The Young Investigator Award is presented to outstanding young researchers during the Annual Meeting. This award encourages developing young scientists to pursue careers in various aspects of tropical disease research. Support these young scientists by attending their presentations during this session.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presentation Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author Block</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Judge               |       | Peter Crompton  
NIH, Rockville, MD, United States |
| Judge               |       | Matthew B. Laurens  
Division of Malaria Research, Institute for Global Health, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, United States |
| Judge               |       | Naomi W. Lucchi  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, United States |
| Judge               |       | Fernanda A. Pereira  
Osvaldo Cruz Foundation, Salvador, Brazil |
| 3                   | The burden of skin disease and eye disease due to onchocerciasis in Africa for 2015 and 2025 | Natalie V. Vinkeles Melchers¹, Wilma A. Stolk², Jan H. Remme², Michele E. Murdoch³, Belén Pedrique⁴, Roel Bakker¹, Sake J. de Vlas¹, Luc E. Coffeng¹  
¹Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands, ²120 rue des Campanules, Ornex, France, ³Department of Dermatology, Watford General Hospital, Watford, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom, ⁴Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi), Geneva, Switzerland |
| 109                 | Education, Menstrual Hygiene, and Female Genital Mutilation: Gender Disparity among Maasai Youth in Rural Kenya | Kristen Zozulin¹, Josephine L. Ndarias², David R. Hill¹  
¹Frank H Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University, North Haven, CT, United States, ²Mukogodo Girls Empowerment Program, Nanyuki, Kenya |
| 289                 | Use of capillary blood leads to higher parasitemia estimates and higher diagnostic sensitivity of microscopic and molecular | Johannes Mischling  
¹, Paul Pitzinger², Luzia Veletzky³, Mirjam Groger¹, Rella Zoleko-Manego³, Ayola A. Adegnika³, Sedidi T. Agandji³, Bertrand Lell³, Peter G. Kremsner⁴, |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>321</td>
<td>Effect of the ABO blood group on susceptibility to severe malaria and related outcomes: a systematic review and meta-analysis</td>
<td>Abraham Degarege¹, Merhawi T. Gebrezgi¹, Gladys Ibanez¹, Mats Wahlgren², Purnima Madhivanan¹</td>
<td>¹Department of Epidemiology, Robert Stempel College of Public Health &amp; Social Work, Miami, FL, United States, ²Department of Microbiology, Tumor and Cell Biology (MTC), Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403</td>
<td>Impact of mass treatment with dihydroartemisinin piperazine on malaria transmission dynamics in The Gambia: a prospective study</td>
<td>Julia Mwesigwa¹, Jane Achan¹, Miriam Wathou¹, Nuredin Ibrahim Mohammed¹, Musa Jawara¹, Aurelia Prom¹, Fatoumatta Kanuteh¹, Jean-Pierre Geertruyden², Umberto D’Alessandro¹</td>
<td>¹Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia at LSHTM, Banjul, Gambia, ²University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>490</td>
<td>U.S. travelers’ concern about Zika infection and willingness to receive a hypothetical Zika vaccine</td>
<td>Nadja A. Vielot¹, Lola Stamm², James Herrington³, Linda Squires⁴, Bridget Kelly⁴, Lauren McCormack⁴, Sylvia Becker-Dreps¹</td>
<td>¹Department of Family Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, United States, ²Department of Epidemiology, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC, United States, ³Department of Health Behavior, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC, United States, ⁴RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC, United States</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 504  | Micronutrient Levels in a Pediatric Ugandan Cohort with Sickle Cell Anemia | Thomas F. Siegert\(^1\), Sarah E. Cusick\(^2\), Russell E. Ware\(^3\), Robert O. Opoka\(^4\), Chandy C. John\(^5\)  
\(^1\)University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA, United States, \(^2\)Department of Pediatrics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, United States, \(^3\)Division of Hematology, Department of Pediatrics, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH, United States, \(^4\)Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, \(^5\)Ryan White Center for Infectious Diseases and Global Health, Department of Pediatrics, Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN, United States |
| 509  | Pitfalls of predicting leptospirosis by common clinical and biochemical markers | Janith Warnasekara\(^1\), Dinesha Jayasundara\(^2\), Indika Senaviratna\(^3\), Sisira Siribaddana\(^4\), Kularathna Sam\(^5\), Joseph Vinetz\(^6\), Suneth Agampodi\(^1\)  
\(^1\)Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka, \(^2\)Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka, \(^3\)Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka, \(^4\)Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka, \(^5\)Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka, \(^6\)Division of Infectious diseases, School of Medicine, University of California, San Diego, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka |
| 527  | Lymphangiogenic potential of Withania somnifera, a novel therapeutic agent targets host-parasite interaction in filarial induced secondary lymphedema | Anand Setty Balakrishnan  
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, India |
<p>| 617  | The role of high risk groups in maintaining Schistosoma | Christina L. Faust(^1), Arinaitwe Moses(^2), Andrina Nankasi(^2), Fred Besigye(^2), Atuhire Alon(^2), Moses |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>642</td>
<td>Evaluation of the CareStart™ Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) Rapid Diagnostic test at Community and Health Center level in Cambodia</td>
<td>Bertha Wojnarski¹, Lon Chanthap¹, Darapiseth Sea¹, Threechada Boonchan¹, Sabaithip Sriwichai¹, Soklyda Chann², Sohei Hom², Worchet Kuntawunginn¹, Philip Smith¹, Michele Spring¹, Mitra Feldman¹, Sokna Ly², Nichapat Uthaimongkol¹, Panita Gosi¹, Mali Ittiverakul¹, Nillawan Buathong¹, Somethy Sok³, Samon Nou², Pheaktra Oung², Nareth Kong², Vannak Pheap², Khengheang Thay², Vy Dao², Huy Rekol⁴, Lek Dysoley⁴, Mariusz Wojnarski¹, Mark Fakuda¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>680</td>
<td>Safety and Immunogenicity of AGS-v, a Mosquito Saliva Peptide Vaccine: a Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Phase 1 Trial</td>
<td>Jessica E. Manning¹, Fabiano Oliveira¹, Illiano V. Coutinho-Abreu³, Samantha Herbert¹, Claudio Meneses¹, Shaden Kamhawi¹, Holly Ann Baus¹, Alison Han¹, Lindsay Czajkowski¹, Luz Angela Rosas¹, Adriana Cervantes-Medina¹, Rani Athota¹, Susan Reed¹, Ana Fernandez², Olga Pleguezuelos², Gregory Stoloff², Jesus G. Valenzuela¹, Matthew J. Memoli¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>783</td>
<td>Defining Diarrhea: A Population-Based Validation Study of Caregiver-Reported Stool Consistency in the Amhara Region of Ethiopia</td>
<td>Kristen Aiemjoy¹, Solomon Aragie², Sintayehu Gebresillasie², Dionna Fry¹, Adane Dagnaw², Dagnachew Hailu², Meslew Chanyalew³, Zerihun Tadesse², Aisha Stewart⁴, Kelly Callahan⁴, Mathew Freeman⁵, John Neuhaus¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1089</td>
<td>Safety and feasibility of apheresis to harvest and concentrate parasites in subjects with induced blood stage <em>Plasmodium vivax</em> infection</td>
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<td><strong>Anand Odedra</strong>¹, Rebecca Pawliw³, Rebecca Watts¹, Kari Mudie², Glen Kennedy², David Lalloo³, James McCarthy¹</td>
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<td>¹QIMR Berghofer, Brisbane, Australia, ²Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, Brisbane, Australia, ³Liverpool School Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, United Kingdom</td>
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