



Vieira Lab Newsletter

Lab Meeting Schedule

- **When: October 19, 2007**

Where: Salk 403

Topic: DRDR Student population

Presenter: Greg Fitzgerald

- **When: November 2, 2007**

Topic: Short Term clinical and immunological evaluation of peri-implant diseases before and after mechanical anti-infective therapies

Presenter: Adriana Mendonça

- **When: November 16, 2007**

Topic: Establishing the DRDR Database

Presenter: Célia Ferro

Upcoming Events

- **“Overview of TMD’s and Surgical Management of Internal Derangement of the TMJ”**

Presented by William Lee Chung, D.D.S., M.D.

When: Wednesday, Oct. 24, 12pm

Where: Salk Hall, Rm 458

Journal Club Schedule^o

- **November 6th: ASHG Meeting Highlights**
- **November 13th: Manika Govil, Wei Li**
- **November 20th: Ariadne Letra, Junichiro Machida**
- **November 27th: Adrianna Mostowska, Renato Menezes**

Journal Club meetings are held on the 5th Floor Conference room of the Bridgepoint Building. Contact us for directions!

Lab News

A recent publication from the Vieira Lab suggests that the genes that contribute to laterality of the cleft may be different. This suggestion is based on the evaluation of patterns of dentition of the cleft cases in a study that was supported by both the NIH/NIDCR and the Brazilian agency CAPES. Unilateral cleft of the lip is more common in the left side and there is no good explanation for this preference. This is the first study to suggest that this difference may be in the genes. The leading author, Dr. Ariadne Letra, is a post-doctoral associate in the Vieira Lab and has examined all subjects studied, a total of 1000 individuals. The paper was published in the October issue of the Journal of Dental Research (Letra A., Menezes R., Granjeiro JM, Vieira A.R. Defining cleft subphenotypes based on dental development. J Dent Res 2007; 86:986-991).

This paper is featured in the NIDCR website in the Science News in Brief

<http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/NewsAndReports/ScienceNewsInBrief/OralClefts.htm>



Dental Registry and DNA Repository News

The Dental Registry and DNA Repository (DRDR) is quickly approaching the inclusion of its 600th participant. With a new total of 591 participants and 74 declines, the participation compliance rate remains at a steady and very encouraging 89%.

The DRDR also featured a poster presentation during the University of Pittsburgh’s Science 2007: Collaborate, Innovate, Transform, the school’s 7th annual broad-based celebration of local science. The Vieira Lab featured four posters, which were accepted and presented, making the single largest contribution of any lab to the event. Dr. Letra, Dr. Menezes, Steve Tropp, the authors of three posters, presented on the genetic contributions to cleft lip and palate.

The DRDR poster entitled, “The DRDR: Impact, Updates, Perceptions,” by Dr. Vieira, Jill Schaefer and Greg Fitzgerald, focused on presenting a comprehensive update on the project and its overall progress within the last year. A complete breakdown of the subject demographic information, the clinics where recruitment occurs and past publications on the DRDR were described. The poster analyzed the DRDR student volunteer population as well as some preliminary data on the psychology behind those individuals who decline to partake in research studies. Future directions may include a collaboration using this pilot data on individuals who choose not to become a research participant. This Friday DRDR student, Greg Fitzgerald, will present a further analysis on student volunteers during the Vieira Lab meeting.

Please remember that opportunities still exist to become involved as a volunteer with the world’s first dental DNA bank. Email Jill Schaefer at jss73@dental.pitt.edu or call (412) 383-5944 to find out how you can become a part of the Vieira Lab team and its research endeavors.



For newsletter questions, comments or suggestions please e-mail Melissa Carp at mgc4@dental.pitt.edu

