

TV CORE

February 2024

Monthly Newsletter



DOUGLAS RICHMAN, MD

Dr. Doug Richman is the founding director at the Center for AIDS Research at UCSD. He is a Distinguished Professor of Pathology and Medicine (Active Emeritus) and held the Florence Seeley Riford Chair in AIDS Research until going Active Emeritus in 2019. He played a key role in developing the first antiretroviral drugs and designing early clinical trials for HIV treatment. His current research centers on the latent HIV reservoir and efforts to eradicate it. Dr. Richman is a Fellow of several prestigious scientific societies and has made significant contributions to understanding HIV pathogenesis, treatment, and drug resistance.

In his free time, Dr. Richman enjoys food and wine, reading books, and exercise including jogging, tennis, swimming, and skiing. He lives with his wife of 58 years and his son, daughter, and granddaughter are close by in San Diego.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

DNA methylation, an epigenetic mechanism that usually turns off gene expression, can also silence HIV in lab models. However, its role in HIV persistence in people on ART is unclear. Differences in where the virus integrates into the genome, how many functional copies are present, biased sampling, and PCR amplification can all affect results. New research on DNA methylation in genes gives us important clues about how it might work in HIV.

Wanna know more? Read the full publication by LaMere SA, Chaillon A, Huynh C, Smith DM, Gianella S: [HERE](#) and ask Sarah LaMere about her latest research project in the field!

Photo: Yiji, Megha, Momta, Vanessa and Tina prepping for rapid autopsy of our first LG participant without HIV!



LOOKING FORWARD

The Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) is coming up next week! We look forward to seeing the contributions of all attendees with great anticipation.

March is also "Women's History Month." Let us honor and celebrate the priceless contributions of women in the field of research!

TRY SOMETHING NEW!

As the weather warms up, there are plenty of new things to go out and try! Following the rains, the mountains are green and blossoming with flowers. Try a new hike!

One recommended hike: "Potato Chip Rock" in Poway. There are multiple trails to do this hike but for a good 7.5 mile trek, start at Lake Poway.

Address: Lake Poway, 14644 Lake Poway Rd, Poway, CA 92064.

The hike starts in Lake Poway Park that has picnic tables, bathrooms, and parking. Entrance is free on weekdays but be aware that there is a non-Poway resident fee on weekends and holidays!

There is a shorter route that starts at the side of Route 67.

Recommendations: Go early! The park opens at 6 am. When you are done, Brendan recommends going to Mary's donuts located at 8959 Carlton Hills Blvd, Santee, CA 92071



Photo: Mattia learning how to do library preps with the best! How lucky :)



HELPFUL LINKS

[CFAR Main Website](#)

[UCSD Health Same Day Flu Shots](#)

[CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)

[Getting Your COVID-19 Vaccine: SD County](#)

[San Diego VA: PIV Card information](#)

Follow the UCSD HIV Institute on instagram @ucsdhiv

SHOUTOUT!

We want to wish a very happy birthday to Doug (2/15), Tina (2/21), and Nadeja (2/26)!

The lab family has grown with Elizabeth giving birth to a beautiful baby girl, Genevieve. Congratulations!

And a welcome to the family for Sara's new puppy Xochitl (below)!

REMINDER: MONDAY 3/4 IS LAB CLEANUP DAY! EVERYONE NEEDS TO HELP

