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Dr. Saag received a B.S. in chemistry with honors in 1977 Tulane University and earned his medical degree from the University of Louisville. He completed his residency and infectious disease and molecular virology fellowship training at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in infectious diseases and molecular virology. During his fellowship training, Dr. Saag focused on the genetic evolution of HIV *in vivo*, describing the degree of diversity of co-existing viral variants and their evolution over time (*Nature*, 1988). While a fellow, Dr. Saag conceived the concept of a comprehensive HIV outpatient clinic dedicated to the provision of comprehensive patient care in conjunction with the conduct of high quality clinic trials, basic science, and clinical outcomes research. Within the clinic structure, he established a clinical trials unit, a data management center, and a Clinical Specimen Repository designed to support the activities of the newly established Center for AIDS Research at UAB. Since the establishment of the clinic, Dr. Saag has participated in many studies of antiretroviral therapy as well as novel treatments for opportunistic infections. He has published over 200 articles in peer reviewed journals, including the first description of the use of viral load in clinical practice (*Science*, 1993), the first description of the rapid dynamics of viral replication (*Nature*, 1995), the first guidelines for use of viral load in practice (*Nature Medicine*, 1996), the first proof of concept of fusion inhibition as a therapeutic option (*Nature Medicine*, 1998), and directed the 'first-in- patient' studies of 7 of the 21 antiretroviral drugs currently on the market (including indinavir, efavirenz, abacavir, and enfuvirtide). Dr. Saag currently is on the Board of Directors of the American Board of Internal Medicine (and is Chair of the Infectious Disease Subspecialty Board), the Infectious Disease Society of America, the HIV Medical Association, and the International AIDS Society-USA. He also serves on the NIH Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council and on numerous state, local, and national committees.

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