Biomedical Sciences Seminar
Cosponsored by Neuroscience

*present*" COVID-19 Pandemic:
Internist Perspective and Local Research Studies"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jennifer Killion, MD
McFarland Clinic

Thursday, September 3, 2020

**WHEN:** 12:00pm-1:00pm

**WHERE:** Vet Med 2226 (Students Only)

You can join the seminar via Zoom. See email for Zoom information.

**HOST:** Dr. Michael Cho

**Abstract**

As the novel coronavirus emerged in Wuhan, China in January 2020, primary care and hospital-based physicians watched with growing concern regarding scope and spread that this disease was not going to be contained. Case reports began to indicate that there was already evidence of spread outside of Wuhan to remote countries by early February 2020. As an internist at a community hospital, I began to be seriously concerned in late January, when a case was seen, without history of travel, that appeared identical to the novel coronavirus seen in Wuhan.

The first case of community spread SARS-CoV-2 virus was seen on February 26 in California. The patient had become ill on February 13, and the request for testing was initially denied by the state public health department based on the lack of travel history. Cryptic spread was retrospectively confirmed. Up until this time period, there were no approved therapies for viral pneumonia caused by coronavirus. It was apparent that the primary care physicians and hospital-based physicians were going to have to deal with this virus with only supportive tools, and the evidence was that hospitalized patient mortality was high. The recommendation from the CDC was to enroll patients in a clinical trial to gain access to experimental therapies. We are now participating in 5 testing and treatment trials and have been site-selected for 2 vaccine trials over the next 9 months. A discussion of clinical research design and execution will be presented.

**Next Week:** Orhan Sahin, PhD

**Title:** “A hypervirulent *Campylobacter jejuni* clone in the US: Emergence, pathogenesis and control strategies in the animal host”