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Dr. Liles is currently Professor and Associate Chair of Medicine and holds adjunct appointments in the Departments of Global Health, Pharmacology and Pathology at the University of Washington.

He graduated magna cum laude from Williams College, then entered the National Institutes of Health-sponsored MD-PhD program at the University of Washington and graduated in 1987 with an MD and a PhD in pharmacology. Following residency in Internal Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital, he returned to the University of Washington where he served as Chief Medical Resident and as a Fellow in Infectious Diseases. In 1996, he was appointed to the faculty at the University of Washington as Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and rose to the rank of Professor of Medicine and Adjunct Professor of Pathology.

In 2006, Dr. Liles moved to the University of Toronto to assume the position of Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases, where he worked to develop translational research programs in sepsis, emerging infectious diseases and infectious diseases of public health importance, including malaria and sepsis. At the University of Toronto, he received the Canada Research Chair in Inflammation and Infectious Diseases and was a member of the McLaughlin Centre for Molecular Medicine, the McLaughlin-Rotman Centre for Global Health, and the Toronto General Research Institute. He subsequently served as the Vice Chair of Medicine and Acting Chair of Medicine.

In 2012, he returned to the University of Washington as Associate Chair of Medicine. He currently serves as the Interim Director of the Center for Lung Biology, Co-Director of the Molecular Medicine Training Program, Co-Director of the Molecular Medicine and Mechanisms of Disease PhD Graduate Program, and a member of the Center for Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases.

As author of more than 220 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 40 book chapters, Dr. Liles maintains an active translational research program as a principal investigator in host defense, infectious diseases, inflammation, innate immunity, sepsis, immunodeficiency disorders, and immunomodulatory therapy. He received the 2004 Outstanding Investigator Award from the Western Society for Clinical Investigation and has been elected to Fellowship in the American College of Physicians and the Infectious Diseases Society of America. In 2014, he was elected to the Association of American Physicians.