



The ESPID Board and Editors of *The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal* congratulate the winners of this year's Bill Marshall Award, PIDJ Best Paper Award, and Young Investigator Awards.

BILL MARSHALL AWARD 2019

ESPID offers the Bill Marshall Award, its most prestigious award, every year to a senior member of the society. The award recognizes distinguished senior contributors to the field of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and to the activities of and supported by ESPID.

Terho Heikkinen

Terho Heikkinen is Professor of Pediatrics and Chair of International Affairs at the University of Turku, Finland.

Professor Heikkinen obtained his medical degree in 1984 at the University of Turku, where he also specialized in Pediatric Infectious Diseases. He completed his PhD entitled "Development and Prevention of Acute Otitis Media in Children" in 1994. Having received the ESPID Fellowship Award, he worked in 1996–1998 as a postdoc Research Fellow at the University of Texas, United States. Subsequently, he worked as a Senior Clinical Researcher funded by the Academy of Finland and a Clinical Lecturer/Assistant Professor of Pediatrics before taking up his current position in 2016.

His major research interest lies in respiratory infections, particularly those caused by influenza and respiratory syncytial viruses. In 2000, he founded his own research group and initiated a long-term research project on respiratory virus infections in children, including the etiology, epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, prevention and overall societal impact of these infections and their complications. In 2014, he was a founding member of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Network, a global respiratory syncytial virus research network. He is also a principal investigator in Respiratory syncytial virus consortium in Europe that in 2017 received 5-year EU/IMI funding for research on the burden of respiratory syncytial virus infections in Europe. He was also a founding member of the Nordic Research Network for Pediatric Infectious Diseases that was established in 2018.

Professor Heikkinen has served as the chair or board member of several international and domestic societies in the field of infectious diseases and the chair or member of many national committees related to immunization programs and treatment guidelines. He was an ESPID board member in 2012–2015, a member of the ESPID Committee for Clinical Affairs in 2010–2013, and a member of the ESPID Research Networking Committee in 2013–2018. He is currently the President of the World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases, a board member of the European Scientific Working Group on Influenza, and a scientific advisory board and executive committee member of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Network. In his occasional free time, he enjoys wearing rubber boots and chopping wood at his summer house or boating on the sea.

PIDJ BEST PAPER AWARD

To honor ESPID members for high-quality publications in *The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal* (PIDJ)

Navin Boeddha

Navin Boeddha obtained his PhD entitled “Pediatric Sepsis: Determinants of Outcome” at Erasmus MC, Rotterdam in 2018. Currently, he is a resident in pediatrics at Erasmus MC. The award-winning article studied human leukocyte antigen-DR (HLA-DR) expression on monocyte subsets in children with sepsis, postsurgery and trauma entitled “HLA-DR Expression on Monocyte Subsets in Critically Ill Children” published in the October 2018 issue of *The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal*. The authors found that monocytic HLA-DR expression decreased during PICU stay and was lower compared with controls, especially on classical monocytes and in children admitted for sepsis. Low HLA-DR expression on classical monocytes was associated with nosocomial infections and death. This was the first study to examine HLA-DR expression in a longitudinal way on all 3 major blood monocyte subsets in a mixed population of critically ill children.

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARDS 2019

There are up to 2 awards each year for outstanding young investigators, 1 for clinical research and the other 1 for basic science research.

Bahaa Abu Raya – Basic Science Research

Bahaa Abu-Raya is a Pediatric Infectious Disease Physician-Scientist at the University of British Columbia, Canada. His research has been predominantly in the field of pertussis immunization in pregnancy to optimize protection to the newborn and infant. His research has informed immunization policy in several countries, specifically the recommendation that pregnant women need to be immunized with pertussis vaccine in every pregnancy and the ideal timing of pertussis immunization in pregnancy. He has received several awards in recognition of his contributions to pediatric infectious disease research.

Seilesh Kadambari – Clinical Research

Seilesh Kadambari is a Clinical Lecturer at the University of Oxford. During his postgraduate training, Seilesh spent 3 years working in the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Research Group at the St George’s, University of London. He led a series of surveillance studies with Public Health England to define the burden of viral meningitis in infants and children. He has developed a program of cohort studies that investigated the feasibility of integrating testing for congenital CMV into the Newborn Hearing Screening Programme. His PhD evaluated the impact of molecular virology on the clinical epidemiology and management of central nervous system viral infections in infants. Seilesh plans to establish a program of work using clinical cohort studies that allow the translation of research to inform and improve the evidence-based management of severe neonatal infections.