops and symposia.

MAD-ID continues to monitor the COVID pandemic, including national and local health department requirements, and will continue to update you on further planning for our in person meeting in 2022. Any changes will be shared via email, website, and our social media accounts.

Want to see the MAD-ID meeting back in person? The most important thing you can do is keep encouraging your friends and family to be vaccinated and follow public health safety guidelines!

Follow MAD-ID and share your news

https://twitter.com/MAD_ID_ASP

<https://www.facebook.com/madidasp/>

Thank you to John and Jean!



This year, John Bosso, President, and Jean Nappi, CE Director, retired from their leadership roles in MAD-ID. John was a founder of MAD-ID, and along with partners Mike Rybak and Joe Paladino, helped the conference become the premier resource for antimicrobial stewardship and ID pharmacotherapy continuing education, later bringing in Debbie Goff, Susan Davis, and Kerry LaPlante to the board. John will continue to serve as a member of the MAD-ID Scientific Committee. Jean Nappi's direction of continuing education was essential in improving expanding MAD-ID's educational



offerings and cementing our reputation for trustworthy, informative, and innovative programs. Both Dr. Bosso and Dr. Nappi were awarded emeritus status at the Medical University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy.

From everyone at MAD-ID, we wish John and Jean the very best and welcome their continued support.

MAD-ID Welcomes New Faces Executive Director and Continuing Education Director, Ali Hendren

MAD-ID is excited to announce that Alexander "Ali" Hendren will take over the roles of Executive Director and Continuing Education Director. Ali comes to MAD-ID from Harvard University where he managed the T.H. Chan School of Public Health's Doctor of Public Health Program and, most recently, serves as Accreditation Coordinator at Harvard Medical School's Office of External Education, where he manages a portfolio of 100+ accredited activities annually. The Board of Directors and Scientific Committee are eager to get him involved in planning the 2022 Annual Conference and strengthening our virtual and online continuing education offerings.



Ali studied Biology at Amherst College in Massachusetts and received a Master of Science in Environmental Science and Policy from George Mason University in Virginia. He currently lives in central Vermont with his wife, Megan, and 14-month-old son, Samuel, where they have spent the summer going for walks, playing in the lake and meeting all of the neighborhood dogs.

Board Member-at-Large; Dr. David Ha



The MAD-ID Board and Scientific Committee are very excited to welcome Dr. David Ha, new Board Member-at-Large for MAD-ID. David has been a speaker and attendee at MAD-ID meeting and is now bringing his expertise to the leadership team.

Bio: David Ha, PharmD, BCIDP is an infectious diseases and antimicrobial stewardship pharmacist and manager of antimicrobial stewardship at Stanford Health Care in Palo Alto, California. He has a clinical practice and research background in antimicrobial stewardship in both community and academic health system as well as the public health setting. He is excited to join the board of MAD-ID and to further the goal of the organization to empower front line clinicians to make a difference in infectious diseases.

Follow Dr. Ha on Twitter at @DHPharmD

Upcoming Webinar on *C. difficile* infection

Register today for a live virtual symposium in collaboration with the Academy for Continued Healthcare Learning featuring speakers Paul Feuerstadt, MD and Kevin Garey, PharmD, MS.

To Register Visit: <https://www.achlcme.org/antimicrobial-selection-cdiff-infection-mad-id>

Considerations
for Antimicrobial
Selection in

**Clostridioides
difficile** Infection

Pharmacists Perspective on Updated Guidelines

Register Today ←

Live Virtual Symposium
October 11, 2021
11:30 am - 12:30 pm CT

**Are you prepared to treat the
urgent threat of *C. difficile*?**

Join us to find out as the faculty discuss a patient case
highlighting the risks of recurrence and selection of therapy.

This program is developed by The Academy for Continued Healthcare Learning in collaboration with MAD-ID.
This activity is supported through an Independent Medical Education grant from Merck & Co., Inc..

COVID-19 brings a new stewardship conundrum with ivermectin

Antimicrobial stewardship programs around the country were facing a question that many didn't think would ever come up... do we need criteria for ivermectin prescribing in our hospitals and clinics? Questions have been raised about some of the early data which led to the retraction of a widely circulated meta-analysis.

<https://academic.oup.com/ofid/article/8/8/ofab394/6346765> Reports of adverse reactions and veterinary sales have prompted alerts from the FDA and other agencies warning consumers against the use of veterinary formulations of the drug. <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/why-you-should-not-use-ivermectin-treat-or-prevent-covid-19>

The story of ivermectin use in COVID-19 has a lot of twists, and some clinical trials are still on going. On September 1st, a group of pharmacy and medical organizations published a statement calling for an end to prescribing of ivermectin for COVID-19 outside of clinical trials. Read the full statement here: <https://www.ashp.org/news/2021/09/01/ama-apha-ashp-call-for-end-to-ivermectin-to-prevent-or-treat-covid-19> Be sure to get fully informed about ivermectin effectiveness, safety, and controversies to help your stewardship team use this medication wisely.

Don't Forget to Visit the MAD-ID Website for Vancomycin AUC Dosing Resources

Find all of the tools you need including guidelines, literature, calculators, implementation resources, and the opportunity to contact an expert, for FREE.

<https://mad-id.org/vancomycin/>

Notes from Susan... Susan Davis has taken a temporary leave from MAD-ID's board while serving as the president of SIDP, but she is excited to keep in touch with MAD-ID and share a few thoughts.

US Regulation and Legislation Update

Not every MAD-ID reader is a pharmacist, but for those who are, I hope you are as excited as I was to see the update of the PREP Act on September 9th. The expansion of this legislation paves the way for licensed pharmacists or their designees to order and administer selected COVID-19 therapeutics. Pharmacists are well prepared to deliver treatment and preventative therapies to patients across the United States. Be sure to review the amendment here:

<https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/PREPact-NinethAmendment.aspx>

2021 has been a big year for infectious diseases policy, and not just for COVID. This summer The Joint Commission posted proposed revisions to the Antimicrobial Stewardship Standard. These changes include requiring hospitals to demonstrate that stewardship is an organizational priority with dedicated staffing, funding, and technology resources and would recommend that stewardship reports quality data directly to hospital leadership. The proposed changes are not final and will undergo revision before they are in effect. MAD-ID will be sure to keep our community updated with key features of the new standard, and we all look forward to talking about different approaches for implementing these enhancements.

What are your favorite books about infectious diseases?

For some of you who have gotten to know me through our conferences, you may have heard me say that I love to read. It helps me focus, relax, learn, and reflect. I read a lot of fiction, but 2020-21 has been a good time to dive into new books in infectious diseases, as well as some classics. Looking for a good read? Here are a few of my recommendations both old and new.

1. **The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance, by Laurie Garrett.** – Published in 1995, this is the book that got me hooked on infectious diseases and thinking about healthcare careers like pharmacy. (My copy has my margin notes from my high school senior thesis on AMR!) The concepts throughout are still relevant today, and the storytelling is as compelling as you would expect from this Pulitzer, Polk, and Peabody winning journalist.
2. **I Contain Multitudes: The microbes within us and a grander view of life, by Ed Yong.** I first came across Ed Yong's writing when this 2016 book was published describing some of the then-emerging science of the microbiome. This is a beautifully written piece of science!
3. **Preventing the Next Pandemic: Vaccine Diplomacy in a Time of Anti-Science, by Peter Hotez.** You may have heard of Peter Hotez's earlier books on neglected diseases or vaccine science and advocacy or seen him on the news. I just finished his most recent work and found it a helpful and concise summary of a lot of the thoughts swirling in my own mind, and I appreciate his call to action for science-based public health policy and communication.
4. **The Plague Cycle: The unending war between humanity and infectious disease, by Charles Kenny.** For lovers of history, this 2021 publication is a well written description of the interplay between science, economy, policy, disease, and health through the years.
5. **Beating Back the Devil, by Maryn McKenna.** I'm a big fan of Maryn McKenna's writing, and this 2008 book tells the story of some of the unsung heroes of public health, the Epidemic Intelligence Service. It's fun stuff!

Have a good read in ID? Tag us on social media with your recommendations and share it with other MAD-ID friends.

OUR MISSION. The mission/purpose of the Foundation is to provide education, in the form of traditional continuing education, skills training, and other pertinent life-long learning methods, to pharmacists and other healthcare professionals concerning pharmacotherapy as it pertains to the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases and to do all things necessary or convenient to further these goals, with a special emphasis on antimicrobial stewardship.

MEMBERSHIP. Membership in MAD-ID is available to all healthcare providers, including students and post-graduate trainees, interested and/or practicing in the area of infectious diseases. For more information, visit our webpage (www.mad-id.org).

MAD-ID is incorporated as a non-profit entity [501(c)(3)] in the state of South Carolina. MAD-ID provides continuing professional education in the general area of infectious diseases pharmacotherapy and the specific area of antimicrobial stewardship. Educational initiatives and content are determined by a Scientific Committee composed of infectious diseases experts from clinical pharmacy and medicine and are based upon ongoing needs assessments. The main venue for our programming is an annual meeting, which takes place in May of each year. Other MAD-ID initiatives have included regional programs related to specific topics and our Antimicrobial Stewardship Training Programs.

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