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Message from the President

As many of us are finally coming out of a rather harsh winter season, I wish all our readers a warm and sunny Spring.

Earlier this month, NFID honored two outstanding leaders in infectious diseases at its annual Awards Dinner. Despite the cold outside, the gala was very warm in spirit and enjoyed by all. [David A. Walton, MD, MPH](#) received the 2014 Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter Humanitarian Award. He has devoted his life to improving the health and welfare of millions of people worldwide. From 2002-2008, he led a team of Haitian professionals in rebuilding a hospital in Haiti's underserved central plateau; he transformed a nearly defunct public clinic to a fully functioning center of healthcare. [Richard L. Guerrant, MD](#) received the 2014 Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement in recognition of his hallmark contributions to better understanding of the causes, long-term effects, and treatment of persistent or chronic diarrhea. Both Drs. Guerrant and Walton addressed

the crowd with very inspirational comments. To view photos of the evening, visit the private gallery at [2014 NFID Awards](#) and enter the password: NFID14010.

The annual NFID Awards Dinner has always been a highlight of the year for me personally, as we have the opportunity to meet and hear the very insightful comments of the honorees. With this in mind, I encourage readers to consider [submitting nominations for the 2015 awards](#) before the **May 1, 2014** deadline.

In addition to the Awards Dinner which was another successful fundraiser for NFID this year, there is still an opportunity to contribute to NFID throughout the year at www.nfid.org/donate. Your generous support enhances NFID's ability to carry out our mission of educating the public and healthcare professionals about the causes, treatment, and prevention of infectious diseases.

In closing, I'd like to call your attention to the upcoming 17th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research on April 28-30, in Bethesda, MD. I hope to see many of you there. Additionally, I'm pleased to announce the NFID partnership with MAD-ID, whereby NFID will offer CME credits to attendees at the "Making a Difference in Infectious Diseases" annual conference on May 29-31 in Orlando, FL.

Until next issue, I wish our readers good health and as always, I encourage you to share the Double Helix with others who may be interested.

Best regards,

Tom

Thomas M. File, Jr., MD
NFID President



NFID News

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[Recognizing Promising Scientists in the Early Stages of Their Career](#)

The Maurice R. Hilleman Early-Stage Career Investigator Award is awarded by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) every year to a “promising scientist in the early stages of their careers in any field of vaccinology... [Read More](#)



[The Oscars of Infectious Diseases](#)

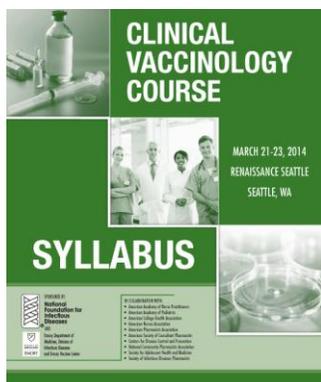
The stars came out to celebrate at the “Oscars of Infectious Diseases” and to honor two outstanding leaders in the field at the 2014 NFID Awards Dinner. David Walton, MD, MPH was awarded the 2014 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award and Richard L. Guerrant, MD received the 2014 Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement. [Read more](#)



[ACIP Updates and Reasons to Dismiss Conspiracy Theories](#)

While the majority of people support immunizations and recognize their value in reducing the incidence of disease around the world, there are a handful of people who cling to the preposterous idea that some big vaccine conspiracy exists that will lead the “sheeple” to their doom. [Read more](#)

2014 NFID Clinical Vaccinology Courses



Limited copies of the 2014 Spring Clinical Vaccinology Course syllabus books are now available for [purchase](#).

The syllabus (130 pages) contains extended abstracts and references on pediatric, adolescent, and adult vaccine-preventable disease topics, as well as speaker biographies. Purchase price is \$45/copy including shipping and handling.

The 2014 Fall Clinical Vaccinology Course is scheduled for **November 7-9, 2014** in Houston, TX. Visit www.nfid.org/cvc for additional information.

NFID Signs Letters of Support

NFID signed on to a February 3, 2014 letter from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to healthcare providers, encouraging them to strongly recommend vaccination for pregnant women against influenza. [View the letter](#).

NFID was also among 30 medical, healthcare, public health, and patient organizations that signed on to a February 26, 2014 letter to US Representatives Phil Gingrey, MD and Gene Green thanking them for their introduction of the Antibiotic Development to Advance Patient Treatment (ADAPT) Act. If enacted, the ADAPT Act would amend the law to create a pathway for prompt FDA approval of antibacterial and antifungal drugs intended to treat serious or life-threatening diseases or conditions. [View the letter](#).

Register now for the 17th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research

It's not too late to register and attend the [17th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research](#) on April 28-30, 2014 in Bethesda, MD. The conference provides high-quality, current reports of scientific progress and best practices, and brings together the diverse disciplines involved in the research and development of vaccines and associated technologies for disease control through immunization.



Take advantage of this exciting opportunity to discuss recent scientific advances contributing to the progress of vaccine development and identify research opportunities and scientific challenges associated with vaccine development, production, and distribution.

A limited number of hotel rooms are still available at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. The room block closes on **April 4, 2014**.

[View the agenda and register today.](#)

New NFID Outreach Programs

Family Vaccines Initiative

The Family Vaccines Initiative, developed and implemented by NFID in partnership with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), focuses on educating pregnant women and women planning to become pregnant about the benefit of vaccines and improving vaccination rates.



The outcomes of a virtual roundtable hosted by NFID are captured in a Call to Action entitled “*Improving Vaccination Rates in Pregnant Women: Timely intervention – lasting benefits.*” Delivering vaccine information at the time of pregnancy and the post-partum period may help ease the transition from obstetrical to pediatric care and the acceptance of essential vaccines that follow. Instilling these positive messages also can help establish new mothers/parents as long-term vaccine advocates across the entire family from infancy, to childhood and adolescence, and into adulthood.

The Call to Action will be featured on the new online Family Vaccines Resource Center scheduled to launch in late April 2014. The resource center will provide both consumers and healthcare providers with easy to find, available resources most relevant to their needs.

Promoting HPV Vaccine through Partnerships

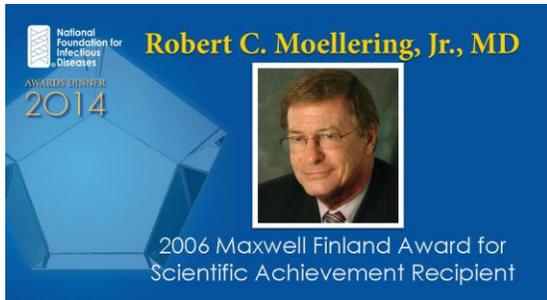
NFID, in partnership with the Council on State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), is developing resources to educate and train healthcare professionals (HCPs) about HPV vaccination and improve HPV vaccination rates. The initiative is supported by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and will kickoff with a virtual roundtable in early May. Based on roundtable discussions, a Call to Action will be developed to highlight the importance of HPV vaccination, the need for increased education, and provide an overview of strategies/solutions to increase vaccination rates. An online HPV Resource Center will be created to provide users with easy to find, available resources, including hosted webinars to train HCPs and epidemiologists to promote HPV vaccination.

NFID to Offer CME at 2014 MAD-ID Annual Meeting

The 17th Annual MAD-ID Meeting will be held at the Buena Vista Hotel in Orlando, FL on May 29-31, 2014. NFID will serve as the accredited provider of Continuing Medical Education (CME) for the 3-day conference program. Pharmacists, physicians, and other healthcare providers will participate in the educational symposium specifically designed to apply recent research to patient care and antimicrobial stewardship while earning up to 16.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™].

For more information, visit <http://mad-id.org/2014-mad-id-annual-meeting/>.

Infectious Disease Community Mourns the Loss of Robert C. Moellering, Jr., MD



NFID mourns the loss of Robert C. Moellering, Jr., MD. Dr. Moellering was a leader in the field of infectious diseases and we are all saddened by this tremendous loss.

He was Physician-in-Chief and

Chair of the Department of Medicine at the New England Deaconess Hospital (later Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center) and the Shields Warren-Mallinckrodt Professor of Medical Research at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Moellering was a true Scientist-Teacher. He was involved in both laboratory and clinical research and his contributions to our field have greatly enhanced patient care. Dr. Moellering was highly respected by his students and trainees. He received many honors including the 2006 NFID Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement, the ASM Hoechst-Roussel Award, the IDSA Maxwell Finland Award, and the 2008 Alexander Fleming Award for Lifetime Achievement from IDSA.

Shop and Support NFID



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[Visit the online store today.](#)

NFID is now a proud partner of Amazon. When you [shop at Amazon using the dedicated NFID link](#), Amazon will donate a percentage of each sale to NFID. Support us every time you shop!



Upcoming NFID Events

April 28-30, 2014: [17th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research](#), Bethesda, MD

May 29-31, 2014: [MAD-ID Annual Meeting](#), Orlando, FL

September 9, 2014: [Flu Awareness Night at Washington Nationals](#), Washington, DC

November 7-9, 2014: [Clinical Vaccinology Course](#), Houston, TX

April 13-15, 2015: [18th Annual Conference on Vaccine Research](#), Bethesda, MD

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