



Director, Division of Infectious Diseases
Department of Medicine
Emory University, School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA

THE SEARCH

Emory University's Department of Medicine is seeking a collaborative, mission-driven scholar and leader to serve as the next Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases. This is a unique opportunity for a highly motivated individual to drive innovation and growth in a mission-driven Division renowned for its excellence in research, patient care, and education. The ideal candidate will bring the experience, strategic vision, and passion needed to build on a strong, positive culture, elevate the Division's impact, and further its reputation as a leader in infectious disease scholarship, clinical care, education, and community service.

Emory's Division of Infectious Diseases is nationally recognized for its impact and pioneering contributions to clinical infectious disease care and HIV treatment, as well as its research in pathogenesis, virology, immunology, epidemiology, diagnostics, antimicrobial resistance, and vaccine development. With an established culture of discovery and innovation, Emory provides cutting-edge therapies to treat infections and prevent transmission while conducting groundbreaking research and clinical trials, ensuring patients have access to the latest advancements in infectious disease care, including novel medications and vaccines. The Division also boasts a strong commitment to training and education, and the infectious diseases fellowship is well-recognized for being among the best in the country.

Emory University School of Medicine is recognized nationally and internationally as one of the nation's outstanding institutions for biomedical education, research, and patient care and is dedicated to training exceptional individuals who become leaders in academic medicine and biomedical research. Ranked 17th nationally in NIH research, the school is best known for its excellence in infectious disease, brain health, heart disease, cancer, transplantation, pediatrics, renal disease, and geriatrics, among other specialties. Emory Healthcare (EHC) is the region's largest, most comprehensive academic health system, which includes Grady Health System, an academic safety net hospital, and the Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta VA Medical Center. The Department of Medicine has over 800 faculty members, over \$180M in annual research funding, and is ranked 19th nationally in NIH research.

Reporting directly to the chair of medicine, the incoming director will provide senior leadership across all clinical, educational, research initiatives, and community connections within the Division. The director will be responsible for advancing and expanding infectious disease programs, ensuring the Division continues to fulfill its mission to provide top-notch care for its patient population. The next director will drive the Division's research efforts from bench to bedside and from bedside to community, further strengthening Emory's standing as a premier biomedical research institution. Additionally, the director will have oversight of educational programs for medical students, clinical and research fellows, and other learners, ensuring these programs remain highly competitive.

The Division offers nearly unlimited opportunities for collaboration, requiring a director who will nurture a strong, positive culture and be both strategic and proactive in identifying and leveraging these partnerships. The ideal candidate will be a nationally recognized leader in infectious diseases. This leader will bring a demonstrated ability to expand a dynamic research portfolio, uphold high-quality patient care within a complex clinical environment, and drive innovation in education and training. Additionally, the director will possess experience in recruiting, mentoring, and developing faculty, staff, and fellows, fostering a culture of excellence and professional growth.

Emory University has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist with this important and historic recruitment. Inquiries, nominations, and applications will be treated confidentially and should be directed to the firm as indicated at the end of this document.

EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Emory University, a top research university located in Atlanta, is an inquiry-driven, ethically engaged, and diverse community whose members work collaboratively to transform the world through courageous leadership in teaching, research, scholarship, healthcare, and social action.

[Emory's School of Medicine](#) has grown to become one of the world's leading centers of health sciences research, patient care, and education. As the cornerstone of the University's Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC), the School of Medicine is at the forefront of medical knowledge and research, pioneering many advances and procedures that have changed the face of medical history. The School is ranked among the nation's top 20 schools of medicine in NIH research funding, and in 2023, faculty received \$485 million in sponsored research funding. The current faculty includes 22 members of the National Academy of Medicine and three members of the National Academy of Sciences, among many other distinctions.

The breadth of the School's clinical footprint in the Atlanta area means it reaches patients from every socioeconomic status, ethnic background, and stage of life, and the School is committed to preparing the next generation of medical students to provide better care to an increasingly multifaceted population. Trainees work with a diverse patient population in a network that includes university-owned quaternary care facilities, a pediatric hospital, a county-owned hospital, and a veterans' hospital. In partnership with the Woodruff Health Sciences Center, its affiliated teaching hospital, and other affiliates, Emory delivers

healthcare services to millions of patients every year, and Emory School of Medicine alumni comprise about one-fourth of all physicians practicing in Georgia.

More information on the School's educational programs can be found [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

Emory's [Department of Medicine](#) is home to more than 1,500 employees who work collaboratively to advance its tripartite mission of enhancing research, patient care, and education. This workforce includes over 800 faculty members, nearly 600 staff, and 300 trainees. The faculty are distributed across ten internal medicine divisions, including cardiology; digestive diseases; endocrinology, metabolism, and lipids; general internal medicine; geriatrics and gerontology; hospital medicine; infectious diseases; pulmonary, allergy, critical care, and sleep medicine; renal medicine; and rheumatology. The Department's work environment is shaped by a commitment to serving as a destination and model for inclusive care, training, research, development, and the celebration of a diverse patient population and workforce.

Department of Medicine researchers and clinicians work side-by-side to address fundamental problems in human disease. These collaborative efforts enable the development of mechanistic discoveries for preclinical testing and first-in-man clinical trials. Cross-cutting programs include regenerative medicine, vaccine testing and development, immunology and inflammation, outcomes and health services research, and the molecular basis of disease. With over \$170M in annual research funding, the Department is ranked 19th nationally in NIH research and supports [numerous centers, institutes, strategic partners](#), and affiliates throughout the Emory and Atlanta communities.

The Department of Medicine is chaired by Carlos del Rio, MD, the H. Cliff Sauls Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Professor of Global Health and Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health. He is the first graduate of Emory's residency program to hold the chair position. A graduate of La Salle University in Mexico City, Dr. del Rio first came to Emory as a visiting medical student in 1982. He completed his internal medicine residency and infectious diseases fellowship at Emory and joined the faculty in 1996. A global leader in HIV research and policy, Dr. del Rio is a nationally recognized leader in infectious diseases. He is a Past President of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the current International Secretary of the National Academy of Medicine.

DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Emory's Division of Infectious Diseases is recognized for its impact and is a globally ranked division. Emphasizing a strong, positive culture of discovery and innovation, Emory offers the most advanced therapies to treat infection and prevent the spread to others. The Division conducts infectious disease research and clinical trials, granting patients access to the latest in infectious disease care, including new medications and vaccines.

Research

With almost \$87 million in research funding in fiscal year 2024, the Division of Infectious Diseases engages in a broad spectrum of basic, clinical, translational, and epidemiologic research. Research areas of interest include antibiotic resistance, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, emerging infections, healthcare epidemiology, global health, and vaccinology. Infectious Diseases faculty collaborate actively with other top-rated local and regional programs, including the [Emory Vaccine Center](#), the [Emory Department of Microbiology and Immunology](#), the [Emory Rollins School of Public Health](#), and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), in addition to numerous centers in the United States and abroad.

Research Programs:

- [Antibiotic Resistance Center](#)
- [Center for AIDS Research](#)
- [Emerging Infections Program](#)
- [Emory Clinical Trials Unit](#)
- [Emory Vaccine Center](#)
- [Emory T32 Training Program in Translational Research to End the HIV Epidemic](#)
- [Hope Clinic - Vaccine Research](#)
- [Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Collaborative](#)
- [Integrating HIV and heart health in South Africa \(iHEART-SA\) project](#)
- [Ponce Clinical Research Site](#)
- [Prevention Epicenter of Emory and Collaborating Healthcare Facilities \(PEACH\)](#)
- [Research in HIV and Women's Health and Y This Harmony Matters \(RHYTHM\)](#)
- [Tuberculosis Research Advancement Center \(TRAC\)](#)

Studies and Programs

Infectious Diseases Fellowship

The ID Fellowship at Emory is well-recognized nationally as a destination training program. The program has a strong track record of developing leaders in patient care, education, research, and scholarship in infectious diseases throughout the world. Clinical training includes exposure to an unparalleled diversity of patient populations and infectious diseases pathology, with experiences at the four primary Emory University affiliated teaching hospitals, which include Emory University Hospital (EUH), Emory University Hospital Midtown (EUHM), Grady Memorial Hospital (GMH), and the Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta VA Medical Center (VAMC), and their affiliated clinics. Research training consists of a customized experience tailored to each fellow's career goals, leveraging mentorship opportunities within and outside the Division of ID, as well as Emory's close ties to the Rollins School of Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Georgia Tech, and many other local institutions. Fellows also have the opportunity to pursue training in translational research methods through the Masters in Science in Clinical Research (MSCR) offered by the Laney Graduate School, to receive support through NIH-funded T32 training grants in HIV and Vaccinology (among others), and to participate in dedicated tracks in Transplant Infectious Diseases, Hospital Epidemiology, and Antimicrobial Stewardship, or HIV medicine.

Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Consortium

The Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Consortium (IDCRC) and Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Units (VTEUs) work in tandem with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) as a coordinated national and global network of scientific experts working to develop and test vaccines and other therapies to combat infectious diseases.

Serious Communicable Diseases Program

The Serious Communicable Disease Program (SCDP) is a globally recognized center that leverages interprofessional partnerships to innovate healthcare practice for patients with special pathogens by conducting innovative research, validating clinical practice and technology, translating research into practice, and improving patient care and healthcare worker safety.

SCDP at Emory has become a regional, national, and international resource on the strict protocols that are needed to safely care for patients with Ebola and other special pathogens. Emory experts in medicine, nursing, administration, technology, environmental sciences, and public health comprise our model of interdisciplinary research within the Serious Communicable Diseases Program. This program strives to bridge the gap between research and bedside care, making discoveries immediately applicable to improving patient outcomes.

Vaccinology Training Program

The Emory Vaccinology Training Program (VTP) was created in response to an urgent need to train a new generation of researchers in the field of vaccinology. Recognizing that a new generation of scientists is needed to address difficulties that have plagued efforts to develop and deliver additional needed vaccines for infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS, malaria, hepatitis C, and tuberculosis and for other disabling diseases such as cancer and dementia, the program aims to continue implementing a systematic approach to identifying, recruiting, and retaining highly qualified, motivated, and diverse postdoctoral trainees into the VTP-T32. It is designed to provide each trainee with a rigorous and tailored curriculum covering key aspects of vaccinology, a robust hands-on mentored research project, and comprehensive career mentoring. Additionally, the program seeks to expand the integration of Emory's strong basic science, translational research, implementation science, clinical trials, and vaccine policy programs into a multifaceted training experience within an inclusive environment that fosters collaboration and interdisciplinary approaches.

Emory Training Program in HIV Translational Research to End the Epidemic T32 Program

In 2021, the Emory Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) launched the *Emory Training Program in HIV Translational Research to End the Epidemic T32* program. The program is fully administratively and scientifically integrated into the Emory CFAR to capitalize on the spectrum of ongoing HIV investigation at our institution. The T32 program focuses on translational HIV science at the epicenter of the United States HIV epidemic in the South and was built around research activities in three major focus areas, including 1) Laboratory-based basic science, vaccine, and cure research, 2) Patient-centered clinical research, and 3) Public health and implementation science. Trainees gain expertise to conduct cutting-edge HIV research through hands-on experience and formal didactics with an emphasis on educating trainees in the broader context of HIV research across the translational continuum.

Stimulating Access to Research in Residency Program

Emory's Stimulating Access to Research in Residency (StARR) program is designed to address a nationwide shortage of physician scientists and offer in-depth instruction in the fundamentals of clinical and translational research, as well as a robust, multidisciplinary mentoring program tailored to the specific needs of resident physicians.

Emory is one of only three institutions nationwide selected to receive the StARR R38 award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). This program has three-month blocks of contiguous research time embedded in the PGY-2 and PGY-3 categorical training program and is followed by a PGY-4 year of immersive research experience. StARR graduates submit a career development NIH K38 or equivalent grant application. Graduates are highly attractive fellowship applicants or junior faculty candidates.

For a comprehensive list of programs and studies within the Division, please review [Infectious Disease Studies and Programs](#).

Clinical Care

Infectious Diseases faculty provide inpatient consults and antibiotic stewardship at the Atlanta VA, Emory University Hospital, Emory University Hospital Midtown, Emory University Orthopaedics and Spine Hospital, and Grady Memorial Hospital.

Emory Healthcare Infectious Diseases Clinic in Midtown

The [Emory Infectious Diseases Clinic at Emory University Hospital Midtown](#) (EUHM) is a well-established provider with extensive experience caring for patients diagnosed with infectious diseases, including hepatitis, HIV, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), transplant, or travel-related infections. Emory Infectious Diseases faculty also oversee the outpatient IV antibiotic therapy program.

This clinic is based at EUHM and provides primary care for approximately 2,000 patients living with HIV (including the majority of patients with HIV and hemophilia living in Atlanta), as well as ID consultative services for a broad referral area in the southeastern United States. The Outpatient Parenteral Antibiotic Therapy (OPAT) clinic and TravelWell clinics are based at EUHM, as well as a Ryan White Clinic (separate from the Ponce de Leon Center noted below).

Emory TravelWell Clinic

[Emory TravelWell](#) is an Emory Healthcare-affiliated program that provides pre- and post-traveler health services to international travelers, including advice and recommendations on travel, prescribing appropriate medications, and communicating answers to travelers' needs and concerns.

Infectious Diseases Program at Grady Health System (Ponce De Leon Center)

The Ponce De Leon Center is one of the largest, most comprehensive facilities dedicated to the treatment of advanced HIV/AIDS in the United States. Founded in 1986, the Ponce Center and its onsite affiliates provide various medical and support services to approximately 5000 eligible men, women, adolescents, and children living with HIV/AIDS.

The Infectious Diseases Program (IDP) at the Ponce de Leon Center provides care for over 6,000 un- and underinsured adults and children living with HIV and is a major site of clinical research in HIV/AIDS. The Ryan White-funded Center, one of the finest outpatient facilities for HIV/AIDS care in the country, provides comprehensive care to its patients, including primary medical care, subspecialty care (dermatology, pulmonology, oncology, anoscopy, etc.), mental health services, nutrition, case management, oral health, and other services.

Infectious Diseases and HIV Clinic at Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta VA Medical Center

The [Infectious Diseases Section](#) is responsible for inpatient Infectious Disease consults, the Infection Control Program, and Antibiotic Stewardship. The Infectious Disease Primary Care Outpatient Clinic, which includes the care of all HIV-infected patients at this facility, cares for over 2,000 veterans living with HIV and is the largest HIV clinic in the VA system nationally.

Emory Transplant Center

[Transplant Infectious Diseases care](#) provides consultation for infectious disease management in transplant recipients, pre and post-transplant vaccination, and individual treatment plans for preventing infections.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

The Division Director of Infectious Diseases in Emory University School of Medicine will provide senior leadership in all clinical, educational, and research endeavors within the Division of Infectious Diseases. The director will be responsible for the overall management of the Division, including 85 faculty, 12 fellows, and 289 staff, as well as recruitment, mentorship, retention, and management of diverse faculty, trainees, and staff. The next director will be expected to successfully navigate the following opportunities and challenges:

Execute a compelling strategic plan for the Division's future.

The next director will set a strategy that further binds the Division's mission areas together and links to the broader Department of Medicine vision to integrate leading edge basic, translational, and clinical research to further the ability to deliver quality care, to predict illness and treat the sick, and to promote the health of the patient population and surrounding communities. The director has the opportunity to partner broadly across other divisions throughout the School of Medicine and with the other schools in the University. The director will strike a delicate balance between innovating and taking the Division to the next level while maintaining the excellence that differentiates Emory's Infectious Diseases program. Prioritizing key areas of strength in the division and constructing a strong plan to address strategic priorities, the director will unify faculty, fellows, and staff around the common goal of ushering the Division into its next phase.

Diversify the Division's research portfolio and promote collaboration within the Division and beyond.

The director should have a strong personal track record of success in funding and discovery, as well as a comprehensive understanding of infectious diseases research and the range of available funding mechanisms. As an active researcher, the director will not only support the growth of the Division's research portfolio but also play a pivotal role in mentoring faculty members and helping them build their own successful research portfolios funded by a diversity of sources.

The Division has experienced significant growth in programs, faculty, and staff in recent years, requiring focused effort to remain connected across clinical sites. The director will be the conduit for partnerships and synergy within the Division, bringing the range of infectious diseases stakeholders together in new ways. Additionally, there are innumerable opportunities for collaboration and cross-pollination to address disparities in healthcare that continue to grow and plague the Atlanta region and beyond.

Continuously assess clinical needs as the demand for ID services increases.

The Division supports specialties and services system-wide, covering an increasing volume of clinical services as Emory Healthcare continues to expand. The next director will address the increased demand on faculty with an eye to both resources and wellness. By celebrating a culture that motivates faculty to pursue high-impact projects and foster cross-disciplinary collaborations, the director will significantly advance research initiatives toward clinical application and new discoveries in infectious diseases.

Enhance and promote educational offerings available to learners to cultivate the next generation of skilled clinicians and researchers.

The director will work closely with the fellowship's program leadership to further the Division's educational mission to train the next generation of infectious disease leaders. Emory's ID fellowship is one of the top programs in the country -- the director will support the program leaders to ensure that the educational offerings include robust clinical training as well as opportunities for research, scholarship, and mentorship. The director will also prioritize efforts to engage the broader spectrum of trainees who may have clinical rotations in ID, such as internal medicine residents, Emory medical students, or PA students, as well as other learners who may engage with ID faculty in research, such as MPH students, or graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in microbiology, immunology, and related fields. Ultimately, the director will be engaged in and passionate about increasing opportunities for all forms of learners to gain experience in and explore the breadth and depth of infectious diseases.

Strategically recruiting talented faculty while building off of a strong, positive culture, retaining and developing an excellent group of current faculty.

The director will create a recruitment strategy to attract top talent at all faculty levels. This requires identifying specific growth areas for the Division while ensuring that it remains one where faculty thrive. The director will nurture an environment where all faculty, from the Division's longstanding members to junior faculty, receive the mentorship, professional development, and resources they need.

Promote the Division's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

The director should have a proven track record of leading meaningful and impactful diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, striving to recruit and retain a faculty that mirrors the Division's patient population. As a strong communicator, the director will foster a culture of trust and respect, promoting open dialogue, the free exchange of ideas, and the desire to bridge differences while embracing shared values. This internal work will also advance the Division's commitment to equitably serving a diverse patient population and conducting research that acknowledges and supports this diversity.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The ideal candidate will bring the following skills, qualities, and experience, which are considered critical to success:

- A board-certified MD or MD/PhD with a record of achievement for appointment at the level of professor or associate professor;
- Track record in scholarly achievement and prior success in obtaining extramural funding;
- Progressive administrative and operational experience in an academic medical center setting;
- A track record of partnering with a breadth of stakeholders to develop, inspire, communicate, and operationalize a shared vision and strategic plan, and negotiating the needed resources;
- Ability to clarify roles and develop a strong leadership team and to delegate authority to streamline policies, processes, and procedures within a complex, evolving, and dynamic environment;
- Experience leading faculty physicians in complex clinical settings;
- A deep understanding of basic and clinical research from inception to implementation research;
- Diversity and inclusion as lived values, and evidence-building a culture that ensures equity;
- Understanding of and enthusiasm for the tripartite mission of the Division and the Department of Medicine;
- Understanding of the value of medical education and of the recent and emerging trends;
- Success leading or supporting faculty recruitment, retention, and development efforts that enhance academic excellence, diversity, equity, and inclusion; and
- Strong acumen and judgment in managing financial resources and the ability to develop and implement budgets effectively, aligning resources with strategic priorities.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/emory-university-school-medicine/director-division-infectious-diseases>. Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

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Emory University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all federal and Georgia state laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action. Emory University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.