



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TUCSON

Infectious Diseases

ID Grand Rounds



**Fariba Donovan, MD, PhD,
FIDSA, CACP**

**“Utilizing Interferon- γ as a Marker of
Coccidioidal Immunity”**

**Tuesday, June 23, 2026
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

AHSC 8403 & Zoom

Dr. Donovan is a physician-scientist specializing in infectious diseases and medical mycology, with extensive expertise in fungal pathogenesis, molecular biology, and host-pathogen interactions. After completing her residency in Iran, she earned her doctorate in Japan with research focused on *Candida albicans*, where she developed advanced skills in protein purification and gene manipulation techniques. She later completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Medical College of Ohio, where her research on *Coccidioides immitis* contributed to promising vaccine development through the creation of a less virulent urease knock-out strain. At the University of Cincinnati, she continued her work on fungal-host interactions involving *Histoplasma capsulatum*. Dr. Donovan later completed residency training in internal medicine and a fellowship in infectious diseases with a focus on tropical medicine. Her combined clinical and research experience has given her a unique perspective on the diagnosis and treatment of opportunistic fungal infections, particularly in immunocompromised patients, including those with HIV/AIDS and severe neutropenia. Currently at the Valley Fever Center for Excellence, Dr. Donovan’s work focuses on improving the early diagnosis of Coccidioidomycosis to reduce unnecessary treatments, improve antibiotic stewardship, and decrease patient morbidity and mortality.

Join Zoom Meeting:

**<https://uits-arizona.zoom.us/j/6736439286?pwd=Qnlpx1bGWefygNDMy6CGdsBf8l6l7t.1&omn=84530138749>
Password: 888639**

This University of Arizona event is sponsored by the Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, UA College of Medicine - Tucson. It is open to the public, particularly community physicians and other interested health-care professionals.

CONTACT: Richelle Clemente, (520) 621-0190 or rclemente@arizona.edu