# CURRICULUM VITAE

**Name**  Mary T. Bessesen, M.D.

(Maiden name: Mary T. Scheier)

**Current Position**  Chief, Infectious Diseases

Department of Veterans Affairs-Eastern Colorado Healthcare System

**Business Address** Infectious Disease (111L)

VA-ECHCS

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**e-mail Address**  Mary.Bessesen@ucdenver.edu

**Education**

1974-1978 University of Kansas School of Pharmacy

1978-1982 M.D. University of Kansas School of Medicine

**Postdoctoral training**

1982-1983 Intern in Medicine, University of Colorado

1983-1985 Resident in Medicine, University of Colorado

1987-1990 Fellow in Infectious Diseases, University of Colorado

**Academic Appointments**

1985-6 Clinical Instructor in Medicine, University of Colorado

1986-7 Clinical Instructor in Medicine, University of Kansas

1988-1992 Clinical Instructor in Medicine, University of Colorado

1993-2000 Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

2000-2017 Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado at Denver

2017-present Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado at Denver

**Hospital Appointments**

1985-6 DVAMC-Denver, staff physician

1986-7 DVAMC-Leavenworth, staff physician

1987-90 DVAMC-Denver, staff physician

1988-2010 University of Colorado Hospital, Denver

1990-93 Denver General Hospital, staff physician

1993-present VA-ECHCS, staff physician

**Awards and Honors**

1977 Phi Kappa Phi

1977 Rho Chi

1982 Alpha Omega Alpha

1. AMWA Citation for Scholastic Achievement

2002 Outstanding Clinical Teacher Award

2004 Fellow of the American College of Physicians

**Professional Societies**

1987-2010 American College of Physicians, elected fellow in 2004

1989-present American Society for Microbiology

1993-present Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America

Service: SHEA Representative to Health and Human Services Healthcare Associated Infections Stakeholder Meeting, Denver, Colorado, July 18, 2009

SHEA Publications Committee 2016-present

1998-present Infectious Disease Society of America

Service: Councilor 2014-2015, Treasurer 2015-2016, President 2016-present

2004-present VA Society for Practitioners of Infectious Diseases

Service: Secretary 2008-2010, Vice-President 2010-2012, President 2012-2014, Past-President 2014-2016

**Major Committee and Service Responsibilities**

**Hospital**

1993-2014 Hospital epidemiologist, VA-ECHSC

2015-present Hospital epidemiologist, VA-ECHCS

*Supervision of the Infection Control program of the hospital, respond to any major concerns and outbreaks, e.g. aspergillosis, line sepsis, multidrug resistant organisms*

* 1. Acting Chief, Infectious Disease section, VA-ECHCS

1999-present Chief, Infectious Disease section, VA-ECHCS

*I grew the section from one physician (myself) to seven physicians, all of whom have active, externally funded2 research programs.*

1993-present HIV program director, VA-ECHCS

*As director of the HIV program at VA-ECHCS, I designed and implemented a screening program for HIV infection that was subsequently adopted by most VA hospitals and clinics nationally, and improved testing uptake. Quality of care measures are significantly better than national averages, in quality reviews that were independently conducted.*

1993-2014 Chair, Infection Control Committee

2015-present Hospital Epidemiologist and Chair, Infection Control Committee

*In this role I oversee all aspects of programs to prevent healthcare associated infections. I led the facility efforts to prevent and manage COVID-19, serving as consultant to the Incident Command Team.*

1993-2012 Member, Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

2015-present Member, Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

*I designed and implemented an antimicrobial stewardship program, and secured funding for an ID pharmacist. Stewardship quality indicators drawn from independently analyzed data in the National Health Safety Network system are consistently better than national averages for comparable hospitals.*

1996-present Member, Medicine Service Quality Assurance Committee

1997-2000 Assistant Chief, Medicine Service

2001-present Clinical Liaison to Microbiology Laboratory

*I assist the laboratory in selection of appropriate tests, quality reviews, and resolution of issues with clinical services.*

2006-2010 Physician Compensation Panel, ECHCS

2012-2017 Member, Clinical Executive Board

**Department**

1996-2018 Member, Intern Selection Committee

2006-2007 Search Committee, VA Chief of Medicine, co-chair

1993-2014 Site director, Infectious Diseases fellowship

*I directed the education of fellows rotating to VA-ECHCS, including a weekly educational conference on HIV management, and weekly Microbiology rounds. I successfully competed nationally for funding of a second fellow position.*

2017-present Faculty Promotions Committee

2018-2020 Gastroenterology division head search committee, member

**Regional**

2013-2015 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter, councilor

2015-2016 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter, secretary-treasurer

2016-2017 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter, president

2017-2018 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter, past-president

2012 Colorado Viral Hepatitis Advisory Committee

2020—present VISN Lead, Infectious Diseases

*In this role I support the VISN Chief Medical Officer on Infectious Diseases issues, including COVID-19.*

**National**

2010-2012 Vice President, VA Society of Professors of Infectious Diseases (VASPID)

2012-2014 President, VA Society of Professors of Infectious Diseases

*I initiated and led a program to involve the VASPID membership in multicenter research efforts, culminating in a published project by the VICTORY investigator group on E. coli ST-131, and a randomized trial of therapies for osteomyelitis that was approved in June, 2016 by VA Cooperative Studies Group for funding.*

2014-2016 Past-president VASPID

2012-2014 VA Infectious Diseases Field Advisory Committee, member

2016-present VA Infectious Diseases Field Advisory Committee, member

2011-2014 National HIV/AIDS Strategy Workgroup

*I worked with representatives of all federal agencies to implement the goals of the National HIV/AIDS strategy. VA was a leader in the group, in reaching for the goal of testing all adults 18-65 years old, regardless of risk factors.*

2013-2014 Veterans Health Administration Legionella Expert Work Group

*I helped develop national guidelines for Legionella control in healthcare settings.*

2015-present Infectious Diseases Society of America Guideline Committee: Complicated Intra-abdominal Infections, member

*I review pertinent literature, and work with other committee members to develop consensus guidelines on antimicrobial therapy for complicated intra-abdominal infections*

2016-present Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America Publications Committee

*I assist with oversight of SHEA publications, including ICHE, Society white papers, guidelines, and textbooks*

2020 VHA R & D Study Section, ORD Special Emphasis Panel (SEP), Office of Research & Development BLRD COVID19 Special Emphasis Review Panel 07/23/2020 - 07/24/2020

August 2020-present VHA Office of Research and Development COVID-19 Steering Committee

**Licensure and Board Certification**

1983 National Board of Medical Examiners, Diploma

1984 Colorado License Registration

1985 American Board of Internal Medicine, Certificate

1990 American Board of Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Certificate

2000 Recertified in Infectious Diseases, and voluntarily recertified in Internal Medicine (lifetime certification in 1985)

2010 Recertified in Infectious Diseases

**Professional Development**

2016 CCTSI Mentorship Training

2017 Department of Medicine Intentional Leadership Program

**Review and Referee Work**

Manuscript Reviewer:

American Journal of Infection Control

American Journal of Kidney Disease

Clinical Infectious Diseases

Journal of the American Medical Association

Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology

Science Advances

Annals of Epidemiology

Clinical Microbiology Reviews

Journal of Infection

Hospital Pharmacy

Microbiome

Journal of General Internal Medicine

BMC Infectious Diseases

Grant Reviewer:

K to R Transition Committee, UCDenver, 2016 Spring Round

Research Studio, UCDenver, pre-K Award review, Dec 8, 2017

**Conferences Organized**

2018 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter Annual Conference, March 16, 2018

2017 Bugs and Drugs, November 4, 2017, University of Colorado Anschutz campus

2017 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter Annual Conference, March 17, 2017

2016 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter Annual Conference, March 18, 2016

2015 Infectious Diseases Society of America-Colorado Chapter Annual Conference, March 18, 2015

2014 Bugs and Drugs, November 6, 2014, University of Colorado Anschutz campus

2001 HIV Care for Primary Care Providers, Sep 7, 2001, Denver Sheraton Hotel

1994-2015 HIV Therapeutics Conference-weekly conference for faculty, fellows, residents, students involved in care of HIV patients

**Visiting Professorships**

April 1-12, 2013 University of Zimbabwe

**Invited Lectures**

1. *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia in AIDS: Evaluation and Management, at Bugs and Drugs, December 12, 1992
2. Antibiotic Update: Implications for Adults, at the 1993 National Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Conference in Denver, Colorado, May 10, 1993
3. Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*: Challenges for long-term care providers, at the Geriatric Care Conference, VA-ECHCS, May 14, 1993
4. Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Infections, Medical Grand Rounds, UCHSC, September 8, 1993
5. Opportunistic Infections in AIDS, Practical Issues in Infectious Disease, Denver Hilton South, December 10, 1993
6. Update on HIV Disease-1996, Bugs and Drugs, Doubletree Inn, Aurora, December 8, 1995
7. Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*: Challenges for long-term care providers, at the Geriatric Grand Rounds, VA-ECHCS, February 1, 1996
8. The bugs don’t jump: Control measures for resistant organisms, at Hot Zones in Infection Control, November 7, 1996, Holiday Inn, DIA
9. HIV Update, Internal Medicine Review, July 14, 1996, Estes Park, Colorado
10. New Hopes in the treatment of HIV, Bugs and Drugs in the 90’s, Denver Marriott Tech Center, Dec 14, 1996
11. Infectious Disease Issues in Employee Health, Bugs and Drugs in the 90’s, Denver, Marriott Tech Center, Dec 12, 1997
12. HIV Update, Nurse Practitioner Symposium, July 12, 1997, Keystone, Colorado
13. Herpesvirus Infections, Estes Park Internal Medicine Conference, July 12, 1998
14. Recent Advances in the Treatment of Herpetic Infections, Second Annual Update on Infectious Diseases in Primary Care, The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, Colorado, September 12, 1998
15. Infectious Disease Issues in Employee Health, Association of Practitioners of Infection Control, Denver, Colorado, November 11, 1998
16. Practical Issues in Hepatitis, Bugs and Drugs in the 90’s, Denver Marriott Tech Center, Dec 11, 1998
17. Viral Hepatitis, Child Health Associates Program, UCHSC, March 31, 1999
18. Herpesvirus Infections: Obstetric Implications, Denver Health Medical Center, April 19, 1999
19. Hepatitis C: Update for Primary Caregivers, VA-ECHCS, June 22, 1999
20. Hepatitis C, National Organization of VA Nurses Conference, VA-ECHCS, February 29, 2000
21. Viral Hepatitis, Bugs and Drugs, Denver Marriott Tech Center, Dec 11, 1999
22. Viral Hepatitis: Treatment and Prevention, Fourth Annual Update on Infectious Diseases in Primary Care, Sep 16, 2000, Adams Mark Hotel, Colorado Springs
23. Infectious Diseases in Employee Health, Bugs and Drugs, Denver Marriott Tech Center, Dec 9, 2001
24. Viral Hepatitis Update, Bugs and Drugs, Denver Marriott Southeast, Dec 8, 2001
25. Viral Hepatitis Update, Bugs and Drugs, Denver Marriott Southeast, Dec 13, 2002
26. Clostridium difficile disease, Bugs and Drugs, Denver Marriott Southeast, Dec 12, 2003
27. Use of New Antibiotics in Outpatient Infections, Internal Medicine Program, YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, July 23, 2004
28. Febrile Neutropenia, Oncology Fellows lecture August 26, 2005
29. Tickborne Diseases, Medicine Residency Core Curriculum series, Oct 3&4, 2005
30. Standardization of Antimicrobial Therapy: Community Acquired Pneumonia Pathway, VISN 19 Pharmacy Conference**,** Four Points by Sheraton Denver Cherry Creek, Denver, Colorado, October 13, 2005
31. Infectious Disease Grand Rounds: Nosocomial Aspergillosis, November 3, 2005
32. Infectious Disease Fellow Lecture Series: Tick-borne Infections, December 7, 2005
33. MRSA-What goes around comes around, Internal Medicine Program, YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, July 17, 2007
34. Clostridium difficile Disease-Not Just a Nuisance Any More. Bugs and Drugs, Sheraton-Denver Tech Center, December 5, 2008
35. Clostridium difficile Disease, Montrose Community Hospital, March 6, 2009
36. Clostridium difficile Disease, Internal Medicine Program, YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, July 17, 2009
37. Preventing *Clostridium difficile* Infection, CDPHE/Colorado Hospital Association Conference for the Colorado Infection Prevention Collaborative, Doubletree Hotel, Denver, Colorado, March 25, 2010
38. MRSA: What Does a Hospitalist Need to Know? Family Medicine Update, Estes Park, Colorado, June 17, 2010
39. *Clostridium difficile* Disease, Family Medicine Update June 25, 2010
40. MRSA: What Does a Hospitalist Need to Know? Family Medicine Update, Aurora, Colorado, November 5, 2010
41. *Clostridium difficile* Disease, Family Medicine Update November 5, 2010
42. Bloodborne Pathogens and the Infected Healthcare Worker, Association of Professionals in Infection Control Citywide Conference, Denver, CO, March 18, 2011
43. MRSA-What Does the Obstetrician-Gynecologist Need to Know? Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Feb 13, 2012
44. It’s a Jungle in There: Bacterial Interference, Staph. aureus, and the Human Nares. Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds, UC-Denver School of Medicine, March 21, 2012
45. Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriaceae: MRSA Only Worser? Association of Practitioners of Infection Control Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado Sep 14, 2012
46. Bacterial Interference: Does the Nasal Microbiome Play a Role in Host Defense Against *Staph aureus*? Research and Innovation Conference, UC Denver School of Medicine, Nov 29, 2012
47. Stribild-The Quad Pill. HIV Therapeutics Conference, VA-ECHCS, Dec 4, 2012
48. Scary Bugs, New Drugs, and Making the Most of Old Antibiotics, Internal Medicine Conference, Estes Park, Colorado, July 19, 2013
49. Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS‐CoV): Epidemiology, Transmission, Diagnosis, Clinical Presentation, Management and Reporting. VHA National Teleconference, July 22 & 30, 2014
50. Antimicrobial Stewardship. Montrose Fall Clinics, Montrose, CO, Sep 26, 2014
51. Diabetic Foot Osteomyelitis. Montrose Fall Clinics, Montrose, CO, Sep 26, 2014
52. Skin and Soft Tissue infections. Bugs and Drugs, Denver, CO, Nov 8, 2014
53. Meet the Expert. Nosocomial Transmission of Respiratory Viruses: How to Protect our Healthcare Personnel, Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, San Diego, CA, Sep 21, 2015
54. Symposium: Crossing the Line of Antimicrobial Resistance. Tigecycline Resistance in Carbapenem Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. IDWeek, New Orleans, LA, October 26-30, 2016
55. Research Conference. Role of the Nasal Microbiome in Host Defense against *Staphylococcus aureus*, University of Utah Infectious Diseases Division, Salt Lake City, UT, Feb 6, 2017
56. Antimicrobial Stewardship: A Patient Centered Approach, Bugs and Drugs, November 4, 2017, Denver, CO
57. Medicine Grand Rounds. *Staphylococcus aureus* Bacteremia: From Colonization to Invasive Disease, February 7, 2018, UCDenver, Denver, CO
58. National Academy of Sciences Conference on Elastomeric Respirator Use in Healthcare. Disinfection in the Pandemic Setting, May 22, 2018, Washington, D.C.
59. The Role of Ceftazidime-Avibactam and Ceftolozane Tazobactam in the Contemporary Formulary, ID Week, San Francsico, CA, )ctober 6, 2018
60. Infections in Wound Care. 2019 Skin and Wound Seminar, November 15, 2019, Aurora, Colorado
61. COVID-19 Update, Quarterly Medical Staff Meeting Sep 11, 2020
62. COVID-19 Update, Quarterly Medical Staff Meeting Dec 4, 2020
63. Vaccine Distribution, Department of Medicine COVID-19 Town Hall, December 10, 2020
64. COVID-19 Vaccines, Forum presentation to VHA National Office of Research and Development staff, Feb 3, 2021
65. COVID-19 Vaccines, Specialty Advanced Practice Providers Conference, Feb 24, 2021
66. COVID-19 Variants and Vaccines, Forum presentation to VHA National Office of Research and Development staff, June 2, 2021
67. Vaccines I, Lecture to Vaccine Ambassador Training Session, VA-ECHCS, June 24, 2021
68. Vaccines II: COVID-19, Lecture to Vaccine Ambassador Training Session, VA-ECHCS, June 24, 2021

**Teaching**

**Lectures** Internal Medicine Housestaff Lecture Series

Infective Endocarditis

November 24, 2010

January 5, 2011

Internal Medicine Residency Lecture Series, St. Joseph’s Hospital

March 9, 2005

1. *Clostridium difficile* disease

March 9, 2005

1. Methicillin Resistant *Staph aureus*

May 23, 2007

Oncology Fellows Lecture Series

Febrile Neutropenia

July 23, 2010

July 15, 2011

Internal Medicine Board Review

June 23, 2008

March 15, 2009

Internal Medicine Journal Club Classics

June 19, 2008

Outpatient ID Conference

Alpha-Defensin Test for Diagnosis of Prosthetic Joint Infection

March 8, 2016

Outpatient ID Conference

Screening and Therapy for Latent Tuberculosis

July 19, 2016

Internal Medicine Case Conference-VA

Monthly conference focused on an ID case

Recalcitrant *Clostridium difficile* disease

August 1, 2016

Outpatient ID Conference

Mycobacterium chimaera

Dec 5, 2016

Outpatient ID Conference

Syphilis

May 2, 2017

Inpatient ID Conference

Streptococcus anginosus group

June 30, 2017

Outpatient ID Conference

Influenza Vaccine and Autoimmune Disorders

October 31, 2017

ID Fellows Conference

Osteomyelitis

January 23, 2018

Outpatient ID Conference

Idiopathic CD4 Lymphopenia

March 27, 2018

Outpatient ID Conference

Procalcitonin

May 30, 2018

Outpatient ID Conference

*Mycoplasma genitalium*

January 8, 2019

Outpatient ID Conference

Allergic Interstitial Nephritis

March 19, 2019

**Small Group Teaching**

IDPT 5000 Foundations of Doctoring 1 small group instructor 2003-2004

IDPT 6004 Infectious Diseases small group instructor 2006-present

**Microbiology Rounds**

Weekly conference for Infectious Diseases fellows, residents, students, focusing on clinical correlation with laboratory findings, and teaching the fundamentals of clinical microbiology to trainees.

**Attending Duties**

1. Internal Medicine Wards one to three months annually 1993-2015, occasional coverage since 2015. I supervise teams of one to three students, two interns and one resident in the care of inpatients on the acute medicine wards at the VA Hospital
2. Infectious Diseases Consult Service one month annually 1993-2008, supervising teams of one fellow one to three residents and one or two students in Infectious Diseases consultation work at University of Colorado Hospital and the VA Hospital
3. Infectious Diseases Consult service two or three months annually 2008-present supervising teams of one fellow, variable numbers of residents and students in Infectious Diseases consultation work at the VA Hospital
4. Infectious Diseases clinic. I supervise and teach two to three fellows and up to two residents in a clinic serving patients with HIV infection, chronic bacterial and fungal infections, and challenging acute infectious diseases. Six hours weekly.

**Key Administrative Positions in Education**

1993-2014Site director for the Infectious Diseases fellowship training program at the VA. *In this role I secured funding for a second fellow, for a year of training focused on scholarly activities. I designed and conducted an HIV Management Conference in response to fellows’ need for specific training in antiretroviral therapy. I conduct weekly Clinical Microbiology Rounds to provide training to medical students, residents and fellows.*

**Training Program Development**

2010-2013 I developed and implemented an annual simulator training program for all new medical interns in central venous catheter insertion, funded by a grant from the VA National Center for Patient Safety.

**Trainees**

1998-2000 Post-doctoral fellow, Marianne McCollum, project: Cost-effectiveness of antiretroviral therapy. *Dr. McCollum is Assistant Dean for Assessment and Academic Affairs at Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions at Regis University*

2007-2008 Post-doctoral (MD) fellow, Rohini Sharma, project: Epidemiology of health care-associated bloodstream infection caused by *Staphylococcus aureus*. *Dr. Sharma is in private practice.*

2008-2009 Post-doctoral (MD) fellow, Eric Kajioka: Epidemiology of Healthcare-Associated *Clostridium difficile* disease. *Dr. Kajoika is in private practice.*

2013-2014 Post-doctoral fellow, Natalie Marzec, project: Epidemiology of MRSA Transmission in Hospital Inpatients. *Dr. Marzec went on to a Preventive Medicine fellowship, and is now employed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment as the Zika Pregnancy Registry and Prion Study coordinator.*

2014-2015 Post-doctoral fellow, Misha Huang, Project: Impact of mupirocin therapy of ICU patients on the nasal microbiome. *Dr. Huang is continuing her training as a Health Services research fellow.*

2019-present Lauren Heely, medical student with Infectious Diseases focus

**Faculty Mentees**

2017-present Lindsay Nicholson, MD

*Dr. Nicholson is a staff physician and site Principal Investigator for two VA cooperative trials*

2014-2016 Westyn Branch-Elliman, Associate Hospital Epidemiologist, VA-ECHCS

*Dr. Branch-Elliman has taken a position at the Boston VA and in the Harvard program, and was awarded a VA Career Development Award in VISN 1.*

2009-2013 Bruce McCollister

*Dr. McCollister is now the associate Chief of Medical Microbiology at University of Colorado Hospital*

**Teaching Awards**

2021 Golden Stethoscope Award for Demonstrating Leadership

*Awarded by Foundations in Doctoring Curriculum*

*Nominated by Lauren Heery*

**Pending Research Support**

**Ongoing Research Support**

Investigation of Rifampin to Reduce Pedal Amputations for Osteomyelitis in Diabetics (CSP 2001, VA-INTREPID)

Funding source: Veterans Affairs Cooperative Trials Program

October 1, 2016-September 30, 2022

Total direct costs: $17,062,367

Role: Principal Investigator

Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial (ACTT)

Funding Source: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Total direct costs: $40,000 per completed subject

May 1, 2020-April 30, 2021

Role: Site Principal Investigator

VA Cooperative Studies Program: CSP #2028: Epidemiology, Immunology and Clinical Characteristics of COVID-19 (EPIC3) within the Veterans Health Administration

November 1, 2020-October 31, 2025

Role: Site Co-investigator

ENSEMBLE: A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Phase 3 Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Ad26.COV2.S for the Prevention of SARS-CoV-2-mediated COVID-19 in Adults Aged 18 Years and Older

Funding Source: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

August 1, 2020-November 30, 2020

Not to exceed amount: $ 2,176,310.00

Role: Site Principal Investigator

**Completed Research Support**

Principal Investigator, Investigator Initiated Research Project; A Randomized Comparative Trial of Aerosolized Pentamidine versus Fansidar in the Prophylaxis of Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia in AIDS, 1/87-3/89, 25% effort, $50,000

Principal Site Investigator, PPD, Inc. A Phase 3, Multicenter, Randomized, Open-Label, Comparative Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy of Daptomycin Compared to Conventional Therapy in the Treatment of Subjects with Infective Endocarditis or Bacteremia Due to Staphylococcus aureus, 8/03-6/05-5% effort, $20,000

Principal Site Investigator, PPD, Inc. A Randomized, Double-Blind Study of GT-267-004 Versus Vancomycin, and GT267-004 Versus Metronidazole, in Patients with C. difficile-associated Diarrhea, 5/05-01/07, 5% percent effort, $20,000

Department of Veterans Affairs Patient Safety Initiative “Simulator Training in Central Venous Catheter Insertion” May 2009, 5% effort, $33,400 from NCPS, $7250 facility matching funds

Covance, Inc.,

Prospective Observational Study of Nosocomial Clostridium difficile Toxin Antibody Concentrations, Incidence, and Recurrence.

2010-2012

Role Principal Site Investigator 10% effort

Total Direct costs $16,296

Respiratory Protection Clinical Effectiveness Trial, sponsored by Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Occupational Health and Infection Control and the Centers for Disease Control

April 1, 2012-September 30, 2015

Role: Site Investigator, 10% effort

Total direct costs: $675,000

DM110148 - Rapid Microbiological Diagnostics for MDRO Quantitative Identification and Resistance Phenotyping to Guide Antibiotic Selection in Wounded Warriors and Veterans

Funding Source: Department of Defense

2012-2015

PI: Ivor Douglas

Role: Co-Investigator, 10% effort

Total direct costs for site: $147,128

Department of Veterans Affairs Merit Review Grant

Impact of the Nasal Microbiome on Staphylococcus aureus Colonization and Infection.

Award Number I01BX007080

July 1, 2012- September 30, 2017

Role: Principal Investigator, 30% effort

Total direct costs: $642,073

**Bibiliography**

### **Abstracts and Presentations**

1. Bessesen MT, Ellison RT, Luo C, Rotbart HA, Blaser MJ. Detection of *Listeria monocytogenes* by DNA amplification.

Oral presentation at the American Society for Microbiology Meeting, May 16, 1989 New Orleans, Louisiana

1. Bessesen MT, Miller LA, Bartlett SD, Cohn DL Ellison RT. Difficulties with Fansidar in a comparative trial for Secondary Prophylaxis of *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia (PCP). Poster presentation at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, September 17, 1989, Houston, Texas
2. Bessesen MT, Berry CD, Johnson B, Klaus B, Blaser MJ, Ellison RT. Site of origin of disseminated MAC infection in AIDS. Poster presentation at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, October 24, 1990, Atlanta, Georgia
3. Bessesen MT, Stone B, Shlay J, Cynamon M, Reves R. A putative *Mycobacterium* species causing disseminated disease in AIDS Oral presentation at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, October 12, 1992, Anaheim, California
4. Wilson M, Seilstad K, Bessesen M, Cohn D, Winter S. Pathologic findings in disseminated *M. genavense* infection. Poster presentation at American Society for Microbiology General Meeting, May 16-20, 1993, Atlanta, Georgia
5. Pechere M, Emler S, Wald A, Bessesen M, Cohn D, Bottger EC, Clark R, Sievers A, Gabriel V, Hirschel B. Infection with *Mycobacterium genavense* (MG): Clinical features in 44 cases. Presented at IXth International Conference on AIDS, Berlin, June 7-11, 1993 [Abstract WS-B10-2]
6. Blankenship D, Wallner C, Bessesen M. A computerized antibiotic ordering system database for infection control: Comparison to traditional surveillance methods. Poster presentation at the fourth annual meeting of the Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 20-22, 1994 [Abstract M71]
7. McCollum M, Klaus B, LaRue R, Bessesen M. HAART reduced overall costs of HIV care at DVAMC-Denver, Poster presentation at Retrovirus Meeting, Feb 1-5, 1998, Chicago, Illinois
8. Friedlander A, Bessesen M. Two patients discharged with untreated *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteremia: A root cause analysis. Poster presentation at Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting, April 29-30, 2005, Chicago, Illinois
9. Keith Rains K, Guerin K, Laxson L,Bessesen M. Impact of an MRSA Isolation Strategy on Compliance with Contact Precautions. Poster presentation at Society of Hospital Epidemiology of America Annual Meeting, April 5-8, 2008, Orlando, Florida
10. Ojha N, Ojha RP, Woerfel C, Bessesen M*.* Use of Higher Inoculum and Susceptibility Categorization: A Comparison of Current and Previous Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute Vancomycin Breakpoints in a Veteran Population. Poster presentation at American Society of Microbiology Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, June 1-5, 2008
11. Timothy Jenkins,, Bruce McCollister, Rohini Sharma, Kim McFann, Nancy Madinger, Michelle Barron, Mary Bessesen, Connie Price, William Burman: Epidemiology of Health Care-Associated MRSA USA300 Bloodstream Infections Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, Washington, DC October 25-28, 2008
12. Mary Bessesen, Linda Laxson, Keith Rains, Karen Guerin, Maureen Bunch, Allison Williams, Alec Arney: Risk Factors of MRSA Colonization and Healthcare-Acquired Colonization in Hospitalized Patients; 2nd Annual MRSA Forum February 11-12, 2009, San Jose, CA
13. Maureen Bunch, Christina Nelson, Mary Bessesen: Clostridium Difficile: An Infection Control Quality Assurance Project; Evidence-Based Practice Symposium 2008, Denver, CO March 12-13, 2009
14. Mary Bessesen, Maureen Bunch: Risk Factors for *Clostridium difficile* Associated Disease in the Setting of a MRSA Screening and Isolation Program, Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, CA, March19-22, 2009
15. N. Ojha, L. Hillukka, R. P. Ojha, D. T. Merrick, M. T. Bessesen, The Diagnostic Accuracy of Xpert Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus/Staphylococcus aureus* Blood Culture Assay in a Veteran Population, American Society for Microbiology 109th General Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, May 17-21, 2009
16. Guerin K, Wagner J, Rains K, Bessesen, M.Beyond the Bundle: Strategies that Reduced Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection Incidence that Remained High Despite High Compliance with Insertion Bundle. Fifth Decennial International Conference on Healthcare-Associated Infections,Atlanta, Georgia, March 18-22, 2010
17. Bunch M, Guerin K, Bessesen M. A Prospective Study of the Outcome of Incident Nasal Colonization with MRSA. Fifth Decennial International Conference on Healthcare-Associated Infections, Georgia, March 18-22, 2010
18. Kajioka E, Bessesen M, Sabel A, Jenkins TC, Price CD. Risk Factors and Molecular Analysis of Clostridium difficile Infection (CDI) in Hospitalized Adults. Fifth Decennial International Conference on Healthcare-Associated Infections, Georgia, March 18-22, 2010
19. Frank MG, Bessesen M, Price C, Madinger N.*Staphylocccus intermedius* group Infections In Humans: Four Cases Identified Over a Period of Five Years in Three Teaching Hospitals, American College of Physicians National Meeting, Toronto, Canada, April 22-24, 2010; also presented at ACP Associates Meeting, Denver, CO, June 8, 2010 (first prize in research poster competition)
20. Bessesen MT, Wagner J, Guerin K, Adams J, Anderson J; Bar Code Technology for Device Associated Infection Surveillance: Usability Study and Preliminary Data; Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America, Dallas, TX, April 1-4, 2011
21. Mary Bessesen, Patricia Stamper, James Shaw, Neelam Ojha, Don Weinshenker, Daniel Merrick. Routine Screening for HIV infection in a Low Risk Population. American Conference for the Treatment of HIV, Denver, CO, April 7-11, 2011
22. Mahwish Mushtaq, Michlene Daniels, Martha Zorn, Blanca Vargas, Mary Bessesen, Cynthia Gibert, Ann-Christine Nyquist, Trish M. Perl, MD, Connie S. Price, Lewis J. Radonovich, Michael S. Simberkoff, Maria C. Rodriguez-Barradas, for the ResPECT Study Team; Influence of a 12-week Facial Protective Equipment (FPE) wearing period on the behaviors and attitudes towards FPE use among Healthcare Personnel (HCP), ID Week, San Francisco, CA, Oct 2-6, 2013
23. Justin Getka, Jenna Los, Charlotte A. Gaydos, Mary Bessesen, Derek Cummings, Cynthia Gibert, Geoffrey Gorse, Jeff Holden, Ann-Christine Nyquist, Connie S. Price, Lewis J. Radonovich, Maria C. Rodriguez-Barradas, Rangarajan Sampath, Michael S. Simberkoff, and Trish M. Perl, for the ResPECT Study Team; Acute Respiratory Viral Infection Among Outpatient Healthcare Personnel, ID Week, San Francisco, CA, Oct 2-6, 2013
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25. Stefanie Tuder, Jill Adams, BA; Cynthia Gibert, Ann-Christine Nyquist, Trish M Perl, Connie S Price, Lewis Radonovich, Nicholas G. Reich, Maria C Rodriguez-Barradas, Michael S Simberkoff, Mary Bessesen, for the ResPECT Study Team, Self- reported versus Observed Facial Protection Equipment (FPE) Use among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) in Outpatient Care and Emergency Departments (OPD/ED), oral presentation, ID Week, San Francisco, CA, Oct 2-6, 2013
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27. Natalie S. Marzec, Mary T. Bessesen. Risk and Outcomes of MRSA Bacteremia Among Patients Admitted With and Without MRSA Nares Colonization, Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America, Denver, CO, April 3-6, 2014
28. Jeffrey Holden, Ann-Christine Nyquist, Mary Bessesen, Cynthia Gilbert, Maria Rodriguez-Barradas, Michael Simberkoff, Connie Price, Trish Perl, Lewis Radonovich, Charlotte Gaydos. Detection of Respiratory Viruses in Symptomatic and Asymptomatic Healthcare Workers in the ResPECT Cohort. 30th Annual Clinical Virology Symposium, Daytona Beach, FL, April 27 – 30, 2014
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35. Connie Price, Ivor Douglas, Ellen Tuttle, Andrew Shorr, Meghan Mensack, Mary Bessesen, Steve Metzger. Rapid Identification and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing of Bacteria in Bloodstream Infections Using the Accelerate ID/AST Technology. European Conference on Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, April 23-25, 2015
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37. Meghan N Jeffres, Michelle A Barron, Clayton L Foster, Randolph V Fugit, Mary T Bessesen, Bruce D McCollister. A comparison of piperacillin/tazobactam and cefepime for the treatment of AmpC-inducible Enterobacteriaceae infections. European Congress on Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Amsterdam, Netherlands, April 9-12, 2016
38. Mary T. Bessesen, Jeanne B. Benoit, Brandie D. Wagner, Daniel N. Frank Longitudinal Analysis of the Nasal Microbiota of Inpatients with MRSA Incident Colonization and Non-colonized Controls. European Congress on Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Amsterdam, Netherlands, April 9-12, 2016
39. Amanda Krosche, BS; Mary Bessesen, MD; Alexandria Brown, PhD; Derek Cummings, PhD, MPH, MSc; Charlotte Gaydos, DrPH, MPH, MS; Cynthia Gibert, MD, MSc; Geoffrey Gorse, MD; Ann-Christine Nyquist, MD, MSPH; Connie Price, MD; Lewis Radonovich, MD; Nicholas Reich, PhD; Maria Rodriguez-Barradas, MD; Michael Simberkoff, MD; and Trish M Perl, MD, MSc, FIDSA; for the ResPECT Study Team. Correlation of Corrective Eyewear to Acute Respiratory Infection among Outpatient Healthcare Personnel. IDWeek, New Orleans, LA, October 26-30, 2016
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43. B. Wilson, E. Saade, G. Doros, J. Hermos, M. Bessesen, R. A. Bonomo. The Use of Rifampin Therapy to Treat Diabetic Patients with Osteomyelitis of the Foot in the Veterans Health Administration: Patient Characteristics and Clinical Outcomes, ID Week, San Diego, CA, October 4-8, 2017
44. Lew Radonovich, MD; Michael S. Simberkoff, MD; Mary Bessesen, MD; Derek Cummings PhD, MPH, MSc; Charlotte A. Gaydos, DrPH; Cynthia Gibert, MD, MSc; Geoffrey Gorse, MD; Ann-Christine Nyquist, MD, MSPH; Connie S. Price, MD; Jenna Los, MLA; Amanda Krosche; Lexi Brown, PhD; Nicholas Reich, PhD; Maria C. Rodriguez-Barradas, MD; and Trish M. Perl, MD, MSc; for the ResPECT Study Team. The Respiratory Protection Effectiveness Clinical Trial (ResPECT). ID Week, San Francisco, CA, Oct 3-7, 2018
45. John B. M. McCoury; Randolph V. Fugit; Mary T. Bessesen.

Procalcitonin for sepsis management–implementation within an antimicrobial stewardship program. Mountain States Conference for Pharmacy Residents, Fellows, and Preceptors, University of Utah Health Campus, May 9-10, 2019

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2. Bessesen MT, Radonovich L, Rattigan S, Cummings D, Rodriguez-Barradas M, Simberkoff M, Gibert CL, Nyquist AC, Price CS, Gorse G, Gaydos C,A, Perl TM, for the ResPECT Team. Healthcare Personnel Knowledge, Attitudes and Beliefs Towards Infection Prevention and Control Measures for Protection from Respiratory Infections. IDWeek, Washington, DC, Oct 2-6, 2019
3. McCoury JB, Fugit RV, Bessesen MT. Successful Implementation of a Procalcitonin Algorithm Associated with Reduction in Antibiotic Days. IDWeek, Washington, DC, Oct 2-6, 2019
4. Ann-Christine Nyquist, Susan M. Rattigan, Cynthia L. Gibert, MD, MSc , Geoffrey Gorse, Trish M. Perl, Connie S. Price, Lewis Radonovich, Maria C. Rodriguez-Barradas, Michael Simberkoff, Mary T. Bessesen, Charlotte A. Gaydos, Derek Cummings. Increased Risk of Respiratory Infections Among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) Caring for Children. IDWeek, Washington, DC, Oct 2-6, 2019
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**Book Chapters**

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