



James M. Musser, MD, PhD
Fondren Distinguished Presidential Endowed
Chair and is Chair of the Department of
Pathology and Genomic Medicine

*Tigers by The Tail: Integrated Analyses of Emerging Infectious
Diseases*

James M. Musser, M.D., Ph.D. holds the Fondren Distinguished Presidential Endowed Chair and is Chair of the Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine for the Houston Methodist Hospital System. He also directs the Center for Infectious Diseases and the Laboratory of Clinical and Translational Human Infectious Diseases Research at the Houston Methodist Research Institute. He is Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College.

Dr. Musser earned his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Rochester School of Medicine. He trained at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and joined the Department of Pathology of Houston Methodist Hospital in 1991. In 1999, he accepted a position with Dr. Anthony Fauci at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, where he was Founding Chief of the Laboratory of Human Bacterial Pathogenesis. In 2005, he and his laboratory moved to Houston Methodist Hospital and Research Institute. He works primarily on group A *Streptococcus* (the “flesh-eating” pathogen), with a special emphasis on human-pathogen molecular interactions using genome-wide investigative strategies. His group also uses genome-scale analyses to decipher the molecular events underpinning pandemics and pathogen-host interactions. He has had a decades-long interest in developing a group A *Streptococcus* vaccine. Clinically, his efforts focus on diagnostic microbiology, patient safety, error reduction, and antimicrobial agent resistance.

Dr. Musser is an elected member of many professional societies, including the American Academy of Microbiology, Association of University Pathologists (Pluto Society), American Society for Clinical Investigation, Association of American Physicians, and the American Clinical and Climatological Association. He has been fortunate to receive many national honors and awards, including the ICAAC Young Investigator Award (1992), and the Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis Award (1999) and Chugai Award for Excellence in Mentoring and Scholarship (2007), both sponsored by the American Society for Investigative Pathology. He received the prestigious Rous-Whipple Award in 2017, sponsored by the American Society for Investigative

Pathology. He is past president of the American Society for Investigative Pathology, served on the Board of Directors, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), and was President of FASEB (2018-2019).

He has published more than 450 papers and book chapters in the field of bacterial pathogenesis, bacterial population genetics, and infectious diseases, and has an h-index of 107.