

#### Seminar Results From CFAR Pilot Awards Monday, March 20, 2023



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## New molecular approaches to study the dynamics of HIV-1 tissue reservoirs

#### **Results From CFAR Pilot Awards Seminar**

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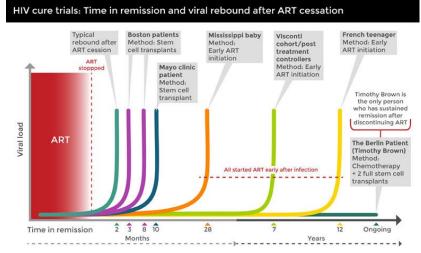


### Reservoir main questions

Current ART quickly suppress HIV to levels undetectable in the blood.

However, the virus is not eradicated from the body and in most cases comes roaring back if the drugs are stopped.

- Where the reactivated virus comes from?
- How is the reservoir maintained?
- What are the characteristics of the cells that harbor the reservoirs?
- How is the virus able to retain the variability that it needs to survive?
- How is the virus able to circumvent immunity in tissues to rebound?





AVERT.org Source: IAS Society 'Full recommendations: Towards an HIV cure 2016'

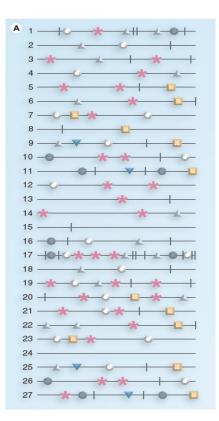
#### **Quasispecies properties**

-RNA viruses high mutation rates and progeny production generate a swarm of mutants known as quasispecies.

-Quasispecies, and not single genomes, are the object of the evolution.

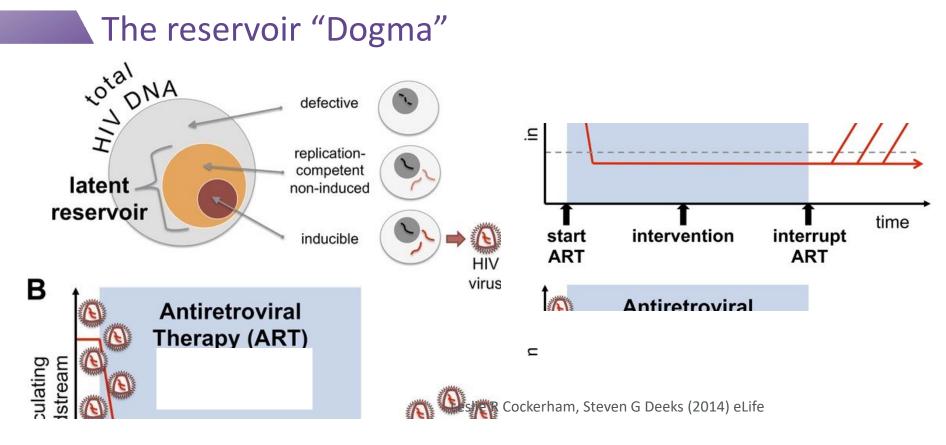
-Quasispecies dynamics and properties drive viral infection evolution.

-This population distribution allows the viruses to better adapt to changing environments.





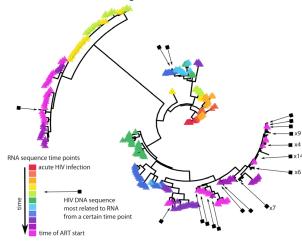




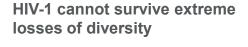


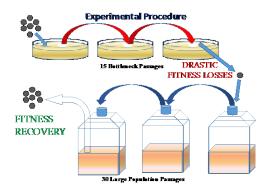
#### Clonal populations should not produce the rebound

Rebound sequences are related to time of ART start populations and retain variability



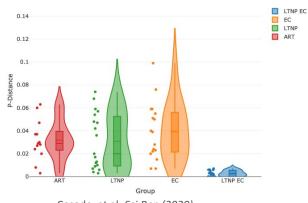
Pankau et al. (2020) PLOS Pathogens





Lorenzo-Redondo R et al.(2011) J Virol.

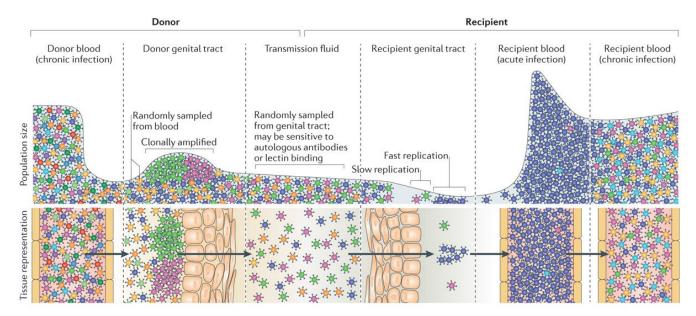
Extreme low diversity prevents replication



Casado et al. Sci Rep (2020)



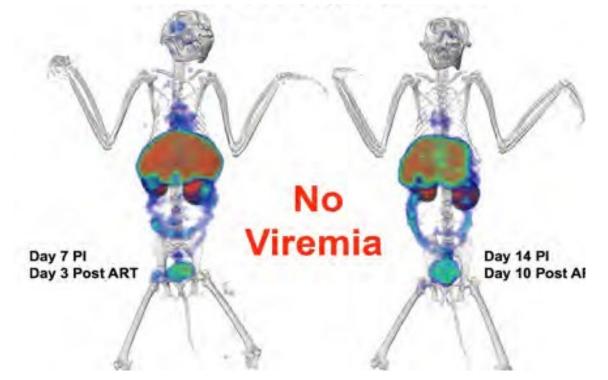
#### HIV-1 population bottlenecks require preexisting diversity



Nature Reviews | Microbiology



# The Reservoir is everywhere (and now we can find it!)





Thomas J Hope

Francois Villinger



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CFAR Pilot 1: Assessing the best viral sampling method for an accurate detection of the tissue viral reservoir dynamics

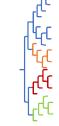
#### Reservoir Population Dynamics



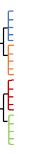
Independent evolution in different evolution evoluti evolution evolution

ht Evolution with traffic between specific compartments (blue-orange and red-green)

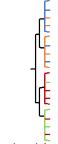




Evolution with complete mix of viral populations.



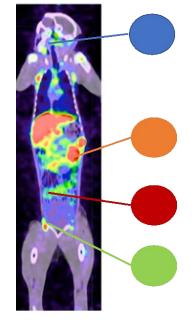
Independent evolution in different compartments with a common origin in the one compartment (blue)



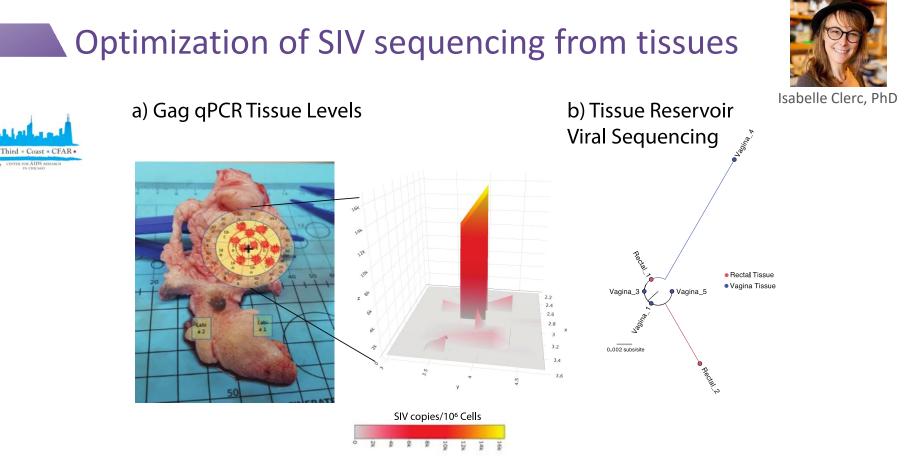
Clonal populations stablished in each compartment after starting treatment.

Clonal populations stablished at the beginning of the infection with cell traffic between compartments

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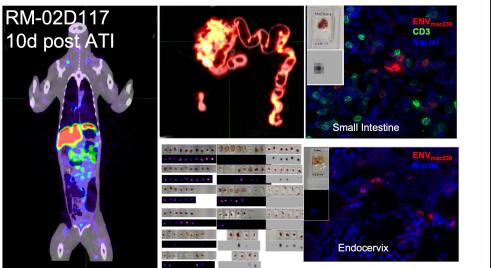


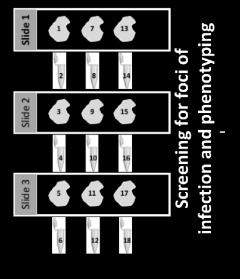


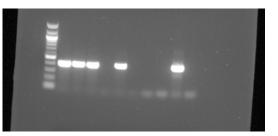




#### PET-CT-Guided SIV reservoir molecular characterization









Muhammad Shoaib Arif, PhD

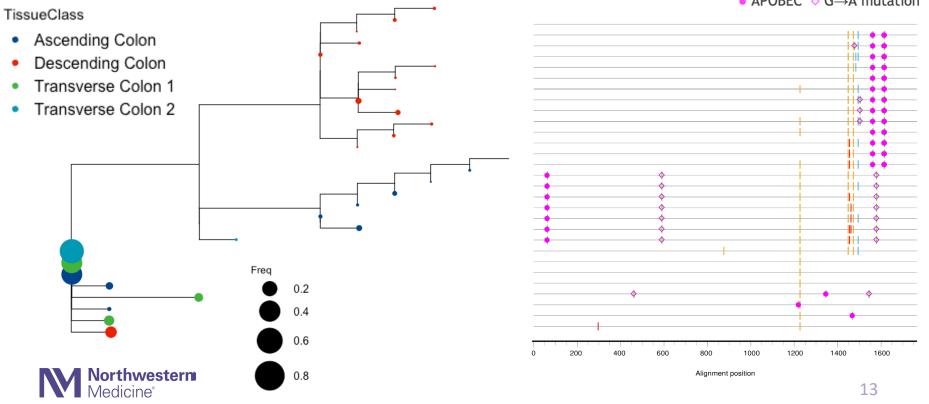


Christopher Thuruthiyil



### Early rebound intra-host viral populations

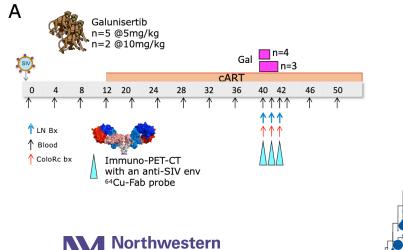
Legend  $A \quad C \quad G \quad T \quad GAP$ • APOBEC  $\diamond G \rightarrow A$  mutation



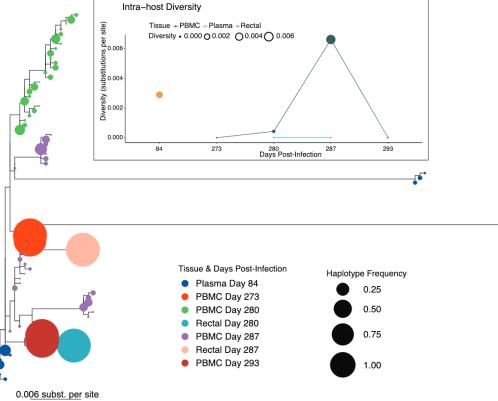
#### Detection of reservoir diversification after reactivation



Elena Martinelli



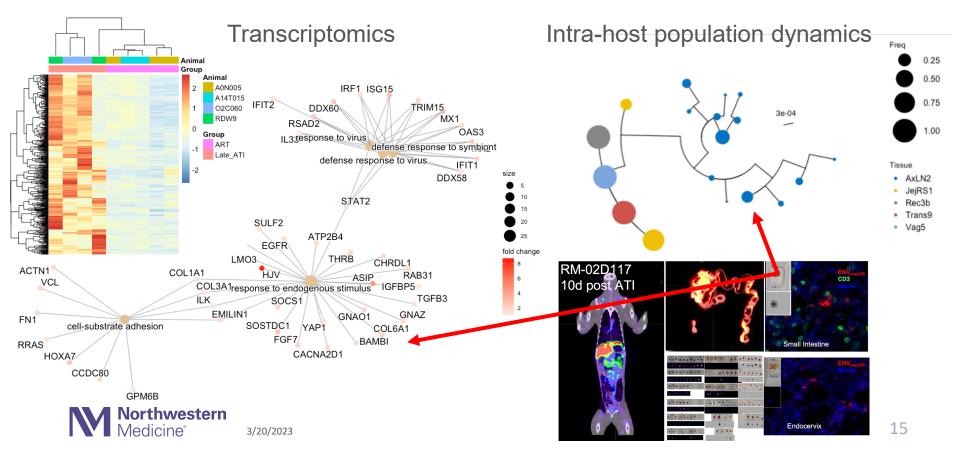
Medicine<sup>®</sup>



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Samer et al. JCI Insight. 2022

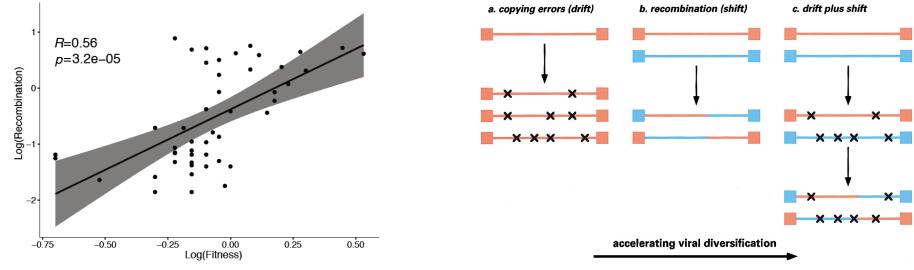
#### Virus-host system in SIV reservoirs





CFAR Pilot 2: Understanding the role of HIV-1 recombination in the maintenance and rebound of the tissue reservoir

#### HIV-1 Recombination in the Maintenance and Rebound of the Tissue Reservoir



Miguel Arenas, Ramon Lorenzo-Redondo, Cecilio Lopez-Galindez. Influence of mutation and recombination on HIV-1 in vitro fitness recovery. Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution, 2016

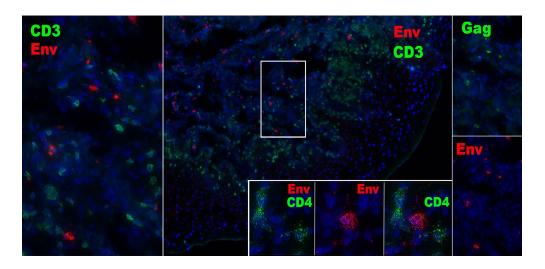
Malim et al. Cell 2001



#### Myeloid cells are a key reservoir

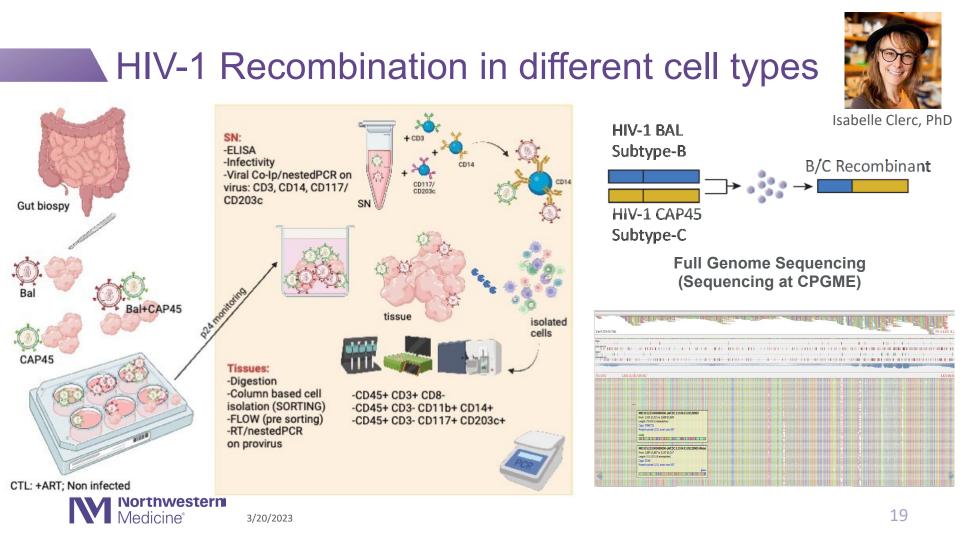


Thomas J Hope, PhD

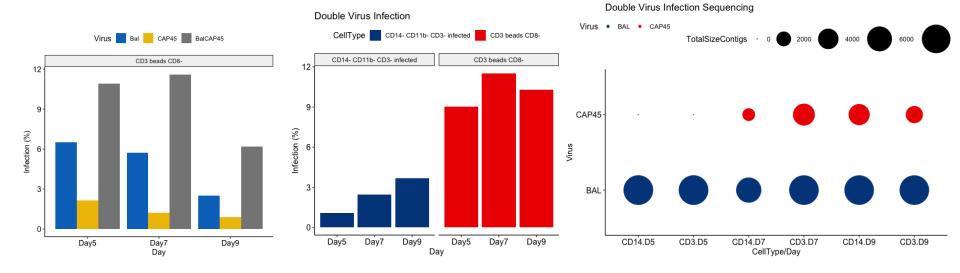


Myeloid cells are exclusively detected in foci of rebounding SIVmac239 5 days after ATI.



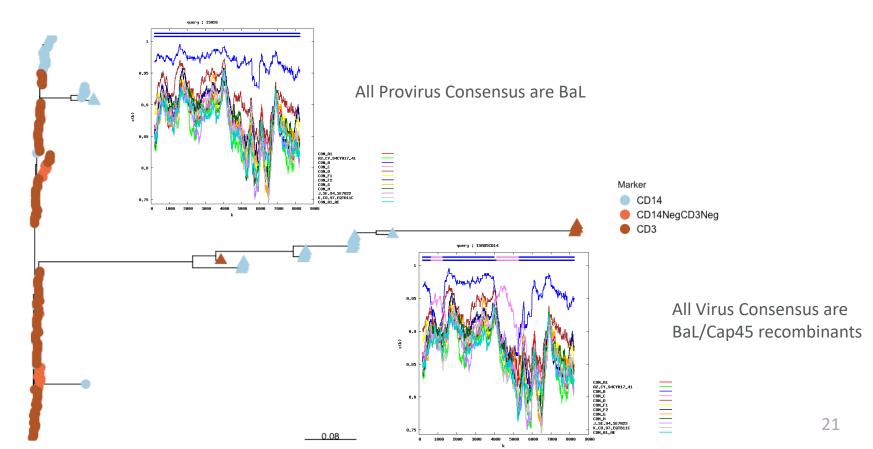


#### PBMC Infection Test: Cell Type Isolation and NGS





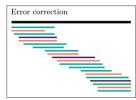
#### Quasispecies sequences from Cells and Virus

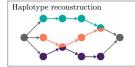


#### Long-read sequencing now available as a CFAR service













MiSeq read length: 2 × 300 bp



GridION read length: up to 4 MB



Division of infectious Diseases Emerging and Re-emerging Pathogens Program



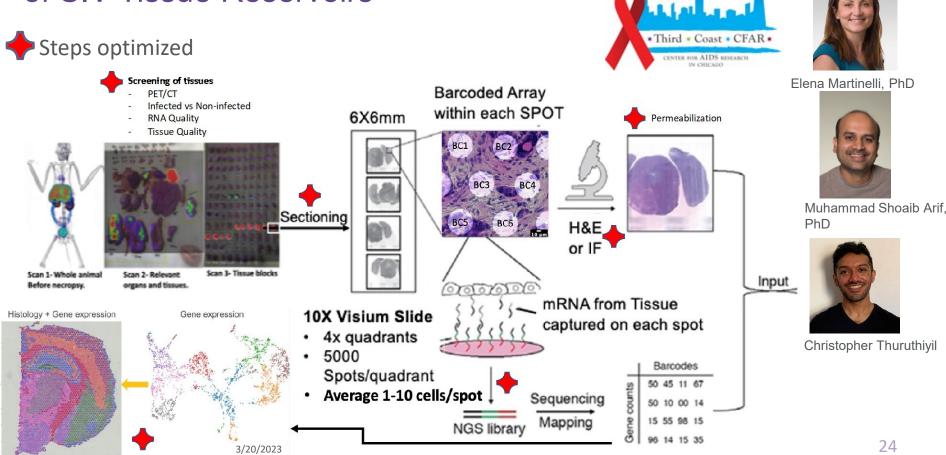
Center for Pathogen Genomics

Robert J. Havey 22 Institute for Global Health

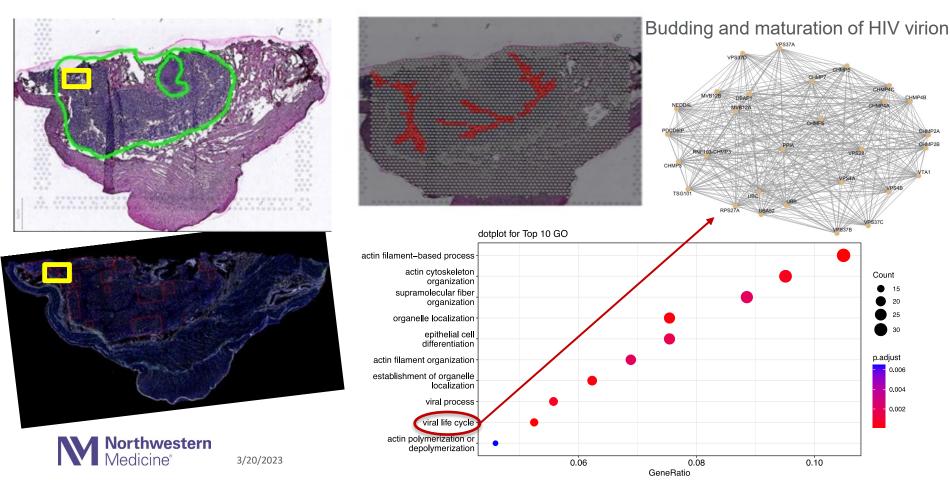


CFAR Supplement: PET-CT-Guided Spatial Transcriptomics of SIV Tissue Reservoirs

# PET-CT-Guided Spatial Transcriptomics of SIV Tissue Reservoirs



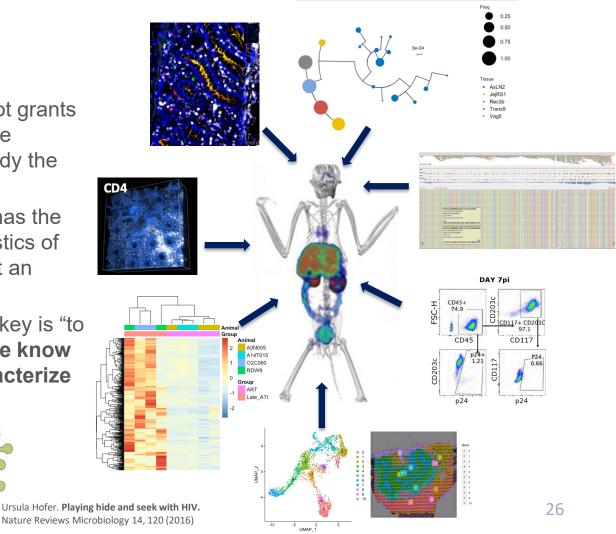
#### Cluster associated with areas of infected cells



#### Conclusions

- The unique program of CFAR pilot grants has allowed us develop innovative methodology and pipelines to study the HIV-1 reservoirs.
- We have now a set of tools that has the potential to unveil key characteristics of the reservoir virus-host system at an unprecedented level.
- The toolbox is important, but the key is "to have the piece of tissue". Now we know where to look to find and characterize the reservoir.

Northwester



#### Value Added by the CFAR

All methods and data generated thanks to CFAR funding have been key for 2 NIH awarded grants

Role of myeloid cells in CNS and systemic reservoirs and rebound (R01)



Thomas J Hope





Elena Martinelli

Francois Villinger

Unraveling the Mechanisms of HIV Persistence and Rebound (P01)











Thomas J Hope

Elena Martinelli

Francois Villinger

Bruce S Bochner 27

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Isabelle Clerc

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National Institutes of Health





**M Northwestern** Medicine<sup>®</sup> Feinberg School of Medicine



Mike McRaven





Hope Lab





## Center for Pathogen Genomics and Microbial Evolution

https://www.globalhealth.northwestern.edu/centers/pathogen-genomics-microbial-evolution/index.html

## Thank You!



## Questions?

