

Investigator:	Sarah Satola Phone: (404) 727-2204 Email: ssatola@emory.edu
Primary Research Interest:	Microbiology
Description of Research:	The laboratory of the Georgia Emerging Infections program focuses on molecular epidemiology of invasive bacterial pathogens of public health importance such as Haemophilus influenzae, Neisseria meningitidis, Streptococcus pneumoniae, and methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA). Current research includes: 1) Molecular epidemiology of colonization and invasive MRSA 2) Evaluating methods for detection of heteroresistant vancomycin intermediate Staphylococcus aureus (hVISA) and characterization of MRSA infections with reduced levels of vancomycin susceptibility 3) Defining the spectrum of genetic variant that cause reduced to non-susceptibility to vancomycin in S. aureus 4) Development of a genetic assay for vancomycin intermediate S. aureus (VISA) 5) Long term impact of PCV7 and PCV13 on Pneumococcal colonization in children 6) Molecular characteristics community-onset MRSA among children
Relevance to VA:	Surveillance and molecular typing of MRSA isoaltes from patience screened upon admission and discharge from the hospital will help to understand which strains are more likely to cause infection and which strains are more likely to be persistant colonizers.