

**Kizzmekia S. Corbett**  
**Doctor of Science**

Kizzmekia S. Corbett '14 (Ph.D.) is a post-doctoral research fellow at NIAID's Vaccine Research Center (VRC). Appointed to the VRC in 2014, she serves as the team lead for coronavirus research within the VRC's Viral Pathogenesis Laboratory, under the supervision and scientific leadership of Dr. Barney S. Graham.

In this role, she conducts basic and preclinical research and worked on preclinical development of the mRNA-1273 vaccine against COVID-19. A viral immunologist by training, Corbett's research investigates the mechanisms of viral pathogenesis and host immunity as they pertain to vaccine development. In addition to basic and preclinical research, Corbett invests much of her time bringing STEM awareness to youth in local communities through mentorship and volunteering. Combining her scientific interests with her knack for mentoring, she aspires to become an independent principal investigator.