

Tunnell Government Services Consultants Receive Awards for Work With BARDA



*Shown (left to right) are Jerry Robinson, Senior Vice President, Tunnell Government Services; Paul Eder, Ph.D., Senior Medical Diagnostics Advisor and Principal, Tunnell Government Services; Rick Bright, Ph.D., Deputy Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and Director of BARDA; and Adrian Urias, MS, Senior Medical Devices Subject Matter Expert, Tunnell Government Services.*

Congratulations to Adrian Urias, MS, Senior Medical Devices Subject Matter Expert, and Paul Eder, Ph.D., Senior Medical Diagnostics Advisor and Principal, for their work with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to develop medical countermeasures against natural and man-made public health threats.

Paul's work resulted in FDA clearances for the InBios International Manual Zika IgM Assay test and Siemens ADVIA Centaur Zika test, both of which detect antibodies to the Zika virus from patient serum within 7 days of infection; the Applied Biosystems *Bacillus anthracis* Detection Kit, which uses PCR to detect multiple genes from the bacterium that causes anthrax; and the Orasure OraQuick Ebola Rapid Antigen Test, which detects antigens to the Ebola virus from the whole blood of patients and the oral fluid of recently deceased cadavers.

Adrian's contributions included Philips' Trilogy Evo ventilator, designed to ventilate patients from infants to adults, for ease of use, and stockpiling; and InDevr's FluChip-8G Influenza A+B Diagnostic test, which can call seasonal influenza A subtypes, influenza B lineages, and non-seasonal influenza A with same-day results for timely detection of emerging influenza viruses. Both increase preparedness for possible pandemics.