



# OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

## SEMINAR REPORT

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

March 27 – April 2, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the  
American Austrian Foundation

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# SALZBURG WEILL CORNELL SEMINAR IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

March 27 – April 2, 2022

28 fellows from 21 different countries
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9 faculty members from the United States of America and Austria
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19 lectures given by faculty
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26 interesting case presentations by fellows
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8 excellent case presentations by fellows
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Group Photo of Faculty and Fellows



**Salzburg Weill Cornell Seminar in Infectious Diseases**  
**Sunday, March 27 – Saturday, April 2, 2022**



		<b>Sunday</b> 27.03.2022	<b>Monday</b> 28.03.2022	<b>Tuesday</b> 29.03.2022	<b>Wednesday</b> 30.03.2022	<b>Thursday</b> 31.03.2022	<b>Friday</b> 01.04.2022	<b>Saturday</b> 02.04.2022
07:00	08:00		<b>BREAKFAST</b>	<b>BREAKFAST</b>	<b>BREAKFAST</b>	<b>BREAKFAST</b>	<b>BREAKFAST</b>	<b>DEPARTURES</b>
08:00	09:00		<b>Introductions Pre-Seminar Test</b>	<b>COVID Testing</b> Christoph Steininger, MD	<b>Post-COVID</b> Richard Crevenna, MD, MBA, MMSc	<b>Microbiome</b> Gregor Gorkiewicz, MD	<b>Helminth Infections</b> Khanh Pham, MD	
09:00	10:00		<b>Emerging ID</b> Christoph Steininger, MD	<b>COVID Clinical</b> Roy M. Gulick, MD, MPH	<b>Actinomyces</b> Christoph Steininger, MD	<b>Fever and Neutropenia</b> Priya Kodiyaplakkal, MD	<b>Infections in Cancer Patients</b> Priya Kodiyaplakkal, MD	
10:00	10:30		<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	
10:30	11:30		<b>Vaccines in Healthy Adults</b> Christine M. Salvatore, MD	<b>COVID Pediatrics</b> Christine M. Salvatore, MD	<b>Congenital Infections</b> Christine M. Salvatore, MD	<b>HIV Treatment and Prevention</b> Roy M. Gulick, MD, MPH	<b>Infections in Transplant Patients</b> Peter Jaksch, MD	
11:30	12:30		<b>Vaccines in Immunocompromised</b> Priya Kodiyaplakkal, MD	<b>COVID Treatment and Prevention</b> Roy M. Gulick, MD, MPH	<b>Study Design Part 2</b> Marshall J. Glesby, MD, PhD	<b>HIV Opportunistic Infections</b> Marshall J. Glesby, MD, PhD	<b>Post-Seminar Test Evaluation &amp; Discussion</b>	
12:30	14:00		<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	
14:00	15:00		<b>Study Design Part 1</b> Marshall J. Glesby, MD, PhD	<b>Workshop</b> Fellows' Case Presentations	<b>Free Afternoon</b>	<b>Workshop</b> Fellows' Case Presentations		
15:00	16:00	<b>Workshop</b> How to Present a Case						
16:00	17:00	<b>Workshop</b> Case Presentations by Faculty to Fellows						
17:00	18:00		<u>17:00 - 17:15</u> <b>OMI Presentation</b>					
18:00	19:00	<b>FACULTY MEETING TO REVIEW THE WEEK</b>					<b>FAREWELL RECEPTION</b>	
19:00	20:00	<b>WELCOME RECEPTION &amp; DINNER</b>	<b>DINNER</b>	<b>DINNER</b>	<b>DINNER</b>	<b>DINNER</b>	<b>GRADUATION DINNER</b> Certificates Awarded	
20:00	21:00					<u>20:30 - 21:30</u> <b>CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT</b>		



# OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

## FACULTY BOOKLET

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES SEMINAR IN SALZBURG

March 27 – April 2, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the  
American Austrian Foundation



## **Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD**

Director, Open Medical Institute  
**American Austrian Foundation**

Associate Dean and Gerhard Andlinger Professor  
for International Medicine & Distance Learning  
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Urology  
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Reproductive Medicine  
**Weill Medical College of Cornell University**

Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics  
**Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital  
of Philadelphia**

Associate Professor of Urology  
**Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria**

**Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD** is the Medical Director of the American Austrian Foundation. He is Associate Dean for International Medicine and Distance Learning, Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Urology and Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Reproductive Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University/New York Presbyterian Hospital. In 2016, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics in the Associated Faculty of the Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He is also Associate Prof. of Urology at the Medical University of Innsbruck and Visiting Professor at the Medical University of Vienna. Amongst others he is a member of the American, German and Austrian Societies of Urology and was awarded the Zuckermandpreis of the Austrian Society of Urology in 1989. In 1995 he received the Silver Medal, in 2007 the Golden Medal for Merits to the Republic of Austria and in 2014 the cross of honor of the Land Salzburg. As Director of the Medical Program of the American Austrian Foundation he has initiated the Open Medical Institute, a scientific and educational collaboration of Weill Cornell and the NewYork Presbyterian Hospital, the Children Hospital of Philadelphia, Duke University, Columbia University, the Cleveland Clinic and leading hospitals in Austria. Dr. Aulitzky earned his medical degree at the University of Innsbruck in 1977, was a research associate at the University of Uppsala, Sweden and the Rockefeller University, New York. He received his training as an urologist at the University of Innsbruck and the General Hospital of Salzburg. He is the author of more than 140 publications on Urology, Andrology and Health Care issues and is co-author of books on basic and clinical urology/andrology.



## **Roy M. Gulick, MD, MPH (Course Director)**

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**Roy M. Gulick, MD, MPH** is Rochelle Belfer Professor in Medicine and Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Weill Cornell Medicine, and Attending Physician at the New York Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. He is board certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases. Dr. Gulick's research interests include designing, conducting and analyzing clinical trials to refine treatment and prevention of HIV and more recently, SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19). He currently serves as Principal Investigator of the Cornell-New Jersey HIV Clinical Trials Unit of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) and the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN), sponsored by the U.S. National Institutes of Health. He also serves as the Co-Chair of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection as well as the U.S. National Institutes of Health COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel. He previously served as a Member and as Chair of the Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and as a Member and as Chair of the NIH Office of AIDS Research Advisory Committee (OARAC). He is a Member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, International AIDS Society, and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and has presented at national and international meetings and published widely.



## **Christoph Steininger, MD (Co-Course Director)**

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**Christoph Steininger, MD** is an infectious diseases specialist who focuses on viral and gastrointestinal infections. Dr. Steininger grew up in Upper Austria and completed his undergraduate studies in Steyr/ Upper Austria. He graduated from the Medical School of Leopold-Franzens University of Innsbruck, Austria. Dr. Steininger received his training as board certified specialist in Clinical Virology at the Department of Virology, Medical University of Vienna and additional training in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene at the Gorgas Memorial Institute, University of Alabama, Birmingham, USA and Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru. Thereafter, he started his training in Internal Medicine (Infectious Diseases & Gastroenterology) at the University Clinic Eppendorf, Department of Medicine I, Hamburg, Germany and completed this training at the Medical University of Vienna, Department of Medicine I, Vienna, Austria. Dr. Steininger earned special expertise in Gastroenterology & Hepatology at the Wilhelminenspital, Vienna, Austria and worked as a visiting professor at the University of California, San Diego, USA. Dr. Steininger's research interests include molecular virology and immunology of Cytomegalovirus, Helicobacter pylori infections and gastrointestinal infections in immunocompromised and oncology patients. Recent publications include reviews on Cytomegalovirus immunology and the human microbiome as well as peer-reviewed publications on Cytomegalovirus immunology and innate immunity to Hepatitis C virus infection. He is a peer reviewer for multiple major medical journals including Lancet, Lancet Infectious Diseases and Clinical Infectious Diseases and is member of the editorial board of Scientific Reports, a Nature Journal. Dr. Steininger's research efforts have earned him grants from multiple renowned organizations including the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, European Society of Virology, and Austrian Science Funds. Dr. Steininger is currently on the faculty of the Medical University of Vienna as Associate Professor of Medicine.



## **Richard Crevenna, MD, MBA, MMSc**

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**Richard Crevenna, MD, MBA, MMSc** is Head of the Department of Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation and Occupational Medicine, Medical University of Vienna, Austria. He is senior specialist in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, but also in Occupational Medicine, in Geriatrics and Gerontology. Furthermore, he has Master of Science degrees in Interdisciplinary Pain Medicine (Algesiology), Organisational and Occupational Medicine, and Business Administration (Health Care Management). Crevenna is so called Junior-President of the Austrian Society for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (OEGPMR), President of the Society for translational Research in cancer Rehabilitation (GEORG), President of the Austrian League for Lymphedema (OELL), President of the Austrian Society for Biofeedback and Psychophysiology (ÖBfP), President of the Advisory Board for People with Disabilities, Medical University of Vienna, Austria, Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts (EASA), and member of the European Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine (EARM). His main scientific topics are cancer rehabilitation, physical modalities, shockwave treatment (fESWT), biofeedback, medical exercise, and occupational medicine. To his opinion, communication, cooperation and network are - besides a very high competence in the field of PM&R - the most important strategies for physiatrists. His three sons (aged 10, 10, 14) are responsible for his work-life-balance.



## **Marshall J. Glesby, MD, PhD**

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**Marshall J. Glesby, MD, PhD** is an Infectious Diseases specialist who focuses on HIV. He grew up in Winnipeg, Canada and completed his undergraduate studies at McGill University in Montreal. He graduated from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and completed both his Internal Medicine residency and Infectious Diseases fellowship at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Concurrent with his fellowship, he completed a PhD in Clinical Investigation from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. Dr. Glesby's research interests are in complications of HIV infection, including aging-related, metabolic, and cardiopulmonary complications. He is an Assistant Editor of the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes and a peer reviewer for multiple journals. Dr. Glesby is a Professor of Medicine and Professor of Population Health Sciences at Weill Cornell Medicine and Associate Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases in the Department of Medicine. He is the Regional Clinical Director of the Northeast Caribbean AIDS Education and Training Center and directs the Weill Cornell HIV Clinical Trials Unit. In addition, he is a Program Advisor to and directs the Clinical Trials course of the Master of Science Program in Clinical and Translational Investigation at Weill Cornell.



## **Gregor Gorkiewicz, MD**

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**Gregor Gorkiewicz, MD** is a pathologist who studies the involvement of the human microbiome in health and disease development. His clinical expertise is focused on gastrointestinal, pulmonary and infectious disease pathology with a major focus on molecular methods. He established the service for diagnostic microbiome analysis at the university clinics, which is used from a wide range of disciplines for clinical care. His research laboratory studies the contribution of the gut microbiome in the context of GI diseases, specifically addressing the immunomodulatory potential of the microbiome and how this contributes to chronic inflammation in diseases like IBD or cancer. A major research focus is the modulation of the GI microbiome via fecal microbiota transplantation (FMT), which shows promising results in IBD patients. Together with his clinical partners he has established the workflows and frameworks for FMT wherein the Medical University of Graz has a strong internationally renowned profile. This is also a starting point to define the "active ingredients" of FMT to develop new "biotherapeutics" (e.g. artificial microbial consortia). He acts as the work-group chair of the infectious diseases pathology working group of the European Society of Pathology and serves as an academic editor for the journal MICROBIOME (BMC) and acts as a reviewer for several scientific journals and funding agencies.



## **Peter Jaksch, MD**

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**Peter Jaksch, MD** has been working in one of the largest lung TX centers worldwide for more than 18 years. More than 100 transplants are performed there each year. His main interests are clinical research projects and education. For the last five years, the TX center has provided so called “TX academies” about all aspects of LuTX, which has been received with excellent acceptance. In Austria, he started to involve pulmonologists more in the field of transplantation by using our local societies, offering workshops, and online media. The goal is to receive more experience in the field of lung transplantation, and on top of that, to learn about the “lung” problems of other immunosuppressed patients. In the last years, several projects with different LuTX centers have been initiated (Hannover, Oslo, Leuven, Budapest), which has led to some very interesting scientific papers. Dr. Jaksch and the TX center work together with lung transplanted patients. For example, he successfully climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro together with 10 LuTX patients (accompanied by medical doctors, psychologists, nurses). This journey entailed many television and radio interviews, presentations about meetings, and scientific papers. Furthermore, this event encouraged patients to accept lung transplantation as a treatment option.



## **Priya Kodiyanplakkal, MD**

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**Priya Kodiyanplakkal, MD** is originally from Guam. She received her B.S. degree from Yale University, her medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and continued to complete her internal medicine residency at Montefiore Medical Center in New York. She then went on to Columbia University Medical Center for her fellowship training in adult Infectious Diseases, before joining the faculty at Weill Cornell Medicine as an Instructor of Medicine and an attending physician at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Kodiyanplakkal is a clinician, whose teaching and clinical responsibilities focus on infections in immunocompromised patient populations. She is interested in the epidemiology of infections in immunocompromised hosts, and conducts clinical research focused on viral and bacterial infections in transplant recipients.



## **Khanh Pham, MD**

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**Khanh Pham, MD** is a senior clinical and research infectious diseases fellow at Weill Cornell in New York City, New York. Dr. Pham was born in Vietnam and came to the United States at a young age. He grew up in western Massachusetts where he completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, then re-located across town to attend the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester. During his time in Worcester, Dr. Pham developed a passion for working with underserved populations. He helped to coordinate the student-run free health clinics, which serve a large number of immigrants living in the Worcester area. He also volunteered for Big Brothers Big Sisters, which is a non-profit organization that offers one-to-one mentoring relationship to underserved children with the purpose of supporting critical social and emotional development needed to build resilience and promote the mental health and well-being of these children. Additionally, he was a member of the global health pathway and travelled to Chengdu, China during his first year of medical school to learn about the Chinese healthcare system. Dr. Pham later completed his Internal Medicine residency at Weill Cornell, where he continued to pursue his passion for global health by spending a 6-week elective in Mwanza, Tanzania. Given his interests and new-found love for New York, Dr. Pham stayed at Weill Cornell for his Infectious Diseases training. He is now conducting global health research that examines the relationship between schistosomiasis and cardiovascular disease under the mentorship of Dr. Jennifer A. Downs. Dr. Pham's research efforts have been recognized several times, including receipt of a Burroughs Welcome Fund from the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene. He lives in New York City with his wife and dog.



## Christine M. Salvatore, MD

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**Christine M. Salvatore, MD** is a pediatrician who specializes in pediatric infectious diseases. Dr Salvatore grew up in Trieste, Italy and she graduated from University of Trieste School of Medicine and completed her pediatric residency at the Children's Hospital "Burlo Garofolo" in Trieste. After working as a pediatric attending for few years in Italy, she went to the United States where she completed a new pediatric residency at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. She then obtained her fellowship in pediatric infectious diseases at University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Salvatore's research interest includes congenital infections, in particular congenital Cytomegalovirus infection, and the epidemiology, diagnostic and treatment of fungal infections in the pediatric population; she is a member of the International Pediatric Fungal Network. She also participates in pediatric clinical trials addressing new antimicrobials in the pediatric population. She is a peer reviewer for multiple General Pediatrics journals and Infectious Diseases journals. She is a member of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society Clinical Affairs Committee, which identifies and evaluates issues related to the clinical practice of pediatric infections and works with other international organizations to foster excellence in the clinical practice of medicine Dr. Salvatore is currently Chief of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Division at Weill Cornell Medicine and on faculty at the New York Presbyterian Hospital as Associated Professor of Clinical Pediatrics. She lives in New York City with her husband Vasudeva, her son Alexander and her dog Gastone.

## Fellow Booklet Infectious Diseases



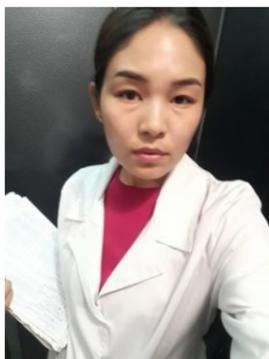
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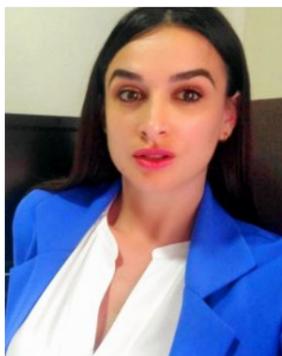
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## DIARY



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### **Saturday, March 26, 2022**

I arrived in Salzburg by plane on Saturday morning. It was my first international trip alone to a non-Arabic-speaking country, so I was a little bit scared that I might get lost or something. I had a printout of instructions provided by the OMI on how to reach Schloss Arenberg from the airport, and it helped me a lot. I reached the venue by bus, at which I met another fellow. We arrived to the reception at 10 am and were greeted by a nice lady who did the registration. After finishing the paperwork, we were free to go to our rooms. My room was neat, with a wonderful view and beautiful furniture.

### **Sunday, March 27, 2022**

I arrived just in time for breakfast and was offered tea and bread by the nice guy working that morning. At 7 p.m. was the welcome reception with Dr. Wolfgang Aulitzky, the OMI CEO. He was very welcoming and introduced us to the faculty who came all the way from the US (Dr. Roy M. Gulick, the course director, Dr. Priya Kodiyankal, Dr. Khanh Pham, and Dr. Christine M. Salvatore). Then a delicious meal was served, and it was a pleasant night for me.

**Monday, March 28, 2022**

At eight in the morning, we were met by Dr. Gulick in the grand hall. He gave us an introduction before the pre-seminar test. All the lectures were covered in the test, which makes sense. At nine in the morning, Dr. Steininger presented virtually. He gave us a very interesting lecture about emerging infections. Then we took a group photo outside, which was fun. After the coffee break, we returned with full energy to the hall to continue the lectures. A hot topic, vaccinations in healthy people, was covered by Dr. Salvatore and then Dr. Kodiyanplakkal presented on people with weak immunity. It was well covered, they touched on important issues concerning vaccines. After our delicious lunch, we went back to work. Study design was discussed by Dr. Glesby. It was heavy in content, but he was able to explain all kinds of things clearly. Then the workshop was about presenting cases, and we were divided into four groups according to the number of supervisors. Dr. Kodiyanplakkal was the supervisor of our first group. The discussion with her was very useful and interesting, and we were thrilled. Afterwards, Ms. Stephanie Faschang shared with us an introduction to the AAF foundation. The fellows were very interested and engaged during the day. At dinner, we got to know each other better and shared important information about work. It's been a long but fun day.

**Tuesday, March 29, 2022**

COVID was the theme of the day, this important topic was covered in many lectures. Testing was presented by Dr. Steininger from Vienna via Zoom, Pediatrics was discussed by Dr. Salvatore, and Dr. Gulick spoke about the clinical treatment and prevention portion. After lunch, we came back for the fellows' case presentations. I was a little bit anxious about it, but it was a very important experience for me to speak in front of a group of professionals, and all the cases were interesting. After finishing the lectures for the day, I was ready to go out. I went for a walk with a small group of fellows, and we took pictures of everything we saw. We came back just before dinner.

**Wednesday, March 30, 2022**

In the morning, Dr. Crevenna gave us an interesting talk via Zoom about post-COVID, followed by the captivating topic of Actinomyces. Just before the coffee break, we had the congenital infections lecture by Dr. Salvatore, which was interesting. Before lunch, the second lecture of study design was given by Dr. Glesby, and it was exciting and thought-provoking. Then, we were free for the rest of the day. Hanna, a fellow from Estonia, and I decided to go out for a long walk. After hours of touring the city in the delightful weather, we visited Mozart's residence, Mirabell Palace and Gardens, and the Hohensalzburg Fortress. We took plenty of pictures and enjoyed our time.

**Thursday, March 31, 2022**

We started the day with a stimulating topic: Microbiome by Dr. Gorkiewicz. Then, an enthralling lecture about fever and neutropenia was given by Dr. Kodiyanplakkal. After the coffee break, we were back for the HIV lecture as well as the treatment and prevention lecture, which was a broad topic covered perfectly by Dr. Gulick. Next was a presentation about opportunistic infections by Dr. Glesby. After lunch, case presentations resumed, which included very interesting cases. People were more relaxed and told a few jokes, as if combining fun and learning at the same time. Everyone was excited about the chamber music concert after dinner,

dressed up and ready to join the performance in the grand hall, which was transformed into a beautiful music hall. We were all invited for drinks by Dr. Wolfgang Aulitzky in the lobby, and we took pictures as well as shared our contact numbers and social accounts.

**Friday, April 1, 2022**

The last day was very interesting, many important topics were discussed. The first lecture about parasites was heavy in content but was well presented by Dr. Pham. This was followed by an interesting topic, infections in cancer patients, which was well presented by Dr. Kodiyanplakkal. After the coffee break, we returned for the last lecture presented by Dr. Jaksch, infections in transplant patients. The academic portion of the seminar closed with the post-seminar test. I am excited about the farewell reception tonight. I'd like to express my gratitude to the Open Medical Institute for arranging and holding this fantastic seminar and for the opportunity to meet these amazing faculty members and colleagues. I am eager to share this information with my peers who will also assist our future patients.



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### **Sunday, March 27, 2022**

I arrived in Salzburg by plane from Nigeria after a layover in Istanbul, Turkey. It was a long trip, but I was happy to make the journey since this happens to be my first time in Europe. I boarded the bus from Salzburg airport with a colleague from Uzbekistan and we had a smooth ride to Schloss Arenberg, thanks to the kind bus driver who directed us down the street once we had arrived to the bus stop. We were warmly received and left our bags at the reception to join the welcome reception at 7:00 pm. Dr. Wolfgang K. Aulitzky (CEO of the OMI) gave the opening remarks and reminded us about strict adherence to the COVID-19 preventive measures throughout the duration of the course. Dr. Roy M. Gulick (course director) also gave welcoming remarks and a brief overview of the course. I joined my colleagues from other countries at dinner afterwards and it was such a great evening. It was so pleasant seeing the warm interactions among my colleagues.

### **Monday, March 28, 2022**

At 8:00 am, Dr. Gulick welcomed us to the seminar and we took the pre-seminar test. It was a good eye opener about the depth and scope of topics to be covered during the week. Dr. Chris Steininger gave the first lecture on emerging infectious diseases, and I appreciated the way he presented the topic with relevant case presentations. Dr. Salvatore gave the next lecture on vaccines in healthy adults. A very important aspect of her presentation was the update about recommended vaccines for adults with some chronic conditions, and she ended the session by challenging us to become vaccine champions. Dr. Priya Kodiyapakkal led the

session on vaccines for immunocompromised patients and it was a real eye opener. The intervening coffee and lunch breaks were interesting, as it allowed for more interactions among the faculty and fellows. Dr. Marshall Glesby gave a lecture on study design, and I must confess that as an epidemiologist myself, I was impressed with the simplicity with which he delivered the lecture. Ms. Stephanie Faschang gave a talk about the American Austrian Foundation, its goals, and all the opportunities that the OMI has in store for doctors who would like to advance their knowledge. During lunch, I allowed myself the opportunity to view the sculptures in the palace, and they were such a lovely sight to behold.

**Tuesday, March 29, 2022**

In the morning, we continued our lectures on COVID-19, with Dr. Steiniger giving us updates about the effectiveness of the various types of tests for COVID-19. A notable message from the lecture is that effective testing remains a potent tool to control the pandemic. Dr. Gulick then provided current updates about the clinical manifestations of COVID-19 and the currently circulating variants of SARS-CoV2, while emphasizing that the BA.2 omicron variant is gaining prominence globally. Dr. Salvatore provided the next lecture on COVID-19 among children, and an important message was that although COVID-19 is less common in children, they are not spared of some of the complications such as the multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C), hence vaccination in children is imperative. Today's last lecture on COVID-19 treatment and prevention was done by Dr. Gulick, and an important message was the need to adhere to COVID-19 preventive measures including vaccination. He also gave updates about new drugs approved for COVID-19 management and booster vaccination for adults. Case presentations from my colleagues followed thereafter and it was a delight to learn about the various cases of infectious diseases in other nations. In summary, day two opened my eyes to new perspectives on infectious diseases. In the evening, I went with some of my colleagues to see the birthplace of Mozart and some other historic sites.

**Wednesday, March 30, 2022**

Dr. Richard Crevenna started the day with a lecture on post-COVID rehabilitation, and I was amazed at the number of symptoms that may occur as long-term complications of COVID-19 and possible ways to manage them. I learned about post-COVID functional scale (PCFS) for the first time, and I hope to apply it in my practice when I return home. Actinomyces as a causative agent in most cases of osteonecrosis of the jaw was the main topic of discussion handled by Dr. Steininger. I was learning about this for the first time, just like some of my colleagues, and it is heartening to know that the treatment is cheap and readily available. Dr. Salvatore then talked about congenital infections and how they affect the health and development of children. An important message for me was the need to do prenatal screening for the common congenital infections. Dr. Marshall Glesby's session on study design (cohort, clinical trials) was stimulating. It was interesting to learn about the hierarchy of evidence that can be generated by the different study designs. I plan to use some of these designs in my future studies. I took time in the evening to visit Europark with a few colleagues. It was a delight to take the bus back to Schloss Areneberg, as I was able to see some parts of the historic city. Lest I forget, it got cold today with some drizzling showers in the evening!

**Thursday, March 31, 2022**

In the morning, Dr. Gorkiewicz gave the first lecture on the microbiome, and he explained the important relationships between microbiota and human health. Dr. Priya Kodiyanplakkal's lecture on fever and neutropenia was quite interesting, as she provided insights on how to manage the difficult situation of infections among neutropenic patients. Dr. Gulick delivered a lecture on HIV prevention and treatment, and it was great to hear him chronicle how HIV management has evolved in the last 30 years. The icing on the cake for me were the updates on pre and post exposure prophylaxis. He informed us about the newly approved injectable HIV drug called cabotegravir. Dr. Glesby rounded off the day's lecture series with a talk on HIV opportunistic infections. My colleagues presented cases in the later part of the afternoon, and I heard some interesting disease conditions for the first time (e.g. Puumala fever). It rained almost all day and the high point of the evening for me was the opportunity to experience the chamber music concert in Schloss Arenberg – it was simply fantastic. I expected no less, after all this is Salzburg, the city of Mozart!

**Friday, April 1, 2022**

The last day was packed with interesting topics such as helminth infections, which was discussed by Dr. Pham, infection in cancer patients delivered by Dr. Kodiyanplakkal, and Dr. Jaksch gave the last lecture on infections in transplant patients. We had the post-seminar test thereafter. Wow, how time flies! It feels like it should not be the end of the week already. I had an immense opportunity to learn updates about common infectious diseases and network/interact with faculty and colleagues. I would like to express my profound gratitude to the sponsors, faculty, and organizers of the seminar. I appreciate the courteous staff at the reception and restaurant who made my stay very pleasant. I also thank my colleagues who made learning easy and enjoyable. Overall, the OMI seminar on infectious diseases 2022 will leave an indelible mark on my mind and career. I promise to be a good ambassador and will surely recommend the OMI seminar series to my colleagues at work. My Salzburg experience was sweet, and I hope to be back in the future. Danke!