

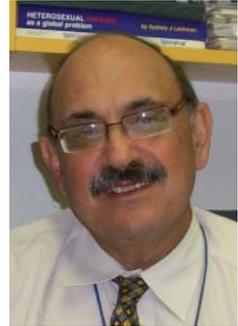


Guest Editors

Charles Feldman

Charles Feldman is currently the Professor of Pulmonology, Chief Physician, and Head of the Pulmonology Division at the Department of Internal Medicine, Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital and University of the Witwatersrand (Johannesburg, South Africa).

He received his undergraduate degree (MB BCh) from the University of the Witwatersrand in 1975. Following his internship at Johannesburg Hospital, he specialised in internal medicine, receiving his FCP (SA) in 1981. In 1993 he was registered as a pulmonologist. He was awarded his FRCP (UK) in 1997. His additional postgraduate degrees included a PhD (1991) and a DSc (2009) from the University of the Witwatersrand, both of these on the basis of a thesis in the field of CAP.



Charles Feldman has been active in both national and international societies. He has been President of the South African Thoracic Society (SATS) on two previous occasions, and is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Infectious Diseases Societies of Southern Africa (FIDSSA), a federation that represents all of the individual infectious disease societies in South Africa. He is also Editor-in-Chief of the Federation's Journal, the *Southern African Journal of Infectious Diseases*. Internationally, Charles Feldman has acted as the national delegate for South Africa for the European Respiratory Society (ERS), and in 2014 he was made a Foundation Fellow of the ERS in recognition of his sustained research in the field of respiratory diseases. He is also an active member of the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) and the American Thoracic Society (ATS).

Charles Feldman's research is translational and his interest is primarily in the field of CAP, particularly pneumococcal pneumonia, especially in the setting of HIV infection. His basic research has focused on the interactions between the various factors that play a role in the pathogenesis and outcome of pneumococcal infections, namely, the microorganism and its virulence factors, the various host defence mechanisms, and the

commonly used antimicrobial agents. As part of his clinical research, Charles Feldman has contributed to various multicentre international collaborative studies investigating multiple aspects of CAP.

Charles Feldman's research has been published more than 300 times, as books, book chapters, articles and abstracts. He has presented at more than 300 congresses, almost half of them international.

Eva Polverino



Eva Polverino is an expert in respiratory infections and is Senior Investigator at the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona (IDIBAPS, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain) and Associate Professor at the University of Barcelona.

She graduated in Medicine at the University of Naples (Naples, Italy) and went on to specialise in pulmonology at the University of Pisa (Pisa, Italy). After a training period at the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona focusing on gas exchange, she gained a PhD in cardiopulmonary pathophysiology at the University of Pisa. In 2007 she moved to the Department of Pulmonology at the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, working in the field of respiratory infections.

Eva Polverino is an active member of several respiratory societies: the European Respiratory Society (ERS), the American Thoracic Society (ATS), the Sociedad Española de Neumología y Cirugía Torácica (SEPAR), and the Catalan Society of Pulmonology (SOCAP). She is currently Chair of the ERS Respiratory Infections Group, Co-Chair and member of the Steering Committee of the European Registry and Clinical Research Collaborator in Bronchiectasis (EMBARC), and Chair of the European task force on adult non-CF bronchiectasis (ERS 2014).

Eva Polverino has been an oral session facilitator and speaker at many European, American, Latin-American and Italian respiratory congresses. She has presented more than 150 oral communications at scientific congresses/courses and more than 200 communications (abstracts, posters, *etc.*).

Eva Polverino's personal research interests focus on respiratory infections and particularly CAP, healthcare-associated CAP, cystic fibrosis and non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis, and humoral immunodeficiencies, with particular attention to epidemiology, risk factors, outcome, treatment and prevention of the most relevant respiratory infections.

Julio A. Ramirez

Julio A. Ramirez is the Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases, Professor of Medicine and the Director of the Infectious Diseases Fellowship Training Program at the University of Louisville School of Medicine (Louisville, KY, USA).

He received his medical degree and internal medicine training at La Plata National University School of Medical Science (La Plata, Argentina). He went on to complete: a fellowship in critical care medicine at the National Institute of Respiratory Diseases and Thoracic Surgery at the University of Chile (Santiago, Chile); a residency in internal medicine at the Lincoln Medical Center, New York Medical College (New York, NY, USA); and a fellowship in infectious diseases at the University of Louisville School of Medicine. He is board certified in internal medicine and holds a subspecialty certification in infectious diseases.

Julio Ramirez's research interests include clinical research in the field of pneumonia, and basic research in the field of diagnosis and pathogenesis of infections due to atypical pathogens. He has more than 100 publications in these areas, in journals such as *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Archives of Internal Medicine*, *Clinical Infectious Diseases* and *Chest*. He is also a reviewer for several journals including the *New England Journal of Medicine* and *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Julio Ramirez has served as a member of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) committee for the development of national guidelines for the management of CAP, and has served as a member of the Food and Drug Administration advisory committee for anti-infective drugs. He is also a Fellow in the American College of Physicians (ACCP).

