C diff and Microbiome Conference 2025

Time	Schedule	Conveners	Presenter	Affiliation
9:00-9:45	Intro and Keynote 1	Jacob McPherson	Cirle A. Warren	University of Virginia
9:45-10:00	BREAK			
10:00-11:00	Abstracts 1-4: Understanding C diff biology	Tor Savidge / Zhilei Chen		
	10:00		Thomas Horvath	Baylor College of Medicine
	10:15		Yunxi Liu	Baylor College of Medicine
	10:30		Joshua Brehm	Texas A&M University
	10:45		Merilyn Beebe	Texas A&M University
11:00-12:00	Abstracts 5-8: C diff and pathobionts/host	Joe Sorg / Sherry Cao		
	11:00		Jason Pizzini	Baylor College of Medicine
	11:15		Jesus Romo	The University of Texas at San Antonio
	11:30		Nian Liu	Baylor College of Medicine
	11:45		Osiris Lopez-Garcia	Texas A&M University
12:00-1:15	Lunch and posters			
1:15-2:00	Keynote 2	Chetna Dureja	Kathryn Patras	Baylor College of Medicine
2:00-3:00	Abstracts 9-12: C diff clinical therapeutics	Taryn Eubank / Julian Hurdle		
	2:00		Wei Zhao	Texas A&M IBT
	2:15		Josef Fowler	University of Houston
	2:30		Travis Carlson	The University of Texas at Austin
	2:45		Trey Hejtmancik	Texas A&M University
3:00-4:00	Abstracts 13-16: C diff drug discovery	Rob Britton / Daniel Paredes-Sabja		
	3:00		Yu Zeng	Texas A&M University
	3:15		Nishtha Chandal	Texas A&M IBT
	3:30		Katherine Wozniak	Baylor College of Medicine
	3:45		Xinyun (Sherry) Cao	UT Southwestern Medical Center
5-close	Happy hour			
	4:00-close	All	Little Woodrow's Rice Village, 5611 Morningside Dr, Houston, TX	

Oral Presentations

Presenter	Title
Cirle A. Warren	Clostridioides difficile infection: A model of host-pathogen-microbiome interaction
Thomas Horvath	Doo Dots: An investigational platform for performing Dried Fecal Spot (DFS)-based bioanalysis.
Yunxi Liu	High-Resolution Strain Identification of C. difficile in Clinical Fecal Specimens using SSdetective
Joshua Brehm	Using live imaging to investigate the role of Clostridioides difficile small, acid-soluble spore proteins during spore outgrowth
Merilyn Beebe	Phenotypic analysis of various Clostridioides difficile ribotypes reveals consistency among core processes
Jason Pizzini	Engineering Colonization Resistance: A High-Throughput Approach to Developing Defined Microbial Therapeutics Against a Multidrug-Resistant Pathogens
Jesus Romo	Clostridioides difficile interacts with fungal colonizers of the gastrointestinal tract
Nian Liu	The host-interactome is a key determinant of microbiome restoration and clinical outcome in recurrent C. difficile infection
Osiris Lopez-Garcia	Identifying Spore-Surface Ligands Involved in C. Difficile Spore Binding to E-cadherin
Kathryn Patras	Gestational diabetes disrupts maternal immunity and the vaginal microbiota to promote bacterial infection
Wei Zhao	Clostridioides difficile infection as a risk factor for Sepsis
Josef Fowler	Development of extended-connectivity fingerprint and pharmacophore-based quantitative-structure activity relationship models to predict anti-cholinergic activity of proton pump inhibitors
Travis Carlson	Commonly Collected Biomarkers and Their Threshold Values Predictive of Mortality Following Clostridioides difficile Infection
Trey Hejtmancik	Extended vancomycin treatment depletes the reservoir of persistent *Clostridioides difficile* spores
Yu Zeng	Engineering Protease-stable Designed Ankyrin Repeat Protein Dimer that Neutralize TcdB for Oral Therapeutics
Nishtha Chandal	Investigation of GluD as an Anti-virulence Drug Target Associated with Inhibition of Toxin Production in Clostridioides difficile
Katherine Wozniak	Understanding Clostridioides difficile RT023 carbon utilization and toxin production
Xinyun (Sherry) Cao	Unraveling Mechanisms of Transcriptional Pausing in Clostridioides difficile

Poster Presentations with Poster Board Numbers

Poster Board	Last	First	Institution	Abstract Title
1	Adegbite	Adegoke	Texas A&M	Characterizing the C. difficile Small Acid Soluble Proteins (SASPs) binding to DNA
2	McKelvey	Ann	Texas A&M IBT	Characterizing Fidaxomicin Resistance in Clostridioides difficile
3	Ariri	Theresa	Texas A&M	Autocleavage Promotes Activation of Germination Protease (GPR) in Clostridioides difficile Spores
4	Cid-Rojas	Francisca	Texas A&M	Phylogenomic and functional analysis of Clostridioides difficile collagen-like BclA spore proteins
5	Dureja	Chetna	Texas A&M IBT	Mechanism of Vancomycin Resistance and Its Effect on Treatment Outcomes in Clostridioides difficile Infection
6	Herrera	Carolyn	Texas A&M	Investigating the distribution of UV-induced DNA damage in dormant C. difficile spores
7	Mai; Horvath	Alexander ; Adelaide	University of Houston	Enterococci-related variables predictive of Clostridioides difficile infection disease severity
8	Hu	Chenlin	Univ Houston	Development of a novel LC-MS/MS assay for fidaxomicin and metabolite OP-1118
9	Huynh-Phan	Ricky	Univ Houston	Evaluation of C diff incidence and severity after changing to the Quick-Check Diagnostic
10	Karim	Md Ekramul	Univ Houston	Assessment of biofilm formation among clinical Clostridioides difficile isolates
11	Kalilinasab	Neda	Texas A&M University	Investigating the Role of Key Proteins and DNA Candidates in Clostridioides difficile Exosporium Formation and Pathogenesis
12	Kostoch	Brian	Texas A&M	Developing Genetic Tools for the Gut Commensal Turicibacter sanguinis
13	Kretiv	Mason	Texas A&M	pDARPins for the Local Neutralization of TcdB1-3 in vivo
14	Kyere	Michael	Texas A&M	Engineering Biologics for the treatment of C. difficile infections
15	Hogan	Madeline	Univ Houston	Enterococcus spp. Colonization in C. difficile Patients: Does Antibiotic Choice Matter?
16	Man	Annie	Univ Houston	Risk Factors for High Level Enterococcus faecium Gastrointestinal Colonization in Patients with Clostridioides difficile Infections
17	McPherson	Jacob	Univ Houston	Commensal Microbiota Evolve Antibiotic Resistance at a Fitness Cost that Hinders Their Restoration of the Human Gut Microbiome
18	Osborne	Morgan	Texas A&M University	Blocking the secretion of C. difficile cortex-destined proteins
19	Sanchez	Javier	Texas A&M University	Characterization Of CdeA: A Novel Protein in Clostridioides difficile Spores
20	Sarma	Gitartha	Texas A&M University	Investigating the mechanisms by which Clostridioides difficile cells exit the germinated spore
21	Silveyra	Azul	Texas A&M IBT	Antimicrobial Susceptibility of FabK-bearing Organisms to New Inhibitors of the Enzyme
22	Tegegne	Henok	Baylor College of Medicine	Microbiome-Based FilmArray for Diagnosis, Risk Prediction, and Stratification of Clostridioides difficile Infection