Developing a Career in Transplant Infectious Diseases (TID)

Define your career goals
Define achievable short, medium and long-term career goals. A career in transplant ID can include working as a:
- Clinician-educator
- Clinical/translational researcher
- Basic science researcher

Gain knowledge about TID
*Attend meetings and conferences that have a TID component:*
- IDWeek ([https://idweek.org](https://idweek.org))
- American Transplant Congress ([www.atcmeeting.org](http://www.atcmeeting.org))
- International Society for Heart & Lung Transplantation ([https://ishlt.org](https://ishlt.org))
- American Society of Transplantation Fellows Symposium ([www.myast.org/meetings/fellows-symposium-transplantation](http://www.myast.org/meetings/fellows-symposium-transplantation))

Seek TID training opportunities
- Inquire about TID tracks when applying for infectious diseases fellowship.
- Browse the AST Infectious Diseases Community of Practice for TID fellowship programs ([www.community.myast.org/idcop/home](http://www.community.myast.org/idcop/home)).
- Explore multiple programs and understand what each offers (i.e., number of TID faculty, transplant type, research training and duration of TID service rotation).
Obtain mentorship

Identify mentors to provide guidance, advice and stability. Consider multiple mentors for different purposes:

• Research mentor: Works on a topic you are passionate about or has expertise or skills in techniques you are interested in learning.
• Career mentor: Gives advice on professional development. Choose mentors who have time to commit to you and with whom you get along. Prepare for meetings with your mentors. A good mentor-mentee relationship is reciprocal and is crucial for success.
• External mentor: Serves as an external reference and provides opportunities not available at your institution. To connect with an external mentor, facilitate an introduction through a local mentor or network through the opportunities noted below:

  - IDSA Foundation: IDWeek Mentorship Program (https://idsafoundation.org/virtual-idweek-mentorship-program/)
  - ISHLT professional communities (https://ishlt.org/membership-networking/professional-communities)
  - AST Community of Practice (https://www.myast.org/cops)

Actively participate in transplant societies & organizations

National

• Infectious Diseases Society of America (www.idsociety.org/)
• American Society of Transplantation (www.myast.org)
• American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (www.asbmt.org)

International

• International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (www.ishlt.org)
• The Transplantation Society (www.tts.org)
• The Transplant Infectious Diseases section of the Transplantation Society (www.tts.org/tid-members-area/join-tid)
• International Society for Stem Cell Research (www.isscr.org)
Seek teaching opportunities

Classroom
• Give lectures to students, small groups and residents.
• Attend and/or lead divisional and departmental conferences.

Inpatient
• Teach your team and transplant teams.

Outpatient
• Host residents and fellows in your transplant infectious diseases clinic.

Online
• Develop an intranet TID website to include articles and presentations for residents and fellows at your institution.
• Save your presentations and information about interesting cases to reference throughout your career.

Apply for leadership positions

Local
• Participate in leadership courses at your own institution.
• Volunteer for educational roles, including course director, clinical rotations director or residency program core clinical faculty.
• Engage in collaborative work with your transplant program and organ procurement organizations.

National
• Serve on councils and committees for national organizations:
  IDSA Committees  
  (https://www.idsociety.org/about-idsa/idsa-committees/)
  AST Community of Practice  
  (https://www.myast.org/cops)
  ISHLT ID Council  
  (http://dev.ishlt.org/about-ishlt/infectious-diseases/id-council-operating-board)
  OPTN/UNOS Committees  
  (https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/members/committees/)
Apply for research funding opportunities

- IDSA Research & Funding Opportunities (www.idsociety.org/research/research--funding-opportunities/research--funding-landing-page/)
- AST Research Network (www.tirn.org/funding)
- ISHLT Grants & Awards (https://ishlt.org/research-data/grants-awards)
- American Society of Clinical Oncology: Young Investigator Award (www.conquer.org/young-investigator-award)

Document your impact for promotion

- Engage in scholarly activities, including case reports and retrospective cohort studies.
- Submit abstracts and publish manuscripts.
- Submit your work, network and seek feedback at conferences to enhance your research.
- Document lectures given, committee and leadership positions, achievements and awards.