

## Distinguished Lecture Series in Physiology

**Elizabeth Engler-Chiurazzi, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor  
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Tulane University

### “Leveraging herpesviruses to define mechanisms of infection-induced chronic CNS manifestations”

Increased appreciation for central nervous system (CNS) manifestations of infection exposure, and the host immune response it induces, has revealed novel factors that could contribute to the development of neurological diseases, such as Alzheimer's (AD)-related dementia. Of note, though a growing literature of rigorously conducted research to date has defined neurobiological consequences of a single infection, this focus has left a gap in the field with regards to how cumulative infection burden reshapes long-term CNS function in the context of health, injury, and disease. We and others have begun to bridge this gap by interrogating CNS consequences of intermittent exposure to both neurotropic and systemic pathogens, with particular interest in how a history of infection-exposure may reprogram microglial responses. Should infection emerge as an important risk factor for AD with this work, our research team aims to reveal novel therapeutic targets.

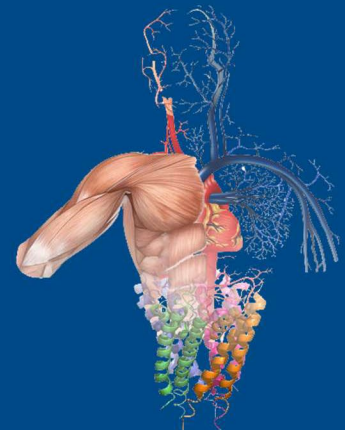
Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026  
GBSF and Zoom  
12 p.m.



Oct.  
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