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James M. Musser, MD, PhD

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James M. Musser, M.D., Ph.D. is Chair of the Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine of the Houston Methodist Hospital System and Research Institute in Houston. He holds the Fondren Endowed Presidential Distinguished Chair and directs the Center for Molecular and Translational Human Infectious Diseases Research at the Methodist Hospital Research Institute. Dr. Musser received his M.D. and Ph.D. from the University of Rochester School of Medicine (1988). He performed postdoctoral research on the molecular population genetics of pathogenic bacteria in the laboratory of Professor R. K. Selander. After residency training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, he joined the faculty of Baylor College of Medicine (1991), where he was a professor of pathology and microbiology and immunology (1998). In 1999, he accepted a position as Chief, Laboratory of Human Bacterial Pathogenesis, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health. His laboratory works primarily on group A Streptococcus using genome-wide investigative strategies, with special emphasis on understanding molecular mechanisms contributing to pathogenic clone emergence and epidemic disease.

He is a member of many professional societies, including the American Academy for Microbiology, Association of University Pathologists, American Society of Clinical Investigation, and Association of American Physicians. He has received many honors and awards, including the ICAAC Young Investigator Award (1992), and the Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis Award (1999), Chugai Award for Excellence in Mentoring and Scholarship (2007), and Rous-Whipple Research Award (2017) all sponsored by the American Society for Investigative Pathology. He has published 400 papers and book chapters in the field of bacterial infectious diseases.

2016

