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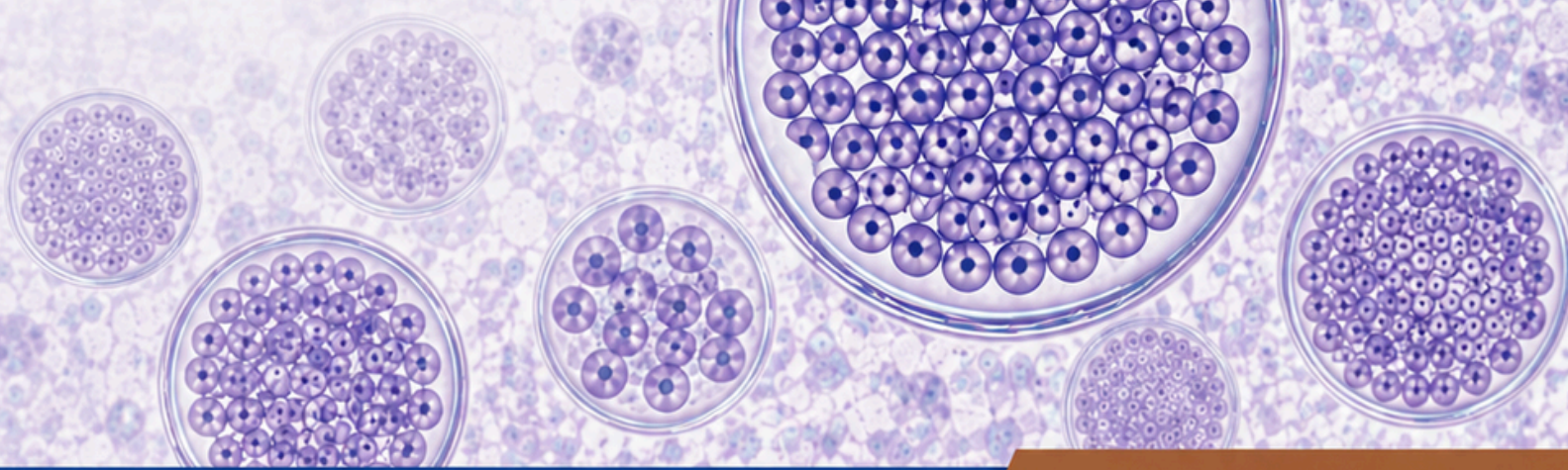
Coccidioidomycosis
STUDY GROUP

INTERNATIONAL COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS STUDY GROUP

SYMPOSIUM

AUGUST 20-22, 2026

UC DAVIS CONFERENCE CENTER
550 ALUMNI LANE | DAVIS, CA



www.coccistudygroup.org



615-587-0081

PROGRAM



Meeting Agenda

Day 1: Thursday, August 20, 2026

7:30a-4:00p	Registration Open
8:30a-8:45a	Opening Remarks: <i>President: Bridget Barker, PhD</i> <i>Local Host: George R Thompson, MD</i>
8:45a-9:15a	CDC - Status of Cocci in the US <i>Speaker</i>
9:15a-10:30a	Scientific Section A Epidemiology and Population Health <i>Moderators: One and or Two</i>
9:15a-9:30a	Coccidioidomycosis Among Participants After an Outdoor Music Festival—San Joaquin Valley, California, 2024 <u>Ellora Karmarkar</u> ¹ , Gail Cooksey ¹ , Alyssa Nguyen ¹ , Katherine Lamba ¹ , Jennifer Myers ¹ , Elliott Welford ² , Kelly Johnson ² , Duc Vugia ¹ , Akiko Kimura ¹ ¹ California Department of Public Health, Richmond, USA. ² UCSF, San Francisco, USA
9:30a-9:45a	Predictors of Coccidioidomycosis Diagnostic Interval from Enhanced Surveillance Data – Maricopa, Pima, and Pinal County Health Departments, Arizona, 2024–2025 <u>Kathryn Burr</u> ^{1,2} , Heather L. Leahy ¹ , Jennifer Collins ³ , Brandon J. Howard ³ , Ellen Santos ⁴ , Anissa Taylor ⁴ , Kaeli Lugo ⁵ , Zia Helgeson-Budrys ⁵ , Megan Jehn ⁶ , Camila Tompkins ⁶ , Olivia Omura ⁷ , Thomas C. Moore ⁷ , Christopher Bratsman ³ , Kristen Pogreba-Brown ⁷ , R. Nicholas Staab ³ , Rebecca Sunenshine ⁶ , Shane Brady ¹ , Irene Ruberto ¹ , Thomas Williamson ¹ , Ariella P. Dale ³ ¹ Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix, USA. ² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA. ³ Maricopa Department of Public Health, Phoenix, USA. ⁴ Pima County Health Department, Tucson, USA. ⁵ Pinal County Public Health Department, Florence, USA. ⁶ Arizona State University, Phoenix, USA. ⁷ University of Arizona, Tucson, USA
9:45a-10:00a	Tracking Washington <i>Coccidioides immitis</i> Clade Persistence Brian Schwem ¹ , Rama Sakamuri ¹ , Hannah Schnitzler ² , Mariah Harper ² , Hanna Oltean ² , <u>Anastasia Litvintseva</u> ¹ ¹ Mycotic Diseases Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA. ² Washington State Department of Health, Shoreline, USA
10:00a-10:15a	Genomics and Epidemiology of Coccidioidomycosis in New Mexico <u>Paris Salazar-Hamm</u> ^{1,2} , Morgan Gorris ³ , Sarah Shrum Davis ^{4,2} , Heather Mead ⁵ , Marcus Teixeira ⁶ , Bernardo Guerra ⁶ , Bridget Barker ⁷ , Donald Natvig ² ¹ New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, USA. ² University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, USA. ³ Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, USA. ⁴ New Mexico Department of Health, Albuquerque, USA. ⁵ Translational Genomics Research Institute, Flagstaff, USA. ⁶ University of Brasília, Brasília, Brazil. ⁷ Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA

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Day 1: Thursday, August 20, 2026

10:15a-10:30a	<p>Prevalence of Potential Exposure to <i>Coccidioides</i> in West Texas: A Community-Based Serosurvey Using a Novel Point-of-Use Lateral Flow Assay</p> <p>Paris Salazar-Hamm^{1,2}, Morgan Gorris³, Sarah Shrum Davis^{4,2}, Heather Mead⁵, Marcus Teixeira⁶, Bernardo Guerra⁶, Bridget Barker⁷, Donald Natvig²</p> <p>¹New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, USA. ²University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, USA. ³Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, USA. ⁴New Mexico Department of Health, Albuquerque, USA. ⁵Translational Genomics Research Institute, Flagstaff, USA. ⁶University of Brasília, Brasília, Brazil. ⁷Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA</p>
10:30a-11:00a	<p>Refreshment Break - Visit the Exhibitors</p>
11:00a-12:00p	<p>Keynote Speaker: Marcus Teixeira</p>
12:00p-1:30p	<p>Lunch Break - Networking</p>
1:30p-3:15p	<p>Scientific Section B Basic Science: Diagnosis, Treatment and Molecular <i>Moderators: One and or Two</i></p>
1:30p-1:45p	<p>Utilizing IFN-γ as a Marker of Coccidioidal Immunity</p> <p><u>Fariba Donovan</u>^{1,2,3}, Daniel Powell³, Ian Wingerchuk¹, John Galgiani^{1,2,3,4}</p> <p>¹The Valley Fever Center for Excellence, College of Medicine-Tucson, Tucson, USA. ²College of Medicine-Tucson, The University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ³The BIO5 Institute, The University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ⁴Department of Immunobiology, College of Medicine-Tucson, Tucson, USA</p>
1:45p-2:00p	<p>T Cell Exhaustion in Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis</p> <p><u>Gregory Whitehill</u>¹, Alexis Stephens¹, Timothy Thauland¹, Miguel Moreno Lastre¹, Sarah Meneses¹, Matthew Tate², Sinem Beyhan², Royce Johnson^{3,1}, George Thompson⁴, Maria Garcia-Lloret¹, Manish Butte¹</p> <p>¹University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA. ²University of California, San Diego, San Diego, USA. ³Kern Medical Center, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴University of California, Davis, Sacramento, USA</p>
2:00p-2:15p	<p>High-throughput Antibody Immune Profiling of Valley Fever Patients</p> <p>Megan Koehler¹, Lusheng Song¹, Jin Park¹, Vel Murugan¹, Bihong Guo¹, Taylor Miller¹, David Feimer¹, Joshua LaBaer¹, Fariba Donovan², John Galgiani², Daniel Powell², Ken Knox³, Mrinalini Kala³, Mouhanned Eliliwi³, Bridget Barker⁴, Janis Blair⁵, Francisca Grill^{1,6}, Thomas Grys^{5,6}, Douglas Lake^{1,6}, <u>D. Mitchell Magee</u>¹</p> <p>¹Arizona State University, Tempe, USA. ²University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ³University of Arizona, Phoenix, USA. ⁴Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ⁵Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, USA. ⁶Cactus Bio, LLC, Phoenix, USA</p>

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Day 1: Thursday, August 20, 2026

2:15p-2:30p

Characterization of a Fungal Protease Family Reveals a Kexin Critical for *Coccidioides* Endospore Formation

Christina Homer¹, Yuzhou Chen², Elena Ochoa³, Anita Sil²

¹OHSU - Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, USA. ²UCSF - University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, USA.

³Washington University, St. Louis, USA

2:30p-2:45p

Rare Variants in the Immune Response Gene NLRX1 Are Associated With Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis

Samantha Jensen¹, Sarah Spendlove¹, Alexis Stephens¹, Zhenjie Jin¹, George R Thompson², Royce H Johnson³, Arash Heidari³, Rasha Kuran³, Harold Pimentel¹, Manish Butte¹, Valerie A. Arboleda¹

¹UCLA, Los Angeles, USA. ²UC Davis, Davis, USA. ³Valley Fever Institute, Bakersfield, USA

2:45p-3:00p

Differential Pathogenicity in Mice of Washington State *Coccidioides immitis* Strains Recovered from a Patient and the Soil Where the Patient Was Infected

Lisa Shubitz¹, Alan Cervantes-Perez¹, Christine Butkiewicz¹, Hien Trinh¹, Maria Lewis¹, Kelsey Aadland², Jason Stajich³, John Galgiani¹, Marc Orbach¹

¹University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ²University of Illinois, Chicago, USA. ³University of California Riverside, Riverside, USA

3:00p-3:15p

Investigating the Effects of Temperature and Mycelial Age on Conidiation and Spherulation in *Coccidioides*

Matthew Tate¹, Melanie Jimenez¹, Ka Pui Sharon Yau², Ben Croker², Sinem Beyhan^{1,2,3}

¹Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System, San Diego, USA. ²UC San Diego, La Jolla, USA. ³J. Craig Venter Institute, La Jolla, USA

3:15p-3:45p

Refreshment Break - Visit the Exhibitors

3:45p-5:15p

Scientific Section C | Clinical

Moderators: One and or Two

3:45p-4:00p

Clinical Course and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes of Pediatric CNS Coccidioidomycosis in California's Central Valley

Kevin Tran, Vini Vijayan

Valley Children's Healthcare, Madera, USA

4:00p-4:15p

Beyond Clinical Outcomes: Characterizing the Lived Experience and Treatment Burden of Coccidioidal Meningitis

Risa Gehringer¹, Lisa Tushla^{2,3}, Robert Purdie², Andrej Spec^{2,4}

¹University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, USA. ²MyCARE, Colorado Springs, USA. ³Terranova Medica, Colorado Springs, USA. ⁴Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, USA

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Day 1: Thursday, August 20, 2026

4:15p-4:30p

The Relative Incidence of Coccidioidomycosis Among Patients Receiving Various Biologic Therapies in an Endemic Region: A Retrospective Cohort Study

Yehia S. Aboalmaaty, Saima N. Tisekar, Janis E. Blair

Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Arizona, Phoenix, USA

4:30p-4:45p

Low Positivity Rate of Pre-Solid Organ Transplant *Coccidioides* Screening at a Center Adjacent to a Hyperendemic Area

Lalithaa Thirunavukarasu Murugan, Weston Truman, Adrienne Carrey, Hannah Imlay

Division of Infectious Diseases, The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA

4:45p-5:00p

CT and MRI Radiographic Scoring in Spinal Coccidioidomycosis: A Retrospective Cohort Study

Amira Attya, Kartikh Rayasam, Ilaria Vittoria, AbdulJabbar Ahammoud, Talha Riaz

Banner- University of Arizona Medical Center, Tucson, USA

5:00p-5:15p

Utility of Plasma Microbial Cell-Free DNA Sequencing in the Diagnosis and Management of Coccidioidomycosis

Kenneth Fox¹, Raissa Nogueira De Brito², Alec Chan-Golston², Geetha Sivasubramanian³

¹UCSF, San Francisco, USA. ²UC Merced, Merced, USA. ³UCSF Fresno, Fresno, USA

5:30p-6:00p

Networking Reception

6:00p-8:00p

Poster Session 1 - Conference Rooms A & B

Generously Sponsored by: Fort Worth Diagnostics





Meeting Agenda

Day 2: Friday, August 21, 2026

8:00a-4:00p	Registration Open
8:45a-10:30a	Scientific Section C Epidemiology and Population Health <i>Moderators: One and or Two</i>
8:45a-9:00a	<p>Coccidioidomycosis Among American Indians and Alaska Natives Served by the Indian Health Service, 2016–2024</p> <p><u>Ria Ghai</u>¹, Dana Haberling¹, Mitsuru Toda¹, Jeremy Gold¹, Dallas Smith¹, Jonathan Iralu², Uzo Chukwuma²</p> <p>¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA. ²Indian Health Services, Rockville, USA</p>
9:00a-9:15a	<p>Valley Fever in California: Increasing Trends, Geographic Spread, and Shifting Epidemiology</p> <p><u>Gail L Sondermeyer Cooksey</u>¹, Ellora Karmarkar¹, Alyssa D Nguyen², Leonel Hernandez¹, George R Thompson³, Geetha Sivasubramanian⁴, Yanyi K Djamba², Alexander T Yu¹, Vit Kraushaar¹</p> <p>¹California Department of Public Health, Richmond, CA, USA. ²California Department of Public Health, Sacramento, CA, USA. ³University of California Davis Medical Center, Davis, CA, USA. ⁴University of California, San Francisco, Fresno, Fresno, CA, USA</p>
9:15a-9:30a	<p>Examination of Coccidioidomycosis Diagnosis, Exposure Risk, and Disease Severity Using Enhanced Surveillance Data—Maricopa County, 2025–2026</p> <p><u>Makayla Wilson, MHM</u>¹, Jennifer Collins, MPH¹, Brandon Howard, MPH¹, Megan Jehn, PhD, MHS², Jennifer Jackman, MPA², Lia Koski, DrPH, MPH¹</p> <p>¹Maricopa County Department of Public Health, Phoenix, USA. ²Arizona State University, Phoenix, USA</p>
9:30a-9:45a	<p>Projected Changes in Coccidioidomycosis Incidence Under Climate Change in California</p> <p><u>Simon Camponuri</u>¹, Claire Schollaert², Jennifer Head³, Alexandra Heaney⁴, Grace Campbell¹, Amanda Weaver¹, Lisa Couper¹, Brittany Morgan Bustamante¹, Gail Sondermeyer Cooksey⁵, Ellora Karmarkar⁵, Alexander Yu⁵, Ellen Eisen¹, Daniel Swain^{6,7}, Miriam Marlier², Justin Remais¹</p> <p>¹University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ²University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA. ³University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA. ⁴University of California, San Diego, San Diego, USA. ⁵California Department of Public Health, Richmond, USA. ⁶University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources, Davis, USA. ⁷NSF National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, USA</p>
9:45a-10:00a	<p>Forecasting Valley Fever Across the Southwest: Insights from Arizona and New Mexico</p> <p><u>Kimberly Kaufeld</u>¹, Cally Erickson¹, Morgan Gorris¹, Sarah Shrum², Andrew Bartlow¹</p> <p>¹Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, USA. ²New Mexico Department of Health, Albuquerque, USA</p>
10:00a-10:15a	<p>Pediatric Coccidioidomycosis in California and Beyond: Epidemiologic Trends and Global Context, 2017–2024</p> <p><u>Ruzan Adams</u>¹, Anna Poochigian²</p> <p>¹Stanford, Palo Alto, USA. ²Clovis West High School, Fresno, USA</p>

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Day 2: Friday, August 21, 2026

10:15a-10:30a	<p>Examination of the Prevalence of Lifetime and Recent Coccidioidomycosis Infection Among an Employee Population in Bakersfield, California</p> <p><u>Sophia E. Kruger</u>¹, Dana Brucker², Bianca Torres², Keny Mendoza Melo², Emilse Oliveros², Rasha Kuran^{2,3,4}, Carlos D'Assumpcao^{2,3,4}, Royce H. Johnson^{2,3,4}, Jennifer R. Head^{1,5}</p> <p>¹University of Michigan, School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology, Ann Arbor, USA. ²Valley Fever Institute at Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ³University of California Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine, Los Angeles, USA. ⁴Kern Medical, Department of Medicine, Bakersfield, USA. ⁵University of Michigan, Institute for Global Change Biology, Ann Arbor, USA</p>
10:30a-10:45a	<p>Refreshment Break - Visit the Exhibitors</p>
10:45a-12:15p	<p>Scientific Section D Veterinary and One Health <i>Moderators: One and/or Two</i></p>
10:45a-11:00a	<p>Commercial Canine Anticoccidioidal Gel Immunodiffusion Serology Test Results Exhibit High Interlaboratory Variability</p> <p><u>Jane Sykes</u>¹, Christine Butkiewicz², Rojas-Sanchez Ernesto¹, Kelly Crucillo¹, Lisa Shubitza²</p> <p>¹University of California, Davis, Davis, USA. ²University of Arizona, Tucson, USA</p>
11:00a-11:15a	<p>National Incidence of Coccidioidomycosis in the United States Estimated Through Machine Learning Integration of Epidemiological, Veterinary, and Socioecological Data</p> <p><u>Lisa Couper</u>¹, Simon Camponuri¹, Xiudi Li¹, Alan Hubbard¹, Brittany Bustamante¹, Thomas Williamson², Irene Ruberto², Gail Sondermeyer-Cooksey³, Alexandra Heaney⁴, Jennifer Head⁵, Jane Sykes⁶, Justin Remais¹</p> <p>¹University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ²Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix, USA. ³California Department of Public Health, Sacramento, USA. ⁴University of California, San Diego, San Diego, USA. ⁵University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA. ⁶University of California, Davis, Davis, USA</p>
11:15a-11:30a	<p>Direct Epithelial Cell Injury by <i>Coccidioides posadasii</i> Spherules</p> <p><u>Olivia W. Hepworth</u>¹, Sarah Saeger¹, Matthew Mendoza Barker², Patricia Simaku³, Kyle J. Basham³, Viral S. Shah^{4,5,6,7}, Hannah Brown Harding^{3,8}, Kirstine Nolling Jensen⁹, Ella Jacobs¹, Jayaraj Rajagopal^{4,5,6,7}, Chiung-yu Hung², Jatin M. Vyas¹</p> <p>¹Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York, USA. ²Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, South Texas Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases, The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, USA. ³Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA. ⁴Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Cambridge, USA. ⁵Center for Regenerative Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA. ⁶Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Department of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA. ⁷Klarman Cell Observatory, Broad Institute of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, Cambridge, USA. ⁸Department of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA. ⁹Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA</p>

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Day 2: Friday, August 21, 2026

<p>11:30a-11:45a</p>	<p>Intent to Accept a Valley Fever Vaccine for Humans and Dogs and Factors Influencing Intended Uptake: A Cross-Sectional Survey in Two Endemic Regions</p> <p><u>Julia Hermann</u>¹, Sophia E. Kruger¹, Natalie Wodniak¹, Jammie Holland², Veronica Janosick², Asley Sanchez², Julio C. Zuniga-Moya³, Dana Brucker⁴, Bianca Torres⁴, Keny Mendoza Melo⁴, Emilse Oliveros⁴, Rasha Kuran^{4,5,6}, Carlos D'Assumpcao^{4,5,6}, Royce H. Johnson^{4,5,6}, R. Scott van Pelt⁷, Abinash Bhattachan⁸, Abram L. Wagner¹, Jennifer R. Head^{1,9}</p> <p>¹University of Michigan, School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, USA. ²Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Clinical Research Institute, Odessa, USA. ³Washington University, School of Medicine, St. Louis, USA. ⁴Valley Fever Institute at Kern Medical Center, Bakersfield, USA. ⁵University of California Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine, Los Angeles, USA. ⁶Kern Medical, Department of Medicine, Bakersfield, USA. ⁷U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Big Spring, USA. ⁸Texas Tech University, Department of Geosciences, Lubbock, USA. ⁹University of Michigan, Institute for Global Change Biology, Ann Arbor, USA</p>
<p>11:45a-12:00p</p>	<p>Predicting Valley Fever Outbreaks: Novel Mechanistic Models Incorporating Climate and Ecological Interactions</p> <p><u>Trevor Reckell</u>¹, Beckett Sterner¹, Dave Engelthaler^{1,2}, Petar Jevtic¹</p> <p>¹Arizona State University, Tempe, USA. ²Translational Genomics Research Institute, Flagstaff, USA</p>
<p>12:00p-12:15p</p>	<p>Border Patrol Dogs Working in Tucson, Arizona, Are Highly Exposed to <i>Coccidioides</i> spp.</p> <p><u>Ernesto Rojas-Sanchez</u>¹, Dylan Le¹, Carrie Malone², Brianna Freeman³, Jamie Sebastian⁴, William Mills⁵, Kelly Crucillo¹, Trustin Tran¹, Jane Sykes¹</p> <p>¹University of California, Davis, Davis, USA. ²Pima Community College, Tucson, USA. ³United States Customs & Border Protection, El Paso, USA. ⁴Kansas State University, Manhattan, USA. ⁵United States Army Reserve Civil Affairs Command, Fort Meade, USA</p>
<p>12:15p-12:45p</p>	<p>Lunch Break - Grab your lunch and join us in the Ballroom</p>
<p>12:45p-2:00p</p>	<p>Lunch & Learn: Valley Fever: Coming of Age</p> <p>Speakers: Neil Ampel, MD, and John Galgiani</p>
<p>2:00p-3:30p</p>	<p>Scientific Section E Ecology</p> <p>Moderators: One and/or Two</p>
<p>2:00p-2:15p</p>	<p>Model-Informed Environmental Sampling: Detecting <i>Coccidioides</i> spp. in Suspected Endemic Areas of Northern Utah</p> <p><u>Cari Lewis</u>, Cally Erickson, Katie Rodarte, Tenley Housler, Talia Withnall-May, Kimberly Kaufeld, Morgan Gorris, Andrew Bartlow</p> <p>Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, USA</p>

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Day 2: Friday, August 21, 2026

2:15p-2:30p

Digging Deeper: Uncovering Drivers of *Coccidioides* Spore Aerosolization Through Air Filters, Remote Sensing, and Machine Learning

Tanner Porter¹, Tim Lant², Allison Glazer¹, Andrew Willman³, Brandon Howard⁴, Jennifer Collins⁴, Rebecca Sunenshine^{2,4}, Shane Brady⁵, Ken Komatsu⁵, Tom Chiller⁶, Joseph Mihaljevic⁷, David Engelthaler^{2,1}

¹Translational Genomics Research Institute, Flagstaff, USA. ²Arizona State University, Phoenix, USA. ³U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Phoenix, USA. ⁴Maricopa County Department of Public Health, Phoenix, USA. ⁵Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix, USA. ⁶Immy, Norman, USA. ⁷Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA

2:30p-2:45p

Robotic Environmental Surveillance for *Coccidioides*: An Autonomous Platform for Scalable Valley Fever Monitoring

The Nguyen¹, Jeremy Woods¹, Fanqing Chen², Xinyue Zhang³

¹California State University, Fresno, Fresno, USA. ²Exposomics Inc., Mountain View, USA. ³Stanford University, Stanford, USA

2:45p-3:00p

Mysteries Within the Soil: Novel Insights into the Soil Longevity of *Coccidioides posadasii* Uncovered Through Temporal Surveillance at a Single Location in Arizona

Marieke Ramsey¹, Dan Kollath², Christopher Cobos³, Katie Lewis⁴, Bridget Barker¹

¹Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ²Arizona State University, Tempe, USA. ³Texas A&M AgriLife, Vernon, USA. ⁴Texas A&M AgriLife, Lobbock, USA

3:00p-3:15p

Rodent Hosts of the *Coccidioides* Fungus That Causes Valley Fever

Jessica Neumaier, Daniel Kollath, Luisa Zamora Chavez, Alexander Fenlon, Esther Florsheim, Nathan Upham
Arizona State University, Tempe, USA

3:15p-3:30p

Association of Environmental Exposures With Coccidioidomycosis Incidence and Their Application in Forecasting Incidence in Southwestern Arizona

Nate Truettner¹, Sophia E. Kruger¹, Violette Bonvallet¹, Alexandra K. Heaney², Jennifer R. Head^{1,3}

¹University of Michigan, School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, USA. ²University of California San Diego, Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science, San Diego, USA. ³University of Michigan, Institute for Global Change Biology, Ann Arbor, USA

3:30p-4:00p

Refreshment Break - Visit the Exhibitors

4:00p-5:15p

Scientific Section F | Unclassified But Unmatched: Exceptional Cocci Abstracts
Moderators: One and/or Two

4:00p-4:15p

***Coccidioides* Skin Test Performance and Patterns of Prior Immunity to Coccidioidomycosis Among a Large Population of Males Entering California State Prisons, 2015–2024**

Jennifer Head¹, Andrew Brouwer¹, Arundhati Rajan¹, Marlena Scherer², Monica Williams², John Balmes³, George Thompson⁴, Neil Ampel⁵, Kimberley Lucas²

¹University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA. ²California Correctional Health Care Services, Elk Grove, USA. ³University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ⁴University of California Davis, Davis, USA. ⁵University of Arizona, Tucson, USA

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4:15p-4:30p

Infection and Relapse of Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis Due to Two Closely Related but Genetically Distinct Isolates of *Coccidioides posadasii*

Josh Fierer¹, Klaire Laux², Jason Sahl², Bridget Barker²

¹UC San Diego, San Diego, USA. ²Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA

4:30p-4:45p

A Second Sickness: How Bureaucratic Friction Compounds Coccidioidal Meningitis in California's Central Valley

John Christman¹, Rayne Shepard², Uday Chauhan², Geetha Sivasubramanian², Nancy Burke^{1,2}

¹UC Merced, Merced, USA. ²UC San Francisco, Fresno, USA

4:45p-5:00p

Accelerating Antifungal Drug Discovery Through Computational Target and Compound Prioritization for Valley Fever

Arianna Daniel, Axel Muniz Tello, Katrina Hoyer

University of California, Merced, Merced, USA

5:00p-5:15p

Role of Innate Lymphoid Cells in the Response to *Coccidioides*

Emily Saldana¹, Sayantani Mukherjee^{2,3}, Kareena Kanumury¹, Sriram Gadepalli¹, Arjun Rustagi^{3,2}

¹UC Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ²NCIRE, San Francisco, USA. ³UCSF, San Francisco, USA

5:15p-5:45p

Networking Reception

5:45p-7:45p

Poster Session 2 - Conference Rooms A & B
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Meeting Agenda

Day 3: Saturday, August 22, 2026

8:00a-4:00p	Registration Open
9:00a-10:00a	State of Vaccines <i>Ashraf Ibrahim</i>
10:00a-10:30a	Refreshment Break - Visit the Exhibitors
10:30a-12:00p	Scientific Section G Vaccine and Immunoresponse <i>Moderators: One and or Two</i>
10:30a-10:45a	Valley Fever Vaccine Acceptability Among At-Risk Adults in Arizona <u>Rachel Abraham</u> ^{1,2} , John Galgiani ^{3,4} ¹ Department of Public Health Practice, Policy, & Translational Research, College of Public Health, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ² Campus Health Service, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ³ Valley Fever Center for Excellence, Department of Medicine, and Department of Immunobiology, College of Medicine-Tucson, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ⁴ BIO5 Institute, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA
10:45a-11:00a	A Novel Gene Gun-Administered DNA Vaccine and Live Attenuated Vaccine Prime Coccidioides-Specific B- and T-Cell Responses in Nonhuman Primates <u>David J Messenheimer</u> ¹ , Oliver N Mauer ¹ , Megan N Fredericks ¹ , Paul Keim ² , Erik W Settles ² , John Galgiani ^{3,4,5} , Lisa Shubitz ³ , Matthew Morales ² , Bridget M Barker ² , Deborah H Fuller ^{1,6} ¹ University of Washington, Seattle, USA. ² Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ³ Valley Fever Center of Excellence, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ⁴ Departments of Medicine and Immunobiology, College of Medicine-Tucson, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ⁵ BIO5 Institute, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ⁶ Washington National Biomedical Research Center, Seattle, USA
11:15a-11:30a	Identification of Coccidioides-Specific T-Cell Antigens, Clonotypes, and Immune Profiles in Humans and Pig-Tailed Macaques: Implications for Diagnostics, Vaccines, and Clinical Trials <u>Allison Schuman</u> ¹ , Paul Phillip ¹ , Mame Diarra Bousso Ndiaye ¹ , Connor Morgan ¹ , Megan Fredericks ^{2,3} , Sandra Dross ^{2,3} , Nika Hajari ^{2,3} , Mouhanned Elilwi ⁴ , Mrinalini Kala ⁴ , Kenneth Knox ⁴ , Deborah H. Fuller ^{2,3} , Bridget Barker ^{1,5} , Paul Keim ^{1,5} , Erik Settles ^{1,5} ¹ Pathogen and Microbiome Institute, Flagstaff, USA. ² Department of Microbiology, University of Washington, Seattle, USA. ³ Washington Biomedical Research Center (WaNBRC), Seattle, USA. ⁴ Department of Internal Medicine, University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix, Phoenix, USA. ⁵ Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA
11:30a-11:45a	Multi-Antigen DNA Vaccine Induces Mucosal Immune Protection Against Valley Fever <u>Deborah H. Fuller</u> ^{1,2} , James T. Fuller ¹ , Ana Braga ³ , Philip M. Bohn ¹ , David J. Messenheimer ¹ , Sandra Dross ^{1,2} , Nika Hajari ¹ , Erik Settles ³ , Bridget Barker ³ ¹ University of Washington, Seattle, USA. ² Washington National Biomedical Research Center, Seattle, USA. ³ Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA

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Day 3: Saturday, August 22, 2026

11:45a-12:00p

Evaluation of T-Cell Responses and Protective Efficacy Induced by a Recombinant Subunit Vaccine Against Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis

Reimi Navarro¹, Nawal Abdul-Baki¹, Matthew Mendoza Barker¹, Austin Negron², Althea Campuzano³, Florentina Rus⁴, Gary Ostroff⁴, Chiung-Yu Hung¹

¹The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, USA. ²InImmune Corporation, Missoula, USA. ³General Dynamics Information Technology, San Antonio, USA. ⁴UMass Chan Medical School, Worcester, USA

12:00p-12:15p

Clinical Isolates of *Coccidioides posadasii* From Patients With Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis Exhibit Reduced Virulence and a Dampened Cytokine Response in C57BL/6 Mice

Katrina Jackson¹, Ana Braga¹, Kiana Khalighi¹, Marieke Ramsey¹, Frances Faguy¹, Brandon Howard², Thomas Williamson³, Irene Ruberto³, Matthew Morales¹, Jaida Salois¹, Ashley Itogawa¹, John Galgiani¹, Jason Sahl¹, Bridget Barker¹

¹Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ²Maricopa County Department of Public Health, Phoenix, USA. ³Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix, USA

12:00p-12:45p

Lunch Break - Grab your lunch and join us in the Ballroom

12:45p-1:30p

State of New Antifungals
George R Thompson, MD

1:30p-2:45p

Scientific Section H | The Darndest Case of Cocci
Moderators: One and or Two

1:30p-1:45p

From the Danger Triangle to the Brain: Disseminated Cutaneous, Meningo-parenchymal and Retinal Coccidioidomycosis with Splenomegaly and Hypercalcemia

Elizabet Cabrera¹, Hasrat Maan^{1,2}, Ezinne Onwuatuegwu^{1,2}, Arash Heidari^{1,2}

¹Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, Bakersfield, USA. ²Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, USA

1:45p-2:00p

Severe Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis With Multiorgan Involvement in a Patient With an *ALOX12B* Mutation

Carlos D'Assumpcao^{1,2,3}, Bianca Torres¹, Saakshi Dulani⁴, Jigar Patel^{1,2}, Jagadeesh Batana^{1,2}, Shikha Mishra^{1,2,3}, Rasha Kuran^{1,2,3}, Royce H. Johnson^{1,2,3}, Alexis Stevens⁵, Maria Garcia-Lloret⁵, Mustafa Alkhreisat⁴

¹Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ²Division of Infectious Diseases, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ³Department of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, USA. ⁴Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ⁵Division of Immunology, Allergy, and Rheumatology, Department of Pediatrics, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA, Los Angeles, USA

2:00p-2:15p

Valley Fever's Long Game: Fallopian Tube Coccidioidomycosis Presenting 15 Years After Initial Infection

Ji Jeon, Geetha Sivasubramanian
UCSF Fresno, Fresno, USA

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Day 3: Saturday, August 22, 2026

2:15p-2:30p

Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis of the Tongue

Soe Win¹, Douglas Hoffman¹, Angela Mack²

¹Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Bakersfield, USA. ²Kaiser Permanente, Bakersfield, USA

2:30p-2:45p

First Reported Case of Coccidioides Pacemaker Lead Endocarditis

Kevin Zhou, Alec Johnson, Janis Blair, Robert Orenstein, Jamilah Shubeilat, Edward Cachay

Mayo Clinic Arizona, Phoenix, USA

2:45p-3:15p

Refreshment Break - Visit the Exhibitors

3:15p-4:30p

Scientific Section I | MORE Unclassified But Unmatched: Exceptional Cocci Abstracts *Moderators: One and or Two*

3:15p-3:30p

Coccidioidomycosis in the United States: A Nationwide Analysis Using Electronic Health Records, 2014–2023

Wenxin Chen¹, Brittany Bustamante², Simon Camponuri², Theo Snow², Juliana Bartels², Jennifer Head³, Natalie Kane^{4,5}, Rose Reynolds^{4,5}, Aidan Lee², Mark Hoffman^{4,5}, Theodore White⁴, Justin Remais², Alexandra Heaney¹

¹University of California San Diego, La Jolla, USA. ²University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ³University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA. ⁴University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, USA. ⁵Children's Mercy Research Institute, Kansas City, USA

3:30p-3:45p

Evaluating the Impact of Diabetes on Host Immune Responses and Therapeutic Outcomes in Coccidioidomycosis

Matthew Mendoza Barker, Althea Campuzano, Sofia Lozano, Nawal Abdul-Baki, Reimi Navarro, Jieh Juen Yu, Astrid Cardona, Chiung-Yu Hung

Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology and South Texas Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases, The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, USA

3:45p-4:00p

Faces, Cases, and Community Spaces: Integrating Stories, Clinical Insight, and Outreach to Increase Awareness and Action in Kern County

Kimberly Hernandez, Brynn Carrigan, Michelle Corson, Paul Rzucidlo, Liliana Valdivinos

Kern County Public Health, Bakersfield, USA

4:00p-4:15p

The Syndemic of Coccidioidomycosis and Structural Vulnerability in Rural Farmworkers of Central California

Geetha Sivasubramanian¹, Nancy Burke²

¹University of California, San Francisco, Fresno, USA. ²University of California, Merced, Merced, USA

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Coccidioidomycosis
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Day 3: Saturday, August 22, 2026

4:15p-4:30p

Identification of Coccidioides-Specific and Cross-Reactive T-Cell Epitopes in Human Infection

Mame Diarra Bouso Ndiaye¹, Paul Phillips¹, Allison Schuman¹, Jessica Marshall¹, Connor Morgan¹, Mrinalini Kala², Mouhanned Eliliwi², Bridget Barker¹, Paul Keim¹, Kenneth Knox², Erik Settles¹

¹Northern Arizona University, FLAGSTAFF, USA. ²University of Arizona, Phoenix, USA

4:30p-5:00p

Final Comments & Award Announcements

6:00p-9:00p

Networking Dinner (Ticketed Event)

Great Bear Winery

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Posters listed here will be available all day Thursday, until 8:00 pm.

Even-numbered posters will present at 6:00 pm, and **odd**-numbered posters will present at 7:00 pm

- 1. Discovery of Metabolic and Immune Biosignatures of Coccidioidomycosis and Recovery**
Ramona Abbattista, Clarissa Santos Rocha, Sumathi Sankaran-Walters, Ikaika Christian Loque, Elise Buser, Kelly Crucillo, Marie Nearing, George Thompson, Satya Dandekar
Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, UC Davis, Davis, USA
- 2. Unequal Burden: Geographic and Demographic Trends of Valley Fever in San Joaquin County**
Lyndsay Anderson
University of the Pacific, Sacramento, USA
- 3. From Septic Shock to Survival: A Severe Case of Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis**
Jadd Bahaaldin^{1,2}, Bianca Torres³, Jigar Patel^{1,4}, Jagadeesh Batana^{1,4}, Carlos D'Assumpcao^{1,4,5}, Shikha Mishra^{1,4,5}, Royce H. Johnson^{1,4,5}, Rasha Kuran^{1,4,5}
¹Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ²California Health Sciences University – College of Osteopathic Medicine, Clovis, USA. ³Valley Fever Institute, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴Division of Infectious Disease, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ⁵Department of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, USA
- 4. ValleyCast: Multi-Source Environmental LSTM Modeling for Early Warning of Valley Fever**
Mario Bañuelos¹, David Uminsky², Jiaqi Li², Dillon Allen¹
¹California State University, Fresno, Fresno, USA. ²University of Chicago, Chicago, USA
- 5. Epidemiology and Clinical Course of Pediatric Coccidiomycosis in a Tertiary Care Children's Hospital in Los Angeles**
Priya Edward, Thomas Barter, Melissa Montague, Jean Meadows, Regina Orbach, Elissa Singson, Sindhu Mohandas
Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA
- 6. A Rare Co-infection of Chagas Disease with Pulmonary Cavitory Coccidioidomycosis**
Bianca Torres¹, Jagadeesh Batana^{1,2}, Jigar Patel^{1,2}, Carlos D'Assumpcao^{1,2,3}, Rasha Kuran^{1,2,3}, Royce H. Johnson^{1,2,3}, Shikha Mishra^{1,2,3}
¹Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ²Division of Infectious Diseases, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ³Department of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, USA
- 7. Susceptibility Testing of *Coccidioides* spp. Does Not Lead to Significant Changes in Clinical Management**
Adam Bernstein, Wassim Ballan
Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix, USA
- 8. Clinical Isolates of *Coccidioides* Shape Immune Cell Infiltration Dynamics in a Murine Model**
Ana Fabio-Braga¹, Katrina Jackson¹, Kiana Khalighi¹, Marieke Ramsey¹, Frances Faguy¹, Brandon Howard², Thomas Williamson³, Irene Ruberto³, Matthew Morales¹, Jaida Salois¹, Ashley Itogawa¹, John Galgiani⁴, Jason Sahl¹, Bridget Barker¹
¹Pathogen and Microbiome Institute, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ²Maricopa County Department of Public Health, Phoenix, USA. ³Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix, USA. ⁴The Valley Fever Center for Excellence, Department of Medicine, and the Department of Immunobiology, College of Medicine-Tucson, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA

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Even-numbered posters will present at 6:00 pm, and **odd**-numbered posters will present at 7:00 pm

- 9. Extrathoracic Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis Occurring During Dupilumab Therapy**
Janis E. Blair, Samuel P. Volk, Neil M. Ampel
Mayo Clinic in Arizona, Phoenix, AZ, USA
- 10. The Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Coccidioidomycosis Outcomes**
Nathan Delafield¹, Niriksha Ravi², Adam Milam³, Matthew Buras¹, Jaxon Quillen¹, Janis Blair³
¹Mayo Clinic Arizona, Scottsdale, AZ, USA. ²Bronxcare Health System, New York NY, USA. ³Mayo Clinic Arizona, Phoenix, AZ, USA
- 11. Exploring the Clinical Significance of Antifungal Minimum Inhibitory Concentrations in Culture-Proven Primary Pulmonary and Extrapulmonary Coccidioidomycosis**
Marie Bruske, Thomas Grys, Alyssa Wallace, Abigail Cottrell, Yehia Aboalmaaty, Saima Tisekar, Janis Blair
Mayo Clinic - Arizona, Phoenix, USA
- 12. An Approach to Screening Solid Organ Transplant Candidates for Coccidioidomycosis**
Holenarasipur Vikram¹, Janis E. Blair¹, Alan Koff², Hannah M. Imlay³, Dallas J. Smith⁴, Ricardo M. La Hoz⁵, Neil M. Ampel⁶
¹Mayo Clinic in Arizona, Phoenix, AZ, USA. ²UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, CA, USA. ³University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA. ⁴Mycology Branch, CDC, Atlanta, GA, USA. ⁵UT Southwestern, Dallas, TX, USA. ⁶University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA
- 13. Characterizing the Aerobiome of Valley Fever Endemic Sites in California's San Joaquin Valley**
Jesica Calderon, Adeola Fagbayibo, Estrella Herrera, Katrina Hoyer, Asa Bradman
University of California, Merced, Merced, USA
- 14. Coccidioidomycosis Diagnosis and Management: A Quick Poll by the Emerging Infections Network**
Jonas Marschall¹, Kent Carpenter¹, Andrej Spec², Susan Beekmann³, Philip Polgreen³, Rebecca Sunenshine⁴, Fariba Donovan⁵
¹University of Arizona College of Medicine Phoenix, Phoenix, USA. ²Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, USA. ³University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA. ⁴Arizona State University, Tempe, USA. ⁵University of Arizona College of Medicine Tucson, Tucson, USA
- 15. Association of the Fungal Flip-Flop Sign With Improved Diagnostic Stratification of FDG-Avid Solitary Pulmonary Nodules in Coccidioides-Endemic Regions**
Jingjing Chen¹, Nikita Ashcherkin², Neil Ampel¹, Felipe Martinez¹, Joe Zein¹, Janis Blair¹, Anisha Shetty¹, Jehad Azar¹, Michal Reid¹, Kenneth Sakata¹
¹Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, USA. ²Duke University, Durham, USA
- 16. Oil and Gas Well Development and Coccidioidomycosis Risk in California: A Case-Crossover Study**
Lisa Couper¹, David Gonzalez¹, Simon Camponuri¹, Amanda Weaver¹, Gail Sondermeyer-Cooksey², Duc Vugia², Seema Jain², John Taylor¹, John Balmes¹, Ellen Eisen¹, Justin Remais¹, Jennifer Head³
¹University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ²California Department of Public Health, Sacramento, USA. ³University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA

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Even-numbered posters will present at 6:00 pm, and **odd**-numbered posters will present at 7:00 pm

- 17. Explainable AI for Valley Fever: A Hybrid Neural–Evolutionary Framework for Environmental Risk Modeling**
Sarah Davis
University of Idaho, Coeur d'Alene, USA
- 18. Effect of Media Composition on the In Vitro Growth of Clinical *Coccidioides* Strains**
Jenna Diefenderfer^{1,2}, Emily A. Higgins Keppler^{1,2,3}, Heather D. Bean^{1,2}, Thomas E. Gry³
¹School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA. ²Center for Fundamental and Applied Microbiomics, The Biodesign Institute, Tempe, USA. ³Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, USA
- 19. Characterization of *Coccidioides* Proteins through Heterologous Expression and Genetic Analysis**
Nicole Dulin, Erik Settles, Bridget Barker
Pathogen and Microbiome Institute, Flagstaff, USA
- 20. Fungal Chromosome Assembly Tool (FunCAT): A Versatile De Novo Genome Assembler for Fungal Researchers**
Jacob Durazo¹, Sinem Beyhan^{2,3,4}
¹J. Craig Venter Institute, La Jolla, USA. ²J. Craig Venter Institute, San Diego, USA. ³UC San Diego, San Diego, USA. ⁴Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System, San Diego, USA
- 21. Leveraging California's Plant Biodiversity to Discover Novel Antifungal Agents Against *Coccidioides***
Adeola Fagbayibo¹, Susana Tejada-Garibay¹, Vladimir Maslivet², Christine Richey³, James La-clair⁴, Joseph Noel⁵, Katrina Hoyer¹
¹University of California Merced, Merced, USA. ²Salk Institute for Biological Studies, San Diego, USA. ³University of California Merced, Merced, USA. ⁴University of California San Diego, San Diego, USA. ⁵Salk Institute for Biological Studies, San Diego, USA
- 22. CRISPR-Mediated *Drk1* Disruption Inhibits the Activity of Ambruticin Analogues in *Coccidioides posadasii***
Frances Faguy¹, Mohit Kumar², Matthew Morales¹, Katrina Jackson¹, Bridget Barker¹, Maciej Walczak²
¹Pathogen and Microbiome Institute at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ²Department of Chemistry, University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, USA
- 23. Evaluation of a Desirability of Outcome Ranking (DOOR) Scale for Patients with Coccidioidomycosis on Antifungal Therapy**
Michelle Fang¹, Bianca Torres¹, Carlos D'Assumpcao^{1,2,3}, Rasha Kuran^{1,2,3}, Royce H. Johnson^{1,2,3}, Shikha Mishra^{1,2,3}
¹Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ²Division of Infectious Diseases, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ³Department of Medicine, David Geffen School Of Medicine, UCLA, Los Angeles, USA
- 24. Investigating the Role of Programmed Cell Death in Arthroconidial Development in *Coccidioides posadasii* Using Single-Cell Transcriptomics**
Kristopher Fleming¹, Edyta Szewczyk¹, Kaylee C. Christensen², Christina M. Homer³, Anita Sil⁴, Rachel B. Brem¹
¹University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ²University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu, USA. ³Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, USA. ⁴University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, USA

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- 25. Hypothesis on the Dust-Borne Atmospheric Transport of *Coccidioides***
Morgan Gorris¹, Bridget Barker²
¹Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, USA. ²Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA
- 26. The Coevolution of Virulence in Valley Fever**
Julian Gottfried
Stanford University, Stanford, USA
- 27. Seroreactivity to TP Antigen Revisited**
Francisca Grill^{1,2}, D. Mitchell Magee³, Thomas Grys^{4,2}, Douglas Lake^{1,2}
¹School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA. ²Cactus Bio, LLC, Phoenix, USA. ³Center for Personalized Diagnostics, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA. ⁴Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, USA
- 28. Analysis of Patient Symptoms, Titers, and Treatments Using the *Coccidioides* Complex Longitudinal Abstraction Tool (CLAT)**
Crystal Grys^{1,2}, Janis Blair¹, Thomas Grys¹
¹Mayo Clinic Arizona, Phoenix, USA. ²LIT Health Consulting, Scottsdale, USA
- 29. Identifying and Characterizing Potential Virulence Factors in *Coccidioides***
Jane Symington¹, Mark Voorhies¹, Bevin English¹, Christina Homer², Apoorva Dabholkar¹, Anita Sil^{1,3}
¹University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, USA. ²Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, USA. ³Biohub, San Francisco, San Francisco, USA
- 30. Investigation of a Breath-Based Volatile Biomarker Diagnostic for Valley Fever: Study Design and Enrollment Progress**
Emily A. Higgins Keppler^{1,2,3}, Jenna Diefenderfer^{1,2}, Karen L. Pederson⁴, Kenta S. Reilly³, Emily R. Koivisto⁴, Crystal A. Grys³, Janis E. Blair⁴, Thomas E. Grys³, Heather D. Bean^{1,2}
¹School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, USA. ²Center for Fundamental and Applied Microbiomics, The Biodesign Institute, Tempe, AZ, USA. ³Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ, USA. ⁴Valley Fever Clinic, Division of Infectious Diseases, Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ, USA
- 31. Loss-of-Function *GNAI2* Mutation Underlying Disseminated *Coccidioidomycosis* Causes Impaired Leukocyte Chemotaxis**
Il-Young Hwang¹, Dani Fink², Chung Park¹, Li Ma³, Joie Davis³, Steven M. Holland³, John N. Galgiani⁴, Douglas B. Kuhns², John H. Kehrl¹, Amy P. Hsu³
¹B-Cell Molecular Immunology Section, Laboratory of Immunoregulation, NIAID, NIH, Bethesda, USA. ²Neutrophil Monitoring Laboratory, Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research, Frederick, USA. ³Immunopathogenesis Section, Laboratory of Clinical Immunology and Microbiology, NIAID, NIH, Bethesda, USA. ⁴Valley Fever Center for Excellence, University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, USA
- 32. Seasonal and Geographic Trends in Pediatric *Coccidioidomycosis* at a Southern California Children's Hospital**
Aditi Iyer¹, Thomas Barter², Priya Edward², Melissa Montague², Elissa Singson², Jean Meadows², Regina Orbach², Sindhu Mohandas²
¹Children's Hospital Los Angeles, La Canada Flintridge, USA. ²Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA

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- | | |
|-----|---|
| 33. | Development of a Mouse Model of Coccidioidomycosis Granulomas to Characterize Granuloma Formation, Structure, and Function |
| | <u>Katrina Jackson</u> ¹ , Mame Ndiaye ¹ , Ana Braga ¹ , Ray Woodyard ² , Paul Keim ¹ , Kelly Shepardson ² , Erik Settles ¹ , Bridget Barker ¹
¹ Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ² University of California, Merced, USA |
| 34. | De Novo Chromosomal-Level Assemblies of <i>Coccidioides</i> Species Reveal Interspecies and Intraspecies Genomic Rearrangements |
| | <u>Melanie Jimenez</u> ¹ , Jacob R. Durazo ² , Matthew N. Tate ¹ , Theo N. Kirkland ³ , Marc J. Orbach ⁴ , John N. Galgiani ⁵ , Jason E. Stajich ⁶ , Kelsey Aadland ⁷ , Sinem Beyhan ^{1,3,2}
¹ Veterans Affairs San Diego Healthcare System, San Diego, USA. ² J. Craig Venter Institute, San Diego, USA. ³ University of California, San Diego, San Diego, USA. ⁴ School of Plant Sciences, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ⁵ Valley Fever Center for Excellence, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. ⁶ Dept Microbiology and Plant Pathology, UC Riverside, Riverside, USA. ⁷ Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA |
| 35. | Anti-Complementary Activity in <i>Coccidioides</i> Serology Testing: A Cohort Study |
| | <u>Erin Kaleta</u> , Janis Blair, Holenarasipur Vikram
Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, USA |
| 36. | Steroids: A Potion or Poison? A Case of Severe Cardiopulmonary Coccidioidomycosis Following Corticosteroid Exposure |
| | <u>Sukhjinder Sandhu</u> ¹ , Aldrin C. P. Alpuerto ² , Arash Heidari ^{3,4}
¹ California State University Bakersfield, Bakersfield, USA. ² Cardiothoracic Surgery Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, Bakersfield, USA. ³ Internal Medicine Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴ Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, USA |
| 37. | Is Immunogenicity Immunodestiny? A Case of Severe Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis With Osseous Dissemination in a Host With a Chromosome 13q Deletion |
| | <u>Sukhjinder Sandhu</u> ¹ , Arash Heidari ^{2,3}
¹ California State University Bakersfield, Bakersfield, USA. ² Internal Medicine, Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, Bakersfield, USA. ³ Morehouse School of Medicine., Atlanta, USA |
| 38. | Valley Fever Without Borders: Coccidioidomycosis Crossing Tissue Planes |
| | <u>Amandeep Kaur, M.D.</u> , Geetha Sivasubramanian, M.D.
UCSF Fresno, Fresno, USA |

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Even-numbered posters will present at 6:00 pm, and **odd**-numbered posters will present at 7:00 pm

41. From Metastasis to Dissemination: A Multidisciplinary Story

Lianna Khachikyan¹, Shayan Najafi^{2,3}, Ramanjeet Sidhu^{2,3}, Arash Heidari^{2,3}

¹Touro University California College of Osteopathic Medicine, Vallejo, USA. ²Internal Medicine, Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, Bakersfield, USA.

³Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

42. Evidence for Mycovirus Infection in *Coccidioides* spp.

Stefano D. Togatorop¹, Andre G. Rodrigues¹, Iulia Craciun¹, Robert H. A. Coutts², David A. Stevens³, Ioly Kotta-Loizou^{4,1,2}

¹University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom. ²University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, United Kingdom. ³Stanford University, Palo Alto, USA.

⁴Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom

43. An Unusual Cause of Primary Hyperparathyroidism in an Endemic Region

Stephanie Kristo¹, Hong Ju Kim¹, Seema Policepatil^{1,2}, Geetha Sivasubramanian¹

¹UCSF Fresno, Fresno, USA. ²VA Fresno, Fresno, USA

44. Coccidioidomycosis Testing Among Hospitalized Patients With Community-Acquired Pneumonia

Saima Tisekar¹, Yehia S. Aboalmaaty¹, Gretchen Taylor², Janis Blair¹

¹Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Mayo Clinic Arizona, Phoenix, USA. ²Division of Hospital Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine, Mayo Clinic Arizona, Phoenix, USA

45. Parsimonious Machine Learning Methods for Time Series Forecasting of Valley Fever Infection in Maricopa County, Arizona

Tiffany Le

University of Arizona, Tucson, USA

46. Long-Term Dermatologic Adverse Effects of Voriconazole in the Treatment of Coccidioidomycosis Meningitis

Soe Win¹, Angela Mack²

¹Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Bakersfield, USA. ²Kaiser Permanente, Bakersfield, USA

47. Population Structure, Dispersal, and Recent Expansion of *Coccidioides* spp. in the United States: A Genomic Epidemiology Study

Emanuel Masiero da Fonseca¹, Kevin Perry¹, Bridget Barker², Megan Hirschi¹, Kimberly Hanson¹, Katharine Walter¹

¹University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA. ²Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA

48. A Case of Successful Control of Refractory *Coccidioides* Meningitis With MAT2203

Sanjay Mehta^{1,2}, Scott Johns¹, Theresa Matkovits³, James Ferguson³, Joshua Fierer^{1,2}

¹San Diego Veterans Affairs Medical Center, SAN DIEGO, USA. ²University of California San Diego, La Jolla, USA. ³Matinas Biopharma, Bridgewater, USA

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- 49. A Rare Case of Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis Found in a Thyroglossal Duct Cyst**
Erin Kim¹, Bianca Torres², Safa Mousavi², Jigar Patel^{2,3}, Jagadeesh Batana^{2,3}, Carlos D'Assumpcao^{2,3,4}, Rasha Kuran^{2,3,4}, Tung Trang⁵, Royce H. Johnson^{2,3,4}, Shikha Mishra^{2,3,4}
¹Western University of Health Sciences COMP, Pomona, USA. ²Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ³Division of Infectious Disease, Department of Medicine, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴Department of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, USA. ⁵Department of Otolaryngology, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA
- 50. Phenotyping CRISPR-Cas9 Deletion Mutants in *Coccidioides posadasii***
Matthew Morales¹, Katrina Jackson¹, Frances Faguy¹, Christina Homer², Anita Sil², Bridget Barker^{1,3}
¹Pathogen and Microbiome Institute, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA. ²Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, USA. ³Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, USA
- 51. Transient Ischemic Attack as a Presenting Manifestation of Coccidioidal Meningitis: A Review of Four Cases**
Safa Mousavi^{1,2}, Divanshu Sharma¹, Shikha Mishra^{3,1}, Bianca Torres¹, Jigar Patel^{3,1}, Michelle Fang¹, Rasha Kuran^{3,1}, Carlos D'Assumpcao^{3,1}, Katayoun Sabetian⁴, Royce Johnson^{3,1}
¹Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ²California State University, Bakersfield, USA. ³Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Disease, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴Department of Neurology, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA
- 52. Optimizing RT-qPCR to Measure *Coccidioides* Growth from *in vitro* Infection Experiments**
Sayantani Mukherjee^{1,2}, Noah Heiderscheidt³, Arjun Rustagi^{2,1}
¹NCIRE, San Francisco, USA. ²UCSF, San Francisco, USA. ³UC Berkeley, Berkeley, USA
- 53. Engineering *Coccidioides posadasii* with Red Fluorescent Protein via CRISPR-Cas9 for Enhanced In Vivo Imaging and Model Development**
Peter Nguyen^{1,2}, Adeola Fagbayibo^{2,3}, Christine Richey^{2,4}, Katrina Hoyer^{2,3,5}
¹San Joaquin Valley Program in Medical Education+, University of California Merced, Merced, USA. ²Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California Merced, Merced, USA. ³Quantitative and Systems Biology Graduate Program, University of California Merced, Merced, USA. ⁴Department of Public Health, University of California Merced, Merced, USA. ⁵Health Sciences Research Institute, University of California Merced, Merced, USA
- 54. Monocytopenia and Recurrent Infections in a Young Adult Female: A Case of GATA2 Deficiency Identified Through Coccidioidomycosis Infection**
Nelson Nicolasora¹, O'Neil Filloon², Amy Hsu³, Steve Holland⁴, John Galgiani⁵
¹Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, College of Medicine-Phoenix, Phoenix, USA. ²Department of Internal Medicine Residency Program, Phoenix, USA. ³Division of Intramural Research and Immunopathogenesis Section, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA. ⁴Division of Intramural Research and Immunopathogenesis Section, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA. ⁵Valley Fever Center of Excellence, Department of Medicine, and Department of Immunobiology, College of Medicine-Tucson, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA

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- 55. Adherence to CDC Coccidioidomycosis Clinical Testing Recommendations and the Utility of Enzyme Immunoassays for Public Health Case Classification—Utah, 2024–2025**
BreAnne Osborn, Gentry Lange
Utah Department of Health and Human Services, Salt Lake City, USA
- 56. The Geography and Impact of Coccidioidomycosis: Analysis of the VA VBEZD Dashboard**
Ariana Paredes-Vincent¹, Neil M. Ampel², Julianne Reynolds³, Christopher Woods³, Maria Rodriguez Barradas⁴, Robert Bonomo⁵, Lauren Epstein⁶, Sheldon Brown⁷
¹VA SHIELD, Washington, DC, USA. ²SAVAHCS, Tucson, AZ, USA. ³Durham VA Medical Center, Durham, NC, USA. ⁴DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX, USA. ⁵Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, Cleveland, OH, USA. ⁶Atlanta VA Medical Center, Atlanta, GA, USA. ⁷James J. Peters VA Medical Center, Bronx, NY, USA
- 57. Relapse of Coccidioidomycosis: A 40-Year Story**
Sumeet Bhardwaj¹, Johnathan Liguori², Jigar Patel³, Jagadeesh Batana³, Shikha Mishra³, Bianca Torres³, Carlos D'Assumpcao³, Rasha Kuran³, Royce Johnson³
¹Kansas City University, Kansas City, USA. ²New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine, Jonesboro, USA. ³Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA
- 58. Consequences of Early Empiric Antibiotics on the Outcomes of Primary Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis**
Niriksha Ravi¹, Matthew Buras², Jaxon Quillen², Janis Blair²
¹Bronxcare, New York, USA. ²Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, USA
- 59. Screening of a DNA Insertion Mutant Library Identifies Two Novel Virulence Factors, Cp13 and Cp30, in *Coccidioides posadasii***
Parker Reitler, Matthew Barker, Sofia Lozano, Jieh-Juen Yu, Chiung-Yu Hung
The University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, USA
- 60. Update on FDA CBER Pre-IND Review of a Live Attenuated *Δcsp1 Coccidioides posadasii* Vaccine**
Edward Robb¹, David David Buryette¹, Robert Robert Kaminski², Lauren Lauren Schoukroun-Barnes²
¹Anivive Life Sciences Inc, Long Beach, USA. ²Latham BioPharm Group, Cambridge, USA
- 61. In Silico Discovery of Potential Therapeutic Compounds for Coccidioidomycosis (San Joaquin Valley Fever)**
Benjamin Roh, Dr. Roberto Garza-López
Pomona College, Claremont, USA
- 62. Inside the Valley Fever Granuloma: Spatial Transcriptomic Mapping of the Immune Landscape in a Human Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis Granuloma**
Arjun Rustagi^{1,2}, Kareena Kanumury³, Naoki Akanuma⁴, Dongguang Wei⁴, Geetha Sivasubramanian⁵, George Thompson⁴
¹UCSF, San Francisco, USA. ²NCIRE, San Francisco, USA. ³UC Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. ⁴UC Davis, Sacramento, USA. ⁵UCSF Fresno, Fresno, USA

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- 63. Evaluation of Three Commercially Available Serological Tests for Early Diagnosis of Coccidioidomycosis**
Sarah Gwyn, Mitsuru Toda, Dallas J. Smith, Bruno C. Rediguieri, Anastasia Litvintseva
Mycotic Diseases Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA
- 64. Environmental Sampling for *Coccidioides* Exposure in Southern New Mexico: A Preliminary Assessment of Valley Fever Risk**
Angela Al-Hanna, Sebastian Kania, Christopher Peverada, Diane Schulmeister, David Trejo
Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine, Las Cruces, USA
- 65. Treatment of Coccidioidal Peritonitis: A Case Series**
Jamilah Shubeilat, Sandhya Nagarakanti, Abeer Almajali, Jaxon Quillen, Matthew Buras, Lisa Speiser, Janis Blair
Mayo Clinic Arizona, Phoenix, USA
- 66. Identifying Disseminated Coccidioidomycosis From Electronic Health Records (EHR)**
Alexis V Stephens¹, Maria I Garcia-Iloret², Manish J Butte²
¹Department of Human Genetics, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA. ²Pediatric Allergy/Immunology and Rheumatology at University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA
- 67. Cavitary Coccidioidomycosis Complicated by Bronchopleural Fistula: Sequential Management With a Heimlich Valve and Zephyr Endobronchial Valves**
Sukhjinder Sandhu¹, Konstantino Papatheodorou², Aldrin C. P. Alpuerto³, Arash Heidari^{4,5}
¹California State University Bakersfield, Bakersfield, USA. ²Touro University California College of Osteopathic Medicine, Vallejo, USA. ³Cardiothoracic Surgery, Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴Internal Medicine, Bakersfield Memorial Hospital, Bakersfield, USA. ⁵Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, USA
- 68. Fosmanogepix Treatment for Coccidioidomycosis Under an Expanded Access Program**
Stuart Cohen¹, Paul Allyn², Felicia Chow³, Jennifer Rathe⁴, Deepa Nanayakkara⁵, Gerald Hutflles⁶, Tara Vijayan², Ethan Smith², Christopher Saling⁷, Dan Ilges⁷, Haran Schlamm⁸, George Thompson¹
¹UC-Davis, Sacramento, USA. ²UCLA, Los Angeles, USA. ³UCSF, San Francisco, USA. ⁴Childrens National, Los Angeles, USA. ⁵City of Hope, Duarte, USA. ⁶Kaiser Permanente, Clackamas, USA. ⁷Mayo-Phoenix, Phoenix, USA. ⁸HTS pharma, San Diego, USA
- 69. Secondary Spontaneous Pneumothorax as a Presenting Manifestation of Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis**
Olivia Tolbert¹, Geetha Sivasubramanian²
¹University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, USA. ²UCSF Fresno, Fresno, USA
- 70. Mucin Exposure Modulates Growth and Colony Morphology of *Coccidioides posadasii***
Tahirah Williams, Clarissa Nobile
University of California, Merced, Merced, USA

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- 71. Coccidioidal Meningitis With Superimposed *Staphylococcus epidermidis* Treated With Intrathecal Vancomycin**
Elijah Saucedo¹, Bianca Torres², Jigar Patel^{2,3}, Jagadeesh Batana^{2,3}, Gabriel Lopez², Carlos D'Assumpcao^{2,3,4}, Rasha Kuran^{2,3,4}, Shikha Mishra^{2,3,4}, Royce H. Johnson^{2,3,4}, Jeff Jolliff^{2,5}
¹Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ²Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ³Division of Infectious Disease, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴Department of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, USA. ⁵Department of Pharmacy, Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA
- 72. Comparative Study of Patient Clinical Characteristics in Valley Fever–Associated Mortality: A 2014 Record Review**
Thomas Williamson, Gwen Borlaug, Neil Ampel, Irene Ruberto
Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix, USA
- 73. Characteristics of Coccidioidomycosis Over a 10-Year Period, 2013–2023, in a Large Integrated Healthcare System**
Soe Win¹, Royce Johnson², Angela Mack³, Jane Lin⁴, (Jonathan) Hien Truong⁵, Aung Kyaw Htoo¹, Michael Fassett⁶
¹Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Bakersfield, USA. ²Kern Medical, Bakersfield, USA. ³Kaiser Permanente, Bakersfield, USA. ⁴Kaiser Permanente, Pasadena, USA. ⁵Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Lancaster, USA. ⁶Southern California Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles, USA
- 74. Development of the MVDx Valley Fever Antibody Lateral Flow Device**
Steven Zucker, Hannah Niyaz, Eric Holbrook, Nicole Bridges
MiraVista Diagnostics, Indianapolis, USA
- 75. Clinical and Genomic Characterization of Valley Fever: Insights From a Veteran Patient Cohort**
Cynthia Lucero-Obusan¹, Connor Edson¹, Gina Oda¹, Joyce Chung¹, Mark Holodniy^{1,2}
¹US Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Public Health, Palo Alto, CA, USA. ²Stanford University, Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine, Stanford, CA, USA
- 76. The Cocci CAP Initiative: A Prospective Comparative Study of Clinician-Driven Screening for Coccidioidomycosis in the Emergency Department in Arizona**
Luis Mendez¹, John Galgiani², Pedro Rodriguez¹, Emily Mancinas¹, Zachary Contursi², Jorge Reynoso¹, Ernesto Iniguez¹
¹University of Arizona, Surprise, USA. ²Univeristy of Arizona, Tucson, USA
- 77. Arizona and California Coccidioidomycosis Death Rate Trends by Race-State-Quinquennia And California Black Inmate Numbers and Cocci Area Prisons And Exclusion Policies, 1979-2024**
Bruce Leistikow
State and University of California, Semi-retired, Davis, USA

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