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Emory University
Serious Communicable Diseases Program (SCDP)
Project ECHO Program
Thinking Ahead of the World Cup:
Vector Borne VHF: RVF
Thursday, June 25, 2026
11 AM – 12 PM (ET)

Facilitator:

- Gavin Harris, MD – Assistant Professor of Medicine and the Serious Communicable Diseases Program (SCDP) Director of Regional Education & Training and International Engagement, Emory University School of Medicine, Divisions of Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine & Infectious Diseases

Didactic and Case Presenter:

- Anita K. McElroy, MD, PhD – Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Pittsburgh

Public Health Presenter:

- Julie Gabel, DVM, MPH - State Public Health Veterinarian, Georgia Department of Public Health

Target Audience:

- Anyone interfacing with patients or responsible for patient/community health, including physicians, nurses, EMTs, paramedics, pharmacists, hospital administrators, public health officials, etc., are welcome to attend.

Session Objectives:

- Gain an understanding of the current and projected epidemiologic trends of potential Rift Valley Fever as related to World Cup exposure
- Utilize a case-based scenario to discuss clinical presentation and management of a person infected with Rift Valley Fever
- Understand the ongoing surveillance measures and public health preparedness approaches in Region IV

Connection Details: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ih2tPHwSTjCc56masQHbeQ

Time	Topic	Presenter
11:00 -11:05	Welcome, Intros, Polls	Harris



11:05 -11:10	Situation Report – Overview of Current Disease Outbreaks	Harris
11:10 -11:20	Case Presentation	McElroy
11:20 – 11:35	Acute febrile illness- when to suspect a zebra instead of a horse	McElroy
11:35 – 11:45	From Detection to Containment: Public Health Interventions for Rift Valley Fever	Gabel
11:45 -12:00	Discussion/Q&A <i>(Audience can submit questions and experts will discuss)</i>	Harris, McElroy, Gabel
12:00	Wrap-up, Polls	Harris



In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Emory University and Project ECHO. Project ECHO® is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.



AMA Designation Statement

Project ECHO® designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

ANCC Designation Statement

Project ECHO® designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 ANCC contact hour. Nursing contact hours will be awarded for successful completion of program components based upon documented attendance and completion of evaluation.

Disclosure Statement

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None of the planners and presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.



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Gavin Harris, MD
Aneesh Mehta, MD, FIDSA, FAST
Sharon Vanairsdale, DNP, APRN, ACNS-BC, NP-C, CEN, FAEN, FAAN
Yasmin Thornton, MPH
Allison Klajbor, MBA
Chimora Amobi, MD, MPH
Anita K. McElroy, MD, PhD
Julie Gabel, DVM, MPH,

Bios:

Gavin Harris, MD

Gavin H. Harris, MD is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine, holding appointments in both the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine and the Division of Infectious Diseases. He has been on faculty at Emory since 2020 and his professional expertise lies in the areas of disaster preparedness, medical countermeasures, and the treatment of special pathogens. Dr. Harris is the Director of Regional Education & Training and International Engagement for the Emory University Serious Communicable Diseases Program Project ECHO and SitRep, the co-clinical lead for critical care medicine for Emory's Serious Communicable Diseases Unit (SCDU), and a rostered physician for the SCDU. Additionally, Dr. Harris is an alumni fellow of the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health's Center for Health Security Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Initiative (ELBI) as well as faculty with the National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center (NETEC) as an adult care subject matter expert and a biothreats subject matter expert with the Southern Regional Disaster Response System (SRDRS).

Anita K. McElroy, MD, PhD

Dr. McElroy started her academic journey at Anne Arundel Community College then obtained her bachelor's degree in microbiology from the University of Maryland at College Park in 1996, graduating *cum laude* with election to Phi Beta Kappa. During her undergraduate years, her love for virology blossomed and her affinity for the lab was cemented. She then moved to the University of California, San Diego where she gained pivotal virology training and earned a PhD in Biology in 2000. Dr. McElroy then completed a post-doctoral fellowship funded by a National Research Council Fellowship at the US Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Diseases. There she gained critical skills in animal models and vaccinology and began in earnest the study of emerging viruses. That experience and her interactions with the medical community led her to seek clinical training and in 2007 she was awarded her medical degree at the George Washington University School of Medicine with election to Alpha Omega Alpha. She then completed her residency in Pediatrics at Emory University in 2010. While there she took advantage of two unique opportunities; the American Board of Pediatrics Integrated Research Pathway to help physician scientists maintain research during residency, and the proximity of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she joined the Viral Special Pathogens Branch and continued to hold a guest researcher position from 2007-2020. She completed



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Pediatric Infectious Diseases fellowship at Emory funded by a PIDS/St Jude fellowship award while continuing to conduct research at CDC. Her first faculty position was as an Assistant Professor at Emory in 2014 but in 2017 she was recruited to the University of Pittsburgh where she is now a tenured Associate Professor of Pediatric Infectious Disease.

Julie Gabel, DVM, MPH

Dr. Julie Gabel is a medical epidemiologist with the Georgia Department of Public Health in the Acute Disease Epidemiology Section, where she serves as the State Public Health Veterinarian. With more than 25 years of experience in public health, she provides leadership and oversight for the Zoonotic and Vectorborne Diseases Epidemiology Team.

Dr. Gabel brings a uniquely diverse clinical background to her work, having previously practiced small animal medicine and surgery for six years and worked as a human critical care nurse prior to pursuing veterinary medicine.

She earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine and her Master of Public Health from the Emory University Rollins School of Public Health.