PEOPLE

Global HEALTH Briefs



New NIH eye institute director has global ties

Dr. Michael F. Chiang is the new director of NIH's National Eye Institute. An ophthalmologist, Chiang most recently was professor at Oregon Health & Science University and associate director of OHSU's Casey Eye Institute. He has research ties to Asia, Europe, the Middle East and South America.



NIH taps Criswell to lead arthritis, skin disease research NIH has selected Dr. Lindsey A. Criswell as the new director of

the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. Criswell was vice chancellor of research at the University of California, San Francisco. She has been principal investigator on multiple NIH grants and published more than 200 peer-reviewed papers.



D'Souza is the new director of NIH dental research

Dr. Rena D'Souza is the new director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. A past president of the International Association for Dental Research, D'Souza is vice president of health sciences at the University of Utah. Born in India, she has lived in the U.S. since 1978.



Fauci to receive RF Kennedy Ripple of Hope Award

Dr. Anthony Fauci will receive the Robert F. Kennedy Ripple of Hope Award during a virtual ceremony in December. The honor celebrates outstanding leaders who have demonstrated a commitment to social change. Fauci is recognized for his work as director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.



Fogarty mHealth grantee wins NIH tech competition

Fogarty grantee Dr. Young Kim has won the \$400,000 first prize in the NIH Technology Accelerator Challenge. The Purdue University engineering professor's proposal aims to develop a non-invasive, smartphone-based spectroscopy platform to detect anemia and sickle cell disease by analyzing photos of the microvasculature of the inner eyelid.



Meshnick remembered for dedication to global health

Fogarty grantee Dr. Steven Meshnick died of cancer in August. He was a professor of epidemiology at the University of North Carolina (UNC) and a member of the UNC Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases. Meshnick is being remembered for his work on malaria and other tropical diseases.



Former Fogarty bioethics trainee is honored

University of Ghana bioethicist Dr. Paulina Tindana has received the inaugural Forum on Bioethics in Research award for her paper, which explores the issue of informed consent regarding genomic research and establishment of biobanks in sub-Saharan Africa. Tindana is a former Fogarty bioethics trainee.

G-FINDER urges increased R&D investment

Funding for emerging infectious disease basic research and product development reached \$886 million in 2018, up 14%, according to the new G-FINDER report issued by Policy Cures Research, a global health think tank. However, the report's lead author says spending is "very reactive" and urged for more consistent investments to prepare for the next pandemic.

Full report: http://bit.ly/Gfinder2020

WHO: sepsis causes 20% of global deaths

Sepsis—the body's potentially deadly response to infection—is responsible for 1 in 5 deaths worldwide, the WHO warns in a new report. While most sepsis research is conducted in high-income countries, the majority of cases occur in low-resource settings. Nearly half of the 49 million cases each year occur among children, causing 2.9 million deaths.

Full report: http://bit.ly/WHOsepsis

NCD agenda should be reframed

The global approach to noncommunicable diseases and injuries needs an "urgent upgrade" to meet the needs of the world's poorest people, according to a recent Lancet Commission report. Potential solutions have placed an outsized focus on changing behavior, the authors maintain, instead of examining root causes of NCDs.

Full report: http://bit.ly/LancetNCD

Report examines AI's role in global health

A roadmap for applying artificial intelligence to global health problems was recently released by the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development's Digital Health Working Group. The report identifies high-leverage opportunities for AI to support global health projects for low- and middle-income settings and emphasizes the need to systematically integrate AI into healthcare infrastructures.

Full report: http://bit.ly/Alglobal

Child lead poisoning is global problem

A third of the world's children have been poisoned by lead, according to a new analysis by UNICEF and Pure Earth. The report says that around 1 in 3 children—up to 800 million globally—have blood lead levels higher than is deemed safe. Informal and substandard recycling of lead-acid batteries is a leading contributor.

Full report: http://bit.ly/UNICEFlead