Tip Hep C Webinar March 15, 2023 Speaker Bios:

Dr. John Cafardi, MD
Assistant Chair for research and Director of transplant infectious diseases, The Christ Network Hospital
Assistant Professor of Medicine (adj), University of Cincinnati

Dr. Cafardi is the assistant chair for research and director of transplant infectious diseases at The Christ Hospital in Cincinnati, OH. He is also assistant professor of medicine (adj) at the University of Cincinnati. His clinical and research interests are HIV and hepatitis in special populations, specifically persons who inject drugs, organ transplant recipients and pregnancy.

Dr. Catherine Chappell, MD, MSc
Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Magee - Women's Hospital

Catherine Chappell is an Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences. She completed medical school and residency at the University of Texas Southwestern and then did fellowships in reproductive infectious diseases and family planning at the University of Pittsburgh. Her research is currently focused on evaluating the efficacy and safety of direct-acting antivirals for hepatitis C treatment during pregnancy. More information about Dr.
Dr. Ahizechukwu Eke, MD, PhD, MPH
Associate Professor, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Department of Gynecology & Obstetrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Ahizechukwu Eke, MD, PhD MPH, is an Associate Professor within the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He earned his medical degree from the University of Calabar School of Medicine (UCTH), Nigeria, and completed two residencies in Obstetrics & Gynecology - at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University College of Medicine, Nigeria (in 2010) and Michigan State University (in 2016). He continued his training at Harvard University to earn a Master of Public Health (MPH) in Health Policy & Management. Dr. Eke completed a dual Fellowship in Maternal Fetal Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 2019, and completed a PhD in Clinical Investigation/Clinical Pharmacology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health.

His research focuses on the pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacoepidemiology and pharmacogenomics of anti-infective drugs (antiretrovirals, antivirals for Hepatitis B and C, anti-Tuberculosis agents) used during pregnancy. He is the Principal Investigator (PI) of an NIH/NICHD K23 study titled “Understanding medication adherence benchmarks, safety and pharmacometrics of novel antiretrovirals in pregnant women living with HIV,” PI of a Center For AIDS Research (CFAR) study on “Tenofovir alafenamide pharmacokinetics in pregnancy and postpartum”, and Chair of the International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials network (IMPAACT 2041) focused on the pharmacokinetics of Glecaprevir/Pibrentasvir used in pregnancy. His long-term professional goal is to establish an independent research program in pregnant women, with a particular emphasis on the discovery and elucidation of the pharmacology of novel medications used to mitigate pregnancy-related complications.

He has served the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine (SMFM) in many ways. He currently serves on the ACOG Clinical Guidelines Committee. He serves on several other national and international OBGYN committees, including the FDA’s Advisory Council for 17-hydroxyprogesterone caproate (Makena) and the Cochrane Collaboration. Dr. Eke
has over 100 PubMed cited peer-reviewed research publications, and has won several teaching and research awards.

Dr. Lizzie Chappell, PhD, MSc  
Senior Research Fellow in Statistics, MRC Clinical Trials Unit, University College London

Dr. Chappell is a Senior Research Fellow in Statistics at the MRC Clinical Trials Unit at UCL, working on clinical trials and observational studies in infectious diseases in pregnant women and children, in particular hepatitis C and HIV.

Dr. Kate Woodworth, MD, MPH, FAAP  
Medical Officer, Emerging Threats Team, Division of Birth Defects and Infant Disorders, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Dr. Kate Woodworth is a pediatrician at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the Division of Birth Defects and Infant Disorders. As Medical Officer for the Emerging Threats Team, Dr. Woodworth supports efforts to detect the effects of new health threats, like COVID-19, on pregnant people and their babies by collecting data from pregnancy through childhood. Dr. Woodworth first joined CDC in 2015 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer and served on the frontlines of public health responses including Ebola, Zika virus, and
COVID-19. Her main areas of focus include surveillance for emerging threats to mothers and babies, assessing the impact of prenatal exposures on longitudinal infant outcomes, congenital and perinatal infections, and novel surveillance approaches to provide data for public health action.

Dr. Nahida Chakhtoura, MD

Branch Chief of Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch, National Institute of Child Health and Development, NIH

Dr. Chakhtoura's main research areas include: the epidemiology and natural history of HIV infection in pregnant and non-pregnant women, HIV prevention and treatment research in pregnant and non-pregnant women, congenital infections such as Zika and cytomegalovirus, women’s health, and cohort studies and clinical trials. She also serves as the executive secretary of the HHS Panel on Treatment of Pregnant Women with HIV Infection and Prevention of Perinatal Transmission.

Dr. Chakhtoura received her M.D. from the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine, and her master of science in global health from Duke University. She completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Jackson Memorial Hospital and was a full time faculty at the University of Miami prior to joining NICHD. She still holds a volunteer faculty position with the University of Miami.

Dr. Tamara Johnson, MD, MS

Maternal Health Team Leader, Division of Pediatric and Maternal Health Office of Rare Diseases, Pediatrics, Urologic and Reproductive Medicine, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration

Dr. Tamara Johnson is a Lead Medical Officer of the Maternal Health Team within the Division of Pediatrics and Maternal Health (DPMH), Office of New Drugs (OND), Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food & Drug Administration. Dr. Johnson has been with the FDA for over 15 years. Initially, as a Medical Officer in the OND Division of
Gastroenterology and Inborn Errors Products, she has led the DPMH Maternal Health Team for 8 years. The Maternal Health Team is responsible for evaluating the safe use of drug and biologics products in pregnant and lactating women, and is involved in review of prescription drug labeling (including implementation of the Pregnancy and Lactation Labeling Rule (PLLR)), clinical lactation studies, and post-approval pregnancy safety studies. Dr. Johnson earned her Doctorate in Medicine from the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey. She completed internship at the Georgetown/Providence Hospital Family Medicine program and completed residency training in General Preventive Medicine/Public Health at the University of Maryland Baltimore.

Dr. Debika Bhattacharya, MD, MSc

Associate Clinical Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases
Associate Director, Infectious Diseases Fellowship Training Program,
University of California Los Angeles
Co-Director, NODES Program, Greater Los Angeles VA Healthcare System
Co-Director, Viral Hepatitis Program, Greater Los Angeles VA Healthcare System

Dr. Bhattacharya is an Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is the IDSA co-chair of the AASLD/IDSA Hepatitis C Treatment Guidance Panel and is also the Chair of the Hepatitis Transformative Science Group (TSG) in the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG). She is also on the writing panel for the CDC/NIH/HIVMA/IDSA/AAP Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections Among HIV-Exposed and HIV-Infected Children and a member of the Writing Panel for the NIH-CDC-HIVMA/IDSA Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Her NIH funded research focuses on clinical outcomes and clinical therapeutics in viral hepatitis, including in pregnant women.
Dr. Jodie Dionne, MD, MSPH, FIDSA

Associate Professor in Infectious Diseases, Chief of Women’s Health, 1917 HIV Clinic, and Associate Director of Global Health Center for Women’s Reproductive Health, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Dr. Jodie Dionne is a physician-scientist in Infectious Diseases and Global Women’s Health at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is Chief of Women’s Health at the 1917 HIV Clinic and Associate Director of Global Health at the UAB Center for Women’s Reproductive Health. Her research goal is to improve the prevention and treatment of viral hepatitis and other infections in women and pregnancy. Dr. Dionne is leading an NICHD funded randomized clinical trial focused on reducing perinatal transmission of hepatitis B in Cameroon and multicenter studies to test the efficacy and safety of new STI treatment and prevention options.

Dr. Monica Longo, MD, PhD

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), NIH

Dr. Monica Longo is an Obstetrician-Gynecologist with subspecialty training in Maternal Fetal Medicine. She also holds a PhD degree in Preventive Medicine and Community Health. Dr. Longo’s main research interests focus on the maternal physiological adaptations to pregnancy, and in particular the relationship with cardiovascular and metabolic disease in the mother and offspring. Dr. Longo received her medical degree in 1996 from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Modena, Italy. In June 1997, she joined the research team at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) where she earned her Master and PhD degrees, followed by residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology. While at UTMB, and with funding from NICHD, Dr. Longo developed a novel transgenic animal model of fetal programming. In 2013, Dr. Longo joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of
Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC) as an Associate Professor where she established a basic science research laboratory focusing on pregnancy complications using animal models. While at UTHSC, Dr. Longo pursued fellowship training in Maternal Fetal Medicine between 2016 and 2018. Dr. Longo was an active member of the faculty at UTHSC prior to joining NICHD in January 2021 with both clinical and research activities. Throughout her career, Dr. Longo has mentored several graduate students, fellows, residents, and faculty. By focusing on pregnancy, Dr. Longo’s ultimate career goal is to improve outcomes for mothers and children throughout the lifespan from preconception to later in life.