

CV of Failures*

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"Fail early, fail often, but always fail forward."
-John Maxwell

Degree Programs I Did Not Get Into

M.D. Emory and Vanderbilt

Promotion Difficulties

Assistant Professor 4th Year Appraisal- Favorable with Reservations

Chair of Medicine, Department of Medicine, UCSD 2019

Chair of Medicine, Department of Medicine, UCLA 2021

Examples of Administrative Failures

2017, Unable to successfully negotiate sustainable HCV Clinic in ID at UCSD Health

2016-present, Failed 2 clinical and 5 research faculty recruitments or retentions

Examples of Clinical Failures

2009, Misdiagnosis of my own cerebellar stroke as vestibulitis

2012, Misdiagnosis of my father's epidural abscess as back strain

2018, Missed Candida abscess in patient's brain stem. He died.

2022, Missed diagnosis of necrotizing fasciitis. Caught by Critical Care team.

Examples of Mentoring Failures

2010-present, 4 post-doctoral fellows not receiving K awards after 2 attempts

Example of Research Failures

2010, Contaminated sequences originally included in published paper. Butler et al., Smith. *Sci Transl Med.* 2010 Feb 10;2(18):18re1. Clarified in Heath et al. *Sci Transl Med.* 2010 Sep 22;2(50):50le1.

2020, A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy of Hydroxychloroquine and Azithromycin to Prevent Hospitalization or Death in Persons with COVID-19 (HAZ COVID Trial) stopped 6 weeks after starting for lack of enrollment.

Research Society Positions I Did Not Get

2017 AIDS Clinical Trials Group Vice-Chair of HIV Reservoirs Transformative Scientific Group

Fellowships and Honors Not Awarded

1985 Red Bank Junior High Honor Society
1996 Senior Medical Student Internal Medicine Award
2002 Doris Duke Clinical Scientist Program
2008 Burroughs Wellcome Career Award
2016 Howard Hughes Medical Institute
2018 McArthur Foundation Genius Grant

Journals Never Accepting One of My Manuscripts

eLife, Lancet, PLoS Biology

Highest Number of Rejections for a Paper Until Published:

11 (Smith et al. *Virology* 2006)

Grants Not Awarded, 26 (and counting)

*Inspired by Johannes Haushofer and Melanie Stefan

https://www.princeton.edu/~joha/Johannes_Haushofer_CV_of_Failures.pdf

www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/articles/10.1038/nj7322-467a