



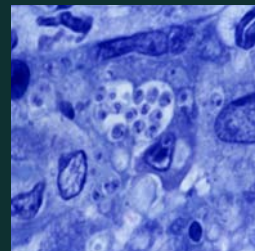
The American Society of  
Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
Advancing global health since 1903

## Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Tropical Infectious Diseases  
Application Guidelines



Application  
Deadline:  
September 5,  
2012



[www.astmh.org](http://www.astmh.org)



## About the Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ASTMH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Tropical Infectious Diseases

Established in 1999, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ASTMH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Tropical Infectious Diseases supports career development of physician-scientists focused on infectious diseases of the developing world.

This unique fellowship provides funding for individuals to conduct research in tropical infectious diseases (and, on occasion, other clinical conditions unique to tropical medicine).

It is designed to stimulate or sustain interest in research in tropical infectious diseases by individuals who are planning academic or other career paths ultimately focused on clinical research relevant to tropical or developing areas of the world.

**ASTMH is grateful to the Burroughs Wellcome Fund for its continuing commitment and support.**



Advancing global health since 1903

“ This funding has allowed me to embark on a career in international research in the field of HIV translational research, and to establish independent funding to continue my research career. ”

*Nina Lin, MD  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Fellowship Recipient*

## Fellowship At-a-Glance

- Open to individuals with an academic appointment of fellow who propose to perform research in tropical infectious diseases
- Two years of financial support at \$65,000 USD per year
- A minimum of three months of each funded year must be spent performing research overseas
- [Preference given to ASTMH member](#) (post-doctoral student fee is \$25)
- Notice of award in November 2012

## Award Notice

**Applicants will be notified of decisions in November 2012.**

## Who Can Apply

Open to individuals with an academic appointment of fellow proposing to perform research in tropical infectious diseases. In addition to postdoctoral infectious disease fellows, applicants who have completed training in other clinical specialties relevant to tropical medicine (e.g., internal medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN) are encouraged to apply. The fellowship is not intended for students, pre-doctoral candidates or faculty-level applicants. In addition, it is not intended to provide funding for overseas clinical electives or experiences.

Particular consideration will be given to:

- North American clinician-scientists enrolled in (or accepted by) a fellowship program approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and those accredited through the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- Applicants seeking support for their third (research) year of fellowship training
- ASTMH post-doctoral student members

Since a minimum of three months of each funded year must be spent conducting research overseas, applicants working toward board eligibility must obtain approval from their fellowship program director before applying for this award. If the period covered by this award is to be considered toward board eligibility, the recipient must have a continuity clinic at the overseas site (and the program director must notify the ACGME concerning the integration of this clinic into their fellowship program).

## 2011 Fellowship Recipients and Overseas Study Locations



Swaziland

**Michelle Hsiang, MD**

*University of California at  
San Francisco*

**"Malaria elimination  
surveillance in Swaziland:  
Investigation of strategies  
to improve sensitivity and  
efficiency for detection of  
secondary cases"**



Cambodia

**Jessica Lin, MD**

*University of North Carolina*

**"The evolution of drug  
resistant malaria from  
humans to mosquitoes"**



Brazil

**Kathryn Dupnik, MD**

*Weill Cornell Medical College*

**"Regulation of T cell  
activation in leprosy and its  
reversal reactions"**

## Application Evaluation Criteria:

- Potential of this fellowship to influence the candidate's career
- Excellence and promise of the proposed candidate and her/his work
- Relevance of the proposed work to the amelioration of important tropical/geographic infectious diseases
- Excellence and experience of home and overseas mentors
- Adequacy of field populations/laboratory/epidemiologic facilities for the proposed work



**Application  
site opens**



**Application  
deadline**



**Notice of  
awards**

“ This Fellowship has contributed significantly to laying the foundation for my global health research career. ”

*Karen Jacobson, MD, MPH  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Fellowship Recipient*

## Fellowship Recipients and Overseas Study Locations (2001 – 2010)

### **Iracema Arevalo, MD, MSc**

*New York University*

“The role of the P38 MAP Kinase signaling pathway in the immunomodulatory and anti-parasitic action of imiquimod during *Leishmania* infection”



Peru

### **Ajay Bharti, MD**

*University of Texas Medical Branch*

“Malaria transmission to mosquitoes: Comparison of symptomatic vs. asymptomatic malaria patients in the Peruvian Amazon”



Peru

### **Ryan Carroll, MD, MPH**

*Northwestern University*

“The cerebral malaria proteome in fatal pediatric cases from Malawi, Africa”



Malawi

## Funding

- The Fellowship consists of two years of support at \$65,000 USD per year to cover travel, stipend, fringe benefits, health insurance and capacity development at the overseas site.
- The Fellowship does not allow for indirect costs.
- Funds will be distributed to the applicant's home institution. Subsequent allocation of funds will be the responsibility of the applicant's home institution.

### Funding is available for two twelve-month periods:

#### Year One

The award for Year One will be made during the fellowship (generally the final year). During Year One of the Fellowship, the recipient should commit at least 80% of his/her time to research and spend three months working in a tropical or developing area.

#### Year Two

The award for Year Two will be made once the recipient has entered a stable, entry-level faculty position. Year Two carries the same requirements as Year One: commit at least 80% of his/her time to research and spend three months working in a tropical or developing area.

#### Online Application Site

Opens August 1 at <http://www.astmh.org/funding/index.cfm>

#### Application Deadline - September 5, 2012

After September 5, only completed applications will be forwarded to the review committee.

## Fellowship Recipients (cont.)

### David Christiansen, MD

*The University of Utah*

"Cerebral malaria: Nitric-oxide mediated blood flow"

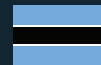


Ghana

### Scott Dryden-Peterson, MD

*Massachusetts General Hospital*

"Who can safely formula-feed in Botswana? A prospective observational cohort study to assess counseling of HIV-infected women around infant feeding choices, and predictors of mortality among their formula-fed infants"



Botswana

### Aric Gregson, MD

*University of Maryland*

"Propagation of drug-resistant malaria"



Mali



## Getting Started

Applicants are encouraged to gather all application materials prior to online submission. Although it is possible to edit the application prior to the September 5 deadline, the submission process will be smoother and more efficient if the complete application packet is posted at one time.

### Application must include:

#### 1. CV and Bibliography Information

- Date/place of birth/citizenship/visa status
- Education – schools, dates and degrees earned (2500 characters)
- Residency, if applicable – include department and dates (2500 characters)
- Post-doctoral fellowships, if applicable – include department and dates (2500 characters)
- Other training (2500 characters)
- Chronological listing of employment experience and honors (2500 characters)
- Titles, authors and complete references to all publications (2500 characters)

“The year of support provided me with dedicated time to focus on this clinical trial as my primary project.”

*Matthew Laurens, MD  
University of Maryland  
Fellowship Recipient*

## Fellowship Recipients (cont.)

### Anusha Gunasekera

*Harvard School of Public Health*

“Genetic diversity of the vaccine candidates, AMA-1 and MSP-1, from clinical isolates of *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Plasmodium vivax* in Sri Lanka”



Sri Lanka

### Scott Heysell, MD, MPH

*Yale University School of Medicine*

“Enhancing diagnosis of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in children in rural South Africa”



South Africa

### Risa Hoffman, MD, MPH

*University of California at Los Angeles*

“Male genital schistosomiasis and HIV-1 shedding”



Malawi

## 2. Applicant Letter (3000 character limit)

Include in the applicant letter:

- Summary of research project to be undertaken for the fellowship period
- Personal career goals and how this project fits into those goals
- Project start date and end date

## 3. Research Proposal

- Project aims (2500 characters)
- Background and rationale for project (2500 characters)
- Preliminary findings pertinent to establishing feasibility of project (2500 characters)
- Potential problems (2500 characters)
- References (2500 characters)

## 4. Home Institution Sponsor/Mentor Letter

This letter should include:

- Details of the applicant's qualifications and proposed role on the research project
- Detailed information regarding the overseas location, resources available (staff and facilities), duration of applicant's stay and plans for onsite mentoring
- Home institution sponsor/mentor curriculum vitae
- Documentation of appropriate Institutional Review Board approval (of both the home and overseas sites) for the research project

Applicants must upload the letter, curriculum vitae and IRB documentation from the home institution sponsor as a single PDF or Word file to the application site. Applicants are encouraged to obtain these documents from the home institution before beginning the application.

## Fellowship Recipients (cont.)

### **Karen Jacobson, MD, MPH**

*Massachusetts General Hospital*

"Correlation of clinical outcomes to specific drug resistance-conferring mutations in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*"



South Africa

### **Prasanna Jagannathan, MD**

*University of California at San Francisco*

"The impact of parasitemia on cellular immune responses to malaria"



Uganda

### **Paul Lantos, MD**

*Children's Hospital Boston*

"Relationship of clinical severity to PfPR expression in *Plasmodium falciparum*"



Senegal

### **Regina LaRocque, MD**

*Massachusetts General Hospital*

"Immune response to TcpF protein of *Vibrio cholerae* in Bangladesh"




Bangladesh

## 5. Overseas Institution Sponsor/Mentor Letter

This letter should include:

- Details of the applicant's proposed role on the research project, specifically stating that the overseas sponsor has reviewed the proposed project and the qualifications of the candidate
- Confirmation that the project is feasible, important and practical in the time period allotted
- Confirmation that the sponsor, working closely with the home institution's sponsor/mentor, will be responsible for in-country oversight of the candidate
- Detailed information regarding the overseas location, resources available (staff and facilities), duration of applicant's stay and plans for onsite mentoring
- Documentation of appropriate in-country Institutional Review Board approval for the research project
- Overseas institution sponsor/mentor curriculum vitae



Applicants must upload the letter, CV and IRB documentation from the overseas institution sponsor as a single PDF or Word file to the application site. Applicants are encouraged to obtain these documents from the overseas institution before beginning the application.

“I have developed relationships with a network of clinicians and scientists in India which I hope will be helpful for future studies during my career.”

*Thor Wagner, MD  
University of Washington  
Fellowship Recipient*

## Fellowship Recipients (cont.)

### **Matthew Laurens, MD**

*University of Maryland*

“Malaria-HIV interactions and chemoprophylaxis in Malawi”



Malawi

### **Daniel Leung, MD**

*Massachusetts General Hospital*

“Characterization of memory immune responses to *V. cholerae* infection and vaccination”



Bangladesh

### **Nina Lin, MD**

*Massachusetts General Hospital*

“Characterization of HIV-1 subtype C infection in Botswana: Viral tropism and genetic diversity in transmission”




Botswana



## 6. Program Director Letter

This letter should include:

- Documentation of the applicant's enrollment in a fellowship program.
- Confirmation that this fellowship will fund research that is part of the institution's fellowship program.
- The letter should clearly state whether the time period funded by this award would count toward Board Eligibility. If so, then the program director must notify the Executive Director, Residency Review Committee for Internal Medicine, ACGME, 515 N. State St., Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60610: (1) that a weekly continuity clinic has been established at the overseas site, (2) how this clinic integrates into the home fellowship program. The letter should detail hours, location, patient population, clinical oversight, mentoring, etc. It will be the responsibility of the candidate and program director to assure that ACGME requirements are met.
- Include a copy of the letter to the ACGME with this application. A copy of any subsequent pertinent correspondence between the ACGME and program director will be required before funds are distributed.



Applicants must upload the program director letter and ACGME letter, if applicable, as a single PDF or Word file to the application site. Applicants are encouraged to obtain these documents from the program director before beginning the online application.

## Fellowship Recipients (cont.)

### Lynn Matthews

*Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center*

"Understanding and mitigating peri-conception HIV transmission risk among serodiscordant couples who choose to conceive: Developing the AMORISC measure"



South Africa

### Dan Milner, MD

*Brigham and Women's Hospital*

"Genomic diversity within *Plasmodium falciparum* in sub-Saharan Africa"



Malawi

### Holly Murphy, MD, MPH&TM

*Tulane University*


"Evaluating directly observed therapy with ZDV and NVP (DOT-ZDV/NVP) for prevention of maternal-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV in rural Haiti"



Haiti

## 7. Institutional Review Board Approval

- If research involves human or animal subjects, include a copy of current approval letters (or documentation that such approval is in process or will be sought) from both home and overseas sites.
- Funds will be disbursed in advance of IRB approval, when necessary, with the understanding that research will not be undertaken without documentation of IRB approval from both locations, if required.




Applicants must upload the IRB letters as a single PDF or Word file to the application site. Applicants are encouraged to obtain these documents from the home and overseas sites before beginning the online application.

## 8. Budget

Total funds available: \$65,000 for Year One of fellowship; \$65,000 for Year Two of fellowship

- Budget should indicate funds for stipend, fringe benefits, health insurance, supplies, communications, travel expenses and capacity development at the overseas site.
- Indirect costs are not allowed.
- A detailed budget statement of how funds were used will be due 30 days after completion of each fellowship year.



Applicants must upload the budget as a single PDF, Word or Excel file to the application site.

## Fellowship Recipients (cont.)

### Rebeca Plank, MD

*Brigham and Women's Hospital*

"Male infant circumcision in Botswana"



### Amber Read, MD

*University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center*

"Development of paratransgenic sandfly colonies with transformed *B. megaterium* and *B. linens* as a model to prevent visceral leishmaniasis"



### Megan Reller, MDCM

*Children's Hospital Boston*

"Optimal detection of *Salmonella typhi* and *paratyphi* from the blood in children in Pakistan"



### Mark Travassos

*University of Maryland*

"The role of *var* gene expression in the development of symptomatic malaria"



## 9. Other Support

- A summary of all funds or resources (whether federal, non-federal or institutional) that are available or pending to the applicant. This summary should include all active or pending funding sources available to the home institution sponsor.
- If other support is available to the applicant or to the sponsor, especially if it is available for scientific projects related to the research proposed for the Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ASTMH Fellowship, the applicant and sponsor must state the specific need for additional funding support from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ASTMH Fellowship.
- If no funding support is available or pending to the applicant or home institution sponsor, this information should be included in the statement of “Other Support.”
- Applications will not be considered without a statement of “Other Support” *from both the applicant and the home institution sponsor.*

### Indicate the following for each source of support:

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| • Name of funding organization  | • Your role on the project                                |
| • Title of grant                | • Percentage of time spent on the grant                   |
| • Years of support              | • Dates and costs of entire project                       |
| • Duration of support           | • Dates and costs of current year                         |
| • Yearly direct costs           | • Specific aims of the project                            |
| • Amount of active funding      | • 1-2 sentence summary of the research focus of the grant |
| • Source and identifying number |   |
| • Principal investigator        |   |

Applicant must upload the documentation regarding other support for both him/herself and the home institution sponsor as a single PDF or Word file to the application form.

## Fellowship Recipients (cont.)

### Joseph Tucker, MD

*Massachusetts General Hospital*

“Optimizing integrated syphilis and HIV testing in south Chinese STI clinics”



China

### Krystn R. Wagner, MD, PhD

*Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

“Molecular beacons for rapid diagnosis of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*”



Brazil

### Thor Wagner, MD

*University of Washington*

“Improving pediatric HIV-1 diagnostics in an effort to avoid antiretroviral failure in Tamilnadu, India”



India

## Questions?

Contact: Judy DeAcetis

*Administrator*

+1-847-480-9592

Fax +1-847-480-9282

j.deacetis@astmh.org

## Finalizing the Application

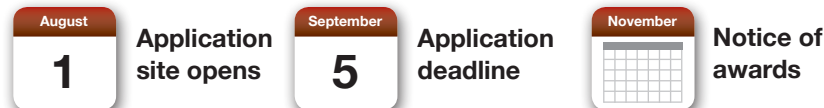
After entering all information and all document uploads have been made, applicant should proceed to the REVIEW SUBMISSION page and scroll to the bottom. If all information has been entered correctly, a drop-down menu will display at the bottom of the page. Applicant should select the COMPLETE response in the drop-down menu and hit SAVE. The application will then be complete and ready for review by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ASTMH Fellowship Committee.

## Award Administration

Awards will be made to the recipient's home institution, which will be responsible for administering this fellowship.

“Thanks to the two years of support from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ASTMH Fellowship, I am now in a better position to launch a research career.”

*Rebeca Plank, MD  
Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Fellowship Recipient*



### Application Checklist

- ✓ CV and bibliography information
- ✓ Applicant letter including personal statement of interest
- ✓ Research proposal
- ✓ Home institution sponsor/mentor letter
- ✓ Overseas institution sponsor/mentor letter
- ✓ Program director letter
- ✓ Institutional Review Board approval
- ✓ Budget proposal
- ✓ Other support

## Agreements and Reporting

Recipients agree to list the Burroughs Wellcome Fund/American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Postdoctoral Fellowship in Tropical Infectious Diseases as a funding source for any publication generated by research funded by this fellowship.

Fellowship recipients agree to allow ASTMH to use their name and photo in Society publications, website and other communication vehicles for educational and professional development purposes, and not for solicitation purposes.

Fellowship recipients are required to submit a maximum three-page report within 30 days of completion of fellowship outlining the fellowship experience, lessons learned and impact on career development, as well as a budget summary indicating use of funds. Periodically, recipients may be invited to present their reports at the Society's Annual Meeting. Reports should be submitted to Judy DeAcetis, Administrator, [j.deacetis@astmh.org](mailto:j.deacetis@astmh.org).

Recipients agree to provide ASTMH with interim reports outlining progress to date on research project, as well as budget summaries.

## Burroughs Wellcome Fund/ASTMH Fellowship Committee

Regina LaRocque, MD, MPH,  
*Co-Chair*  
Massachusetts General Hospital

Terrie Taylor, DO, *Co-Chair*  
Michigan State University

Stephen Calderwood, MD  
Massachusetts General Hospital

Ravi Durvasula, MD  
University of New Mexico

Richard Guerrant, MD  
University of Virginia

Victoria McGovern, PhD, FASTMH  
ASTMH Councilor  
Burroughs Wellcome Fund

Joseph Vinetz, MD, FASTMH  
Editor-in-Chief, *American Journal of  
Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*  
University of California San Diego

Gary Weil, MD  
Washington University

Peter Weller, MD, FASTMH  
ASTMH Council Advisor  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Mary Wilson, MD  
University of Iowa