Welcome to our 1st Lab Newsletter!

Dr. Vieira is proud to announce the development of a website exclusively for his lab. Please visit the site at [http://www.dental.pitt.edu/vieira_lab/](http://www.dental.pitt.edu/vieira_lab/) to get the latest in his lab research and publications.

Our lab is going to actively participate in the next Annual Meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics, to be held in New Orleans October 9 to 13. Kathleen Deeley (Research Specialist), Ariadne Letra (Post-Doctoral Associate) and Alex Vieira have poster presentations and Renato Menezes (Post-Doctoral Associate) was selected for platform presentation on his paper entitled “Clefts Families Have a Higher Risk of Developing Several Types of Cancer.” Platform presentations are highly commended and are usually held in rooms that accommodate 1000 people.

Ariadne Letra will be a guest speaker at the Long Island Jewish Medical System’s Feinstein Institute in Manhasset, New York. Dr. Letra was invited by Dr. Robert Greenwald, Chief of Rheumatology at the LIJ North Shore Hospital, for this seminar including other researchers to discuss the role of MMP’s and other cytokines in dental disease such as periapical pathologies and congenital disease such as oral-facial clefts. This presentation will also discuss the work in Dr. Vieira’s lab to seek prospective collaboration for future projects.

The Dental Registry and DNA Repository (DRDR), has been created in order to obtain clinical information and a biological sample from all individuals seeking treatment at the School of Dental Medicine (SDM). The overall aim of the DRDR is to serve as a one-source provider of clinical data linked to DNA samples for educational and research purposes.

This project eliminates the need for further Institutional Review Board (IRB) evaluations for projects seeking to use data from the registry. To our knowledge, the DRDR will be the only project in the world to keep a comprehensive set of dental phenotypes linked to DNA samples. The DRDR will be officially unveiled at the “Annual General Assembly and White Coat Ceremony”, which will be held on August 28th from 3:00-4:30 pm in Rooms 5 and 6 at Scaife Hall.

To learn more about the opportunities with the DRDR, please visit the website link at [http://www.dental.pitt.edu/vieira_lab/dental_registry.php](http://www.dental.pitt.edu/vieira_lab/dental_registry.php) and contact Jill Schaefer at 412-383-5944 or by e-mail at jss73@dental.pitt.edu.

For questions, comments or suggestions please e-mail Monica Varela at moc7@dental.pitt.edu

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**Lab Meeting Schedule**

- **When:** September 5th  12:30
- **Where:** 403 Salk
- **Topic:** Genetics of Caries
- **Presenter:** Kathleen Deeley
- **When:** September 20th 12:30
- **Where:** 403 Salk
- **Topic:** Candidate Gene
  
**Studies of Oral-Facial Clefts**

- **Presenter:** Ariadne Letra

**Journal Club Schedule**

- **When:** August 30 at 12:00
  - **Presenter:** Andrew Lidral
- **When:** September 6 at 12:00
  - **Presenter:** Mary Marazita and Peg Nopoulos
- **When:** September 13 at 12:00
  - **Presenter:** Akira Kinoshita
- **When:** September 20 at 12:00
  - **Presenter:** Hiro Mishima

**What is Journal Club?**

The SDM’s Center for Craniofacial and Dental Genetics and the University of Iowa’s Craniofacial Anomalies Research Center have a joint virtual journal club every Wednesday at noon (Pittsburgh time) where individuals from both groups can discuss topics related to craniofacial development and genetics. In Pittsburgh, meetings are held in the Conference Room of the 5th floor of the Cellomics Building.