

Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation

RESEARCH UPDATE 2021



TABLE OF CONTENTS

OBESITY AND NUTRITION.....	3
MEDICAL EDUCATION RESEARCH.....	7
TELEMEDICINE.....	14
AMBULATORY CARE DELIVERY RESEARCH.....	16
COVID-19 RESEARCH.....	20
ADVANCED TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.....	22
DGIMCI LEADERSHIP.....	23
COLLABORATIONS.....	24





MESSAGE FROM DIVISION DIRECTOR

As the COVID-19 pandemic swept through our nation and dramatically impacted New York City, our research faculty moved seamlessly to conduct research remotely. We established a program of research around telemedicine from multiple angles, seeking to assess its impact on physician practice, working to remove barriers to telemedicine visits and evaluating telemedicine training programs for residents and faculty who were thrust into utilizing this new modality.

Throughout, we continue to be successful in core areas of obesity and nutrition, medical education, patient safety and ambulatory care delivery research. Our researchers are at the forefront of the vaccine trials at NYU Langone Health leading enrollment and addressing barriers to and hesitancy around vaccination.

Our alliances across the NYU institution and collaborations with external organizations enrich the Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation's research accomplishments. Our faculty are on the frontlines as co-investigators and key contributors to over 20 clinical trials.

We are committed to expanding our research infrastructure; our current foundation and philanthropic funded pilot projects will continue to lead to larger federally funded grants. Our goal is to enable our faculty to transform healthcare through innovative research, benefiting the clinicians we train and the patients and communities we serve.

The past year proved that our research faculty are fueled by unyielding grit and passion for what they do, exhibiting determination and an astonishing ability to pivot and be innovative in the face of extraordinary times. We invite you to learn about our research and collaborate with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sondra Zabar".

Sondra Zabar

Professor of Medicine

Director, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation

NYU Grossman School of Medicine

ACTIVE RESEARCH 2020-2021



Obesity and Nutrition
\$7,759,192



Medical Education
\$4,084,713



Telemedicine
\$407,500



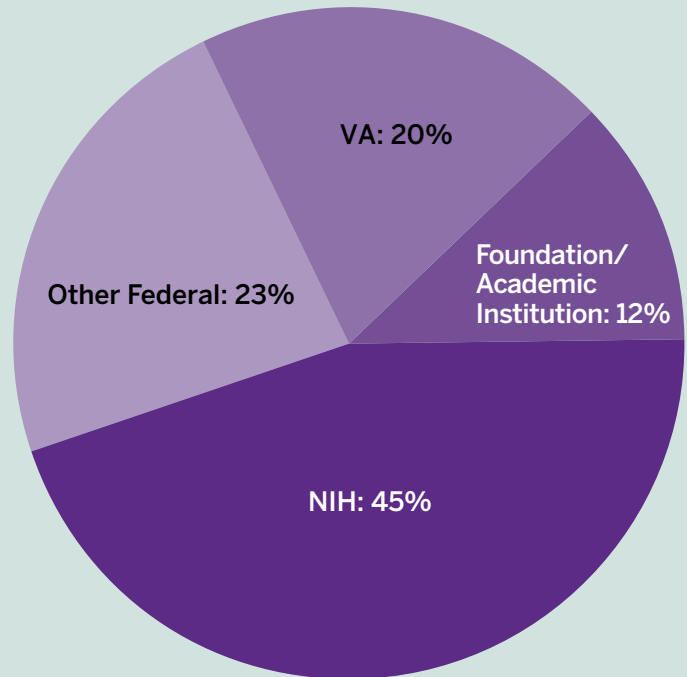
Ambulatory Care
Delivery
\$903,541



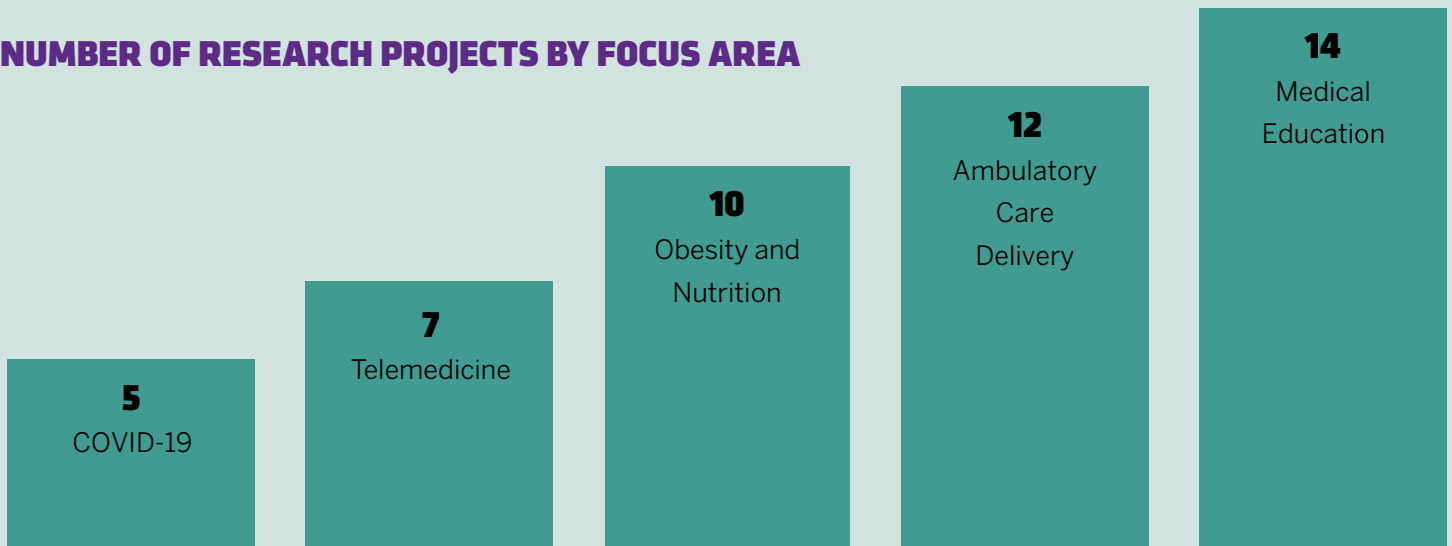
COVID-19
\$50,850

TOTAL: \$13,205,796

TOTAL GRANT FUNDING BY AGENCY



NUMBER OF RESEARCH PROJECTS BY FOCUS AREA





OBESITY AND NUTRITION



Melanie Jay, MD, MS is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Population Health at the New York University Grossman School of Medicine, and is board certified in internal medicine. She works as a staff physician at the NY Harbor Veterans Affairs (VA). She serves as Director of the NYU Langone Comprehensive Program on Obesity and Director of Research Collaboration and Mentorship for the Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical

Innovation. Her research focuses on improving the treatment and prevention of obesity, particularly in primary care settings. She has received funding from the National Institutes of Health and Veterans Affairs, among others, and is currently PI on four obesity-related behavioral clinical trials. She also runs a longitudinal study and biosample repository for patients undergoing bariatric surgery at NYULH and NYC H+H/Bellevue. She recently was named Director of the new Michael J. Simberkoff Center for Vaccine Clinical Trials at the NY Harbor VA (with Dr. Sabrina Felson as co-Director) where she and her multidisciplinary team work with the NYU Langone Vaccine Center on Covid-19 vaccine trials.



Jeannette Beasley, PhD, MPH, RD is an Assistant Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation with a background in nutrition and epidemiology with expertise in developing and applying novel dietary assessment approaches. Her research interests include dietary protein needs of older adults, developing and testing innovative strategies to reduce cardiovascular risk in diverse populations and reducing measurement

error in dietary intake using biomarkers. Dr. Beasley's work has included testing the viability of a telehealth adaptation of the Diabetes Prevention Program in older adults, testing the efficacy of a technology-assisted weight management intervention for patients at the VA, and testing the feasibility of integrating a Mediterranean Diet Screener in cardiovascular disease prevention clinics.

MANAGING OBESITY THROUGH INNOVATION AND EFFECTIVENESS (MOTIVATE) RESEARCH LAB

Led by **Melanie Jay, MD, MS**, a multidisciplinary team of researchers is dedicated to finding innovative and sustainable ways to address obesity and improve health outcomes and quality of life. We discover and test innovative ways to enhance and transform obesity care to improve health outcomes, especially in primary care settings. The **MOTIVATE Research Lab** recently received federal funding to launch an intensive weight management program at the VA utilizing an imagery technique called WOOP (Wish, Outcome, Obstacle, Plan).

The MOTIVATE Research Lab currently has several junior faculty, two post-doctoral fellows and an obesity fellow working on our projects. We mentor students, trainees, and junior faculty to become future leaders in clinical, health services, and public health research. We have a research intern training program (through competitive application) where 15 diverse undergraduate and graduate students volunteer 10-15 hours per week over the course of 1-2 years to receive training and opportunities for research scholarship, often for academic credit. We also host 3 NIDDK T35 fellows each summer.

Stephanie Orstad, PhD, Research Assistant Professor, is an early-career behavioral scientist specializing in physical activity assessment and interventions to reduce obesity and other cardiometabolic risk factors in adults facing health disparities. As a recently funded Clinical and Translational Research (KL2) Scholar, Dr. Orstad is working with patients with a history of

obesity and their providers to develop, implement and evaluate an ecologically informed physical activity pilot intervention to prevent weight regain and promote quality of life.

Sandra Wittleder, PhD, a Postdoctoral Fellow, is an experimental psychologist with expertise in motivation, health behavior change, and obesity-related clinical trials. Her research aims to understand the cognitive processes underlying health behavior change. Based on this knowledge, she aims to develop novel behavioral approaches to improve obesity treatment and prevention with a focus on populations experiencing health disparities. Dr. Wittleder recently received a postdoctoral fellowship training grant funded by the American Heart Association to study implicit food biases among racially and ethnically diverse patients with obesity.

Sally M. Vanegas, PhD is a recently funded NIDDK T32 Postdoctoral Fellow and Program Manager of the Comprehensive Program on Obesity. She has a PhD in Biochemical and Molecular Nutrition with expertise in designing and implementing human studies. Dr. Vanegas will investigate the biological factors that contribute to surgical weight loss and analyze metabolic disease regression in a cohort of vertical sleeve gastrectomy patients. In addition, she will explore metabolic factors that can predict which subpopulations undergo different responses to weight loss surgery and disease regression.

Testing the Efficacy of a Technology-Assisted Weight Management Intervention within Patient-Centered Medical Homes: The Goals for Eating and Moving (GEM) Study

PI: Melanie Jay, MD, MS

The GEM study seeks to enhance obesity care among primary care teams and improve attendance to effective intensive weight management programs, and provide adequate care to those who cannot attend.

Funder: NIH R01 (09/2016 – 08/2021; \$3,607,998)

Financial Incentive Strategies for Weight Loss (FiRewOrk)

PI: Melanie Jay, MD, MS

FiRewOrk investigates different incentive schemes to encourage health behaviors and weight management. This is a multisite study with NY VA Harbor System, NYC H+H/Bellevue, NYU Langone Brooklyn, and UCLA Olive View.

Funder: NIH R01 (Subcontract with UCLA) (02/2017 – 06/2021; \$1,395,711)



Testing the Efficacy of a Technology-Assisted Intervention to Improve Weight Management of Obese Patients within Patient Aligned Care Teams at the VA: Peer Assisted Lifestyle (PAL) Study

PI: Melanie Jay, MD, MS • Co-I: Jeannette Beasley, PhD

This grant funds a primary care-based intervention using Veterans as peer coaches to enhance weight management and obesity within primary care and increase adoption of intensive VA programs.

Funder: VA Merit Review (07/2017 – 06/2021; \$1,091,920)

WOOP VA: Mental Contrasting with Implementation Intentions to Promote Weight Management in Primary Care

PI: Melanie Jay, MD, MS • Co-I: Jeannette Beasley, PhD

This project is a primary care-based intervention using a brief, novel intervention called Mental Contrasting with Implementation Intentions (MCII). This imagery technique uses a procedure called WOOP (Wish, Outcome, Obstacle, Plan) to promote weight loss and behavior change and increase engagement in MOVE!, an intensive weight management program at the VA.

Funder: VA Merit Review (01/2021 – 12/2025; \$1,198,827)

Validating a Dietary Screener Adapted for Asian Americans

PI: Jeannette Beasley, PhD

This is a pilot study to characterize and validate the adaptation of a dietary screener for the six largest subgroups of Asian Americans. This dietary screener is the first to capture the dietary consumption patterns of Asian Americans and is intended for use by clinicians, researchers, and community organizations.

Funder: NYU Center for Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH)'s Pilot Project Program (09/2020 – 07/2021; \$30,000)

Assessment of Policies through Prediction of Longterm Effects on Cardiovascular Disease Using Simulation (APPLE CDS)

PI: Jeannette Beasley, PhD

APPLE CDs is comparing the effects of food policies and programs on cardiovascular disease-related outcomes and health care costs for adults in NYC.

Collaborators: Yan Li , PhD, NY Academy of Medicine and Stella Yi, MPH, PhD, Department of Population Health

Funder: NHLBI R01 (08/2018 – 05/2022)

Scaling Community-Clinical Linkage Models to Address Diabetes and Hypertension Disparities in the Southeastern U.S.

PI: Jeannette Beasley, PhD

The goal is to develop an integrated intervention that builds on community assets, improves structural competency, and reduces chronic disease disparities to achieve measurable impact in improving health and access outcomes among Asian American communities with a high burden of cardiovascular disease.

Collaborators: Chau Trinh-Shevrin, MD & Nadia Islam, PhD, Department of Population Health

Funder: CDC (07/2019 – 06/2021)

Culturally Tailoring a Green Physical Activity Intervention for Weight Loss Maintenance to Low-Income Primary Care Patients

PI: Stephanie Orstad, PhD

Researchers will collaborate with NYULH's federally qualified health center patients with a history of obesity and their providers to develop, implement and evaluate an ecologically informed physical activity pilot intervention to prevent weight regain and promote quality of life.

Funder: CTSA KL2 (01/2021 – 12/2022; \$180,000)

A Food Response and Attention Training to Improve Dietary Intake and Weight Loss for Racially/Ethnically Diverse Patients with Obesity and Elevated Cardiovascular Disease Risk

PI: Sandra Wittleder, PhD

The aim is to determine the acceptability and feasibility of a food response training targeting implicit food biases to reduce cravings, food intake and weight among racially and ethnically diverse patients with obesity and elevated cardiovascular disease.

Funder: AHA (05/2021 – 04/2023; \$144,736)

Improving Dietary Intake Using a Behavioral Food Response Training (FRT) to Address Obesity in Black Patients

PI: Sandra Wittleder, PhD

This pilot study will evaluate the acceptability and feasibility of an innovative computer-based behavioral food response training (FRT) that can reduce implicit food bias to help reduce unhealthy food intake and weight among Black participants with obesity.

Funder: NYU Global Health Pilot Grant Funding Award (06/2021 – 05/2022; \$10,000)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Beasley JM, Popp CJ, Firestone M, Russo R, Yi S. [Dietary Protein Sources by Race-Ethnicity: Results from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey](#). *Frontiers in Nutrition*. 2020 Jun 26;7:76.

Beasley JM, Shah M, Wyatt LC, Zanowiak J, Trinh-Shevrin C, Islam NS. [A Community Health Worker Led Intervention Improves Blood Pressure Control among Immigrants with Co-Morbid Diabetes](#). *American Journal of Public Health*. 2021 Jun;111(6):1040-1044.

Beasley, JM, Wagnild, JM, Pollard, TM, Roberts TR, Ahkter N. [Effectiveness of Diet and Physical Activity Interventions among Chinese-Origin Populations Living In High Income Countries: A Systematic Review](#). *BMC Public Health*. 2020, 1019.

Bragg M, Arshonsky J, Pageot Y, Eby M, Tucker CM, Yin S, Goldmann E, Jay M. [Student-Led Research Team-Building Program May Help Junior Faculty Increase Productivity in Competitive Biomedical Research Environment](#). *BMC Medical Education*. 2021;21(1).

Mitchell MS; Orstad, SL; Biswas A; Oh, PI; Jay, M; Pakosh, MT; Faulkner G. [Financial Incentives for Physical Activity in Adults: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis](#). *British Journal of Sports Medicine*. 2020 Nov;54(21):1259-1268.

Orstad S, Szuhany K, Tamura K, Thorpe L, Jay M. [Park Proximity and Use for Physical Activity among Urban Residents: Associations with Mental Health](#). *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2020 Jul 7;17(13):4885.

Wittleder S, Smith S, Wang B, Beasley JM, Orstad SL, Sweat V, Squires A, Wong L, Fang Y, Doebrich P, Gutnick D, Tenner C, Sherman SE, Jay M. [Peer-Assisted Lifestyle \(PAL\) Intervention: A Protocol of a Cluster-Randomised Controlled Trial of a Health-Coaching Intervention Delivered by Veteran Peers to Improve Obesity Treatment in Primary Care](#). *BMJ Open*. 26 Feb 2021, 11(2):e043013.



MEDICAL EDUCATION RESEARCH

PROGRAM FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION INNOVATIONS AND RESEARCH

NYU Langone's Program for Medical Education Innovations and Research (PrMEIR) brings together highly skilled clinicians, educators, psychologists, and biostatisticians to stimulate innovation and research on the education of physicians and other healthcare professionals.

Established in 2006 as part of the Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation, the program's mission is to advance medical education scholarship and institute best practices to support patient-centered, evidence-based medical education. Our curricular innovations, faculty development programs and research projects strengthen the link between healthcare professional training and patient health outcomes and wellbeing.



Sondra Zabar, MD is the Director of PrMEIR, with over two decades of experience implementing and evaluating performance-based assessment for all levels of learners. Her work centers on establishing an evidence base for the effectiveness of innovations in educational practice. Her research portfolio includes leadership and collaborations of multiple NIH grants. Dr. Zabar is a nationally renowned educator and scholar of the processes and outcomes of medical education.



Colleen Gillespie, PhD is a translational researcher and the Director of Evaluation for PrMEIR. She is a trained social scientist with interests in medical education and program evaluation research. She focuses on the use of rigorous educational assessment methods including assessment of clinical performance and practice to advance medical education as a discipline and enhance its effectiveness in preparing physicians for the challenges of primary care practice.



Lisa Altshuler, PhD is the Associate Director of Evaluation & Assessment. She focuses on the development, organization and management of data and data collections including the Database for Research on Education in Academic Medicine (DREAM). She collaborates with medical, nursing and other health professional educators to develop best practices for team communication and collaboration models that promote safety and improve patient outcomes.

Kinga Elias, PhD, is a post-doctoral fellow in PrMEIR. She focuses on assessment in health professions education, with the primary focus on skill acquisition. Employing a unique balance between fundamental and applied science, she uses social-comparative feedback to examine the influence of social comparisons.

Mirja Van Der Meulen, PhD, is a visiting research scholar from the School of Health Professions Education at Maastricht University, in the Netherlands. She is working with the PrMEIR team analyzing the database on over 1500 "Unannounced Standardized Patient" visits, exploring whether and how much the clinical microsystem influences the physician's performance.

RESEARCH ON MEDICAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES (ROMEO) UNIT

This rich interdisciplinary collaboration has resulted in the development of the Educationally Sensitive Patient Outcome (ESPO) Theoretical Model, which identifies important health outcomes tied to a healthcare provider's level of experience and skill. The framework has become a model for medical education researchers around the world.

To accomplish this, we created the Database for Research on Academic Medicine (DREAM), a Framingham-style, longitudinal database to collect assessment and performance data. DREAM includes data collected for more than 10 years from over 3,000 medical students, residents, fellows and practicing physicians. To date, researchers have implemented 70 studies that assess relationships between medical school and training curricula, provider competency, skills development, the transfer of skills to practice and the effects of education on patient outcomes.

ROMEO MEMBERS

Jennifer Adams, MD

Associate Professor,
Department of Medicine
Director, Primary Care Internal Medicine
Residency Program

Lynn Buckvar-Keltz, MD

Associate Chair for Professional
Development
Department of Medicine
Co-Director, WISE-MD & WISE-OnCall
Programs
Director, Violet Society Program for
Medical Student Advising
NYU Grossman School of Medicine

Anne Dembitzer, MD

Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine
Director, Education for Educators

Cristina Gonzalez, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Richard Greene, MD, MHPE

Associate Professor,
Department of Medicine
Associate Director, Primary Care Internal
Medicine Residency Program
Director, Health Equity Education

Kathleen Hanley, MD

Associate Professor,
Department of Medicine
Associate Director, Primary Care Internal
Medicine Residency Program
Curriculum Director, Substance Abuse
Research Education and Training

Melanie Jay, MD, MS

Associate Professor, Departments of
Medicine and Population Health
Co-Director, NYU Langone Comprehensive
Program on Obesity
Director, Research Collaboration and
Mentoring

Adina Kalet MD, MPH

Adjunct Professor, Department of Medicine
Director, Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern
Institute for the Transformation of Medical
Education Stephen and Shelagh Roell
Endowed Chair, Medical College of Wisconsin

Lora J. Kasselmann, PhD

Assistant Professor
NYU Long Island School of Medicine

Mack Lipkin, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine
Founding Director, Primary Care
Residency Program

So-Young Oh, MA, MS

Assistant Director, Program for Digital
Learning, Institute for Innovations in
Medical Education (IIME)

Cynthia Osman, MD

Clinical Associate Professor,
Department of Pediatrics
Vice Chair for Education,
Department of Pediatrics

Caroline Paul, MD

Associate Professor,
Department of Pediatrics

Verity Schaye, MD, MPHE

Assistant Professor,
Department of Medicine
Assistant Director of Curricular
Innovations, IIME

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NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing
Research Associate Professor,
Department of Medicine

Abigail Winkel, MD, MHPE

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Obstetrics and Gynecology
Assistant Director, Education Scholarship,
IIME
Assistant Director, MHPE Program
Vice Chair, Education for Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Shonna Yin, MD

Associate Professor, Departments of
Pediatrics and Population Health

PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENT AND STANDARDIZED PATIENTS RESEARCH PROJECTS

In partnership with our New York Simulation Center (NYSIM), we employ actors as standardized patients to assess communication skills and responsiveness of our healthcare professionals to patient needs, evaluate the experience from a patient perspective, and provide performance feedback to medical teams. In addition, we pioneered the use of unannounced standardized patients (USPs, actors undercover as “real” patients) in clinical environments to assess individual and clinical microsystems. The USP methodology is an essential component in our quality improvement research and supports our work in performance-based assessment.



Using Simulation to Integrate Education and Quality Improvement in Supporting a Learning Healthcare: Case Study of the NYU Student Health Center (SHC) and Telemedicine

PIs: Sondra Zabar, MD; Lisa Altshuler, PhD

We are implementing USPs to study the microsystem of SHC in the areas of communication with the doctor and staff, mental and sexual health and coordination of care in telemedicine visits. This study helps build communication skills professional development and quality improvement for the Women’s Health and Primary Care Teams at Student Health Center.

Funder: NYU Washington Square (01/01/2020 – 08/31/2021; \$32,000)

Engagement in Longevity and Medicine (ELM) Research Collaborative

PI: Joshua Chodosh, MD, Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care and Department of Population Health

Co-Is: Sondra Zabar, MD; Lisa Altshuler, PhD; Jeannette Beasley, PhD

Because older adults are markedly underrepresented in clinical trials, the team developed an online, three station Group Objective Structured Clinical Examination (GOSCE) where research assistants (RAs) practice recruiting simulated older adult patients into a trial. The goal is to assess the feasibility and acceptability of GOSCEs to train RAs in best practices for consenting older adults and its impact. Forty-four RAs have been trained to date.

Funder: NIH R24 (07/2019 – 06/2022)

Research in Academic Medicine

PI: Jennifer Adams, MD

This grant supports faculty development and infrastructure for academic research. Additionally it provides funding for pilot research projects and data analysis for internal medicine faculty and residents.

Funder: Zlinkoff Fund (10/2019 – 09/2021; \$125,000)

READINESS FOR PROFESSIONAL TRANSITIONS

Forming a Consortium to Assess, Prepare, and Support the Transition-to-Internship

PIs: Sondra Zabar, MD; Adina Kalet MD • **Co-I:** Kinga Eliaz, PhD

We are building a consortium of seven medical schools to adapt and study the immersive Night-on-Call (NOC) multi-station simulation where learners participate in a night on call experience, while interacting with standardized assessors. Learners are assessed on all 13 Entrustable Professional Activities, supporting the transition to internship for near-graduating medical students and now include both in-person and virtual versions. The consortium currently includes NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin – Central Wisconsin, Medical College of Wisconsin – Green Bay, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center – El Paso, University of Washington, and City University of New York (CUNY) School of Medicine.

Funder: Josiah Macy Jr Foundation – Subcontract with MCW (01/2021 – 12/2024; \$67,400)

First Night On-Call - Patient Safety Simulation for Interns

PI: Sondra R. Zabar, MD

First Night On-Call (FNOC) is an immersive four-hour simulation that is part of orientation for incoming interns at NYU Langone to ensure they are ready for common patient safety challenges on day one of residency. To date 600+ interns have participated. During FNOC, new interns collaborate with one another as they rotate through a series of patient safety related role-playing scenarios in small groups.

Collaborators: Jeffrey Manko, MD, Donna Phillips, MD and Daniel Lugassy, MD

Funder: NYUGSOM Office of Graduate Medical Education/New York Simulation Center (NYSIM)

Becoming a Physician: Understanding Professional Identity Formation and Transitions

PI: Sondra Zabar, MD • Co-Is: Ruth Crowe, MD, PhD; Lisa Altshuler, PhD; Lynn Buckvar-Keltz MD; Colleen Gillespie, PhD; Kinga Elias, PhD

In this collaboration with the Medical College of Wisconsin, we are using an adult moral development theory-based measure, the Professional Identity Essay (PIE), to help learners understand the path toward a mature professional identity as a physician and examine the factors influencing the growth of medical professional identity, including curriculum, coaching and personal life experiences. To date, 550 learners have completed the PIE. We are also replicating our Night on Call immersive simulation and prototype of our Database for Research in Academic Medicine for other institutions.

Funder: Medical College of Wisconsin, Kern Institute (01/2020 – 12/2021; \$390,312)

Faculty Onboarding: “Can We Talk?”: Teaching and Assessing Telemedicine

PIs: Sondra Zabar, MD; Andrew Wallach, MD; Katherine Hochman, MD; Eric Goldberg, MD

Understanding that new clinicians who join our team come from different backgrounds with a variety of experiences, we designed a unique onboarding program to instill institutional expectations and standards for communicating. They receive just-in-time performance-based assessment by our trained standardized patients. This past year, we transitioned to a virtual environment and focused on studying telemedicine communication skills.

Funder: Philanthropic support from Lucy Tyrassch

Transition to Residency Advantage

PI: Marc Triola, MD **Co-PI:** Joan Cangiarella, MD • **Co-Is:** Jeremy Branzetti, MD; **Jesse Burk-Rafel, MD, MRes; Patrick M. Cocks, MD;** Greta Elysée; **Colleen Gillespie, PhD;** Crystal Mainiero, MPA; Molly Poag, MD; Linda Tewksbury, MD, MHPE; Abigail Ford Winkel, MD, MHPE; **Sondra Zabar, MD**

NYU Grossman School of Medicine is one of eight institutions that have been awarded a five-year grant to support innovations that provide a meaningful and safe transition from undergraduate medical education to graduate medical education. Our program will focus on enhancing the transition by developing skilled faculty coaches who oversee and support learner-driven education and training goals and with whom we work to develop enhanced assessment tools for continuous quality improvement.

Funder: American Medical Association’s (AMA) Reimagining Residency Initiative (2019 – 2023; \$100,000)

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Complexity of Resident-Identified Challenges During Training: NYU Primary Care Medicine (PCM) Residency Psychosocial Rounds (PSR)

PIs: Mack Lipkin, MD; Lisa Altshuler, PhD

Using a qualitative approach, this study has worked to identify medical residents’ stressors and challenges, and to understand their experience of the internal and external factors of such situations to guide educators in the development of curricula to better meet residents’ needs.

Funder: Mayo Clinic (07/2019 – 05/2021; \$40,000)

Integrated Sonography Course at NYU (I-ScaN)

PIs: Michael Janjigian, MD; Nalinee (Caroline) Srisarajivakul-Klein, MD; Harald Sauthoff, MD

We are studying the design and implementation of I-ScaN, a year-long longitudinal training program to teach faculty and residents Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS).

Funder: Goldman Family Foundation (09/2019 – 08/2021; \$200,000)



NoteSense: Using Artificial Intelligence to Improve Clinical Reasoning Documentation

PIs: Verity Schaye, MD, MHPE; Yindalon Aphinyanaphongs, MD, PhD; Marina Marin, MSc

To help increase the frequency and quality of feedback in clinical reasoning (CR), we developed a machine-learning algorithm, NoteSense, for feedback on CR documentation. We are studying the impact on notes of the residents who are given their individualized feedback via a dashboard in the EHR to review their patient notes compared with their peers who did not receive individualized dashboard feedback.

Funder: 2019-2020 PrMEIR Innovations Grant (\$12,000)

A Novel Curriculum and Assessment Program on Health Equity, Bias, and Cultural Humility

PI: Richard Greene, MD, MHPE

As a Macy Faculty Scholar, Dr. Greene is developing curriculum at the intersection of health disparities, clinician bias, and structural competence across the UME and GME spectrum and develop an assessment model to evaluate the development of knowledge and skills in these areas in learners.

Funder: Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, Macy Faculty Scholars Program (09/2019 – 08/2021; \$280,000)

NYU-UCSF Collaboratory to Advance URiM Faculty in Academic Medicine

PI: Richard Greene, MD, MHPE • **Co-Is:** Joseph Ravenell, MD, MS; Tiffany Cook

This is a novel partnership between NYU and UCSF to implement a new theory-based Faculty Leadership Development Program for underrepresented in medicine (URiM) junior faculty, to measure the impact of the program on participants' professional development, retention, advancement, and sense of institutional inclusion. A longitudinal cohort registry will be created to obtain and collate this information over time and in two different academic medicine contexts.

Funder: Medical College of Wisconsin, Kern Institute's Collaboratories to Transform Medical Education (07/2021 – 06/2022; \$100,000)

Substance Abuse Research Education and Training (SARET)

PI: Marc Gourevitch, MD • **Co-I:** Kathleen Hanley, MD

The primary objective of this initiative is to design, implement and evaluate a substance abuse research training program for physicians, nurses and dentists that will stimulate participants' interest in pursuing careers in drug abuse research. Learners, motivated by their participation in this curriculum will be offered participation in a broad range of NIDA-funded research opportunities, fostering research engagement with seasoned mentors.

Funder: NIH/NIDA R25 (06/2012 – 05/2022)



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Cook TE, Dimant OE, Novick R, Adegbola A, Blackstock U, Drake CB, Patenaude ME, Ravenell JE, Radix A, Greene RE. [Gendered Expectations: Strategies for Navigating Structural Challenges in Support of Transgender and Non-Binary Trainees in Academic Medicine.](#) *Academic Medicine.* 2020 May;95(5):704-709.

Fisher H, Re C, Wilhite J, Hanley K, Altshuler L, Schmidtberger J, Gagliardi M, Zabar SR. [A Novel Method of Assessing Clinical Preparedness for COVID-19 and Other Disasters.](#) *International Journal for Quality in Health Care.* 2021;33(1).

Greene RE, Blasdel G; Cook TE; Gillespie C. [How Do OSCE Cases Activate Learners About Transgender Health?](#) *Academic Medicine.* 2020 Dec;95(12S Addressing Harmful Bias and Eliminating Discrimination in Health Professions Learning Environments):S156-S162.

Janjigian M, Dembitzer A, Srisarajivakul-Klein C, Hardower K, Cooke D, Zabar SR, Sauthoff H. [Design and Evaluation of the I-SCAN Faculty POCUS Program.](#) *BMC Medical Education.* 2021;21(1).

Lawrence K, Hanley K, Adams J, Sartori DJ, Greene R, Zabar SR. [Building Telemedicine Capacity for Trainees During the Novel Coronavirus Outbreak: a Case Study and Lessons Learned.](#) *Journal of General Internal Medicine.* 2020 Sep; 35(9): 2675–2679.

Sartori DJ, Hayes RW, Horlick M, Adams JG, Zabar SR. [The TeleHealth OSCE: Preparing Trainees to Use Telemedicine as a Tool for Transitions of Care.](#) *Journal of Graduate Medical Education.* 2020 Dec;12(6):764-768.

Wilhite J, Hardower K, Fisher H, Porter B, Wallach AB, Altshuler L, Hanley K, Zabar SR, Gillespie CC. [Clinical Problem Solving and Social Determinants Of Health: A Descriptive Study Using Unannounced Standardized Patients to Directly Observe How Resident Physicians Respond to Social Determinants of Health.](#) *Diagnosis.* 2020 Aug 27;7(3):313-324.

Zabar S, Hanley K, Wilhite J, Altshuler L, Kalet A, Gillespie C. [In the Room Where it Happens: Do Physicians Need Feedback on Their Real-World Communication Skills?](#) *BMJ Quality and Safety.* 2020 Mar;29(3):182-184.

PRMEIR INNOVATION GRANTS

PrMEIR provides seed funding and technical assistance for faculty researchers who contribute to medical education scholarship at NYU Langone. To date, PrMEIR has awarded more than \$500,000 in research funding. Former Innovation Grant recipients recognize the program as a stepping stone in their careers. Others have received full research funding based on pilot data collected from PrMEIR project. The Dr. Anthony Grieco Medical Education Research Grant and Murray J. Berenson Patient Provider Communication Grant fund the Innovation Grants Program.

2020-2021 theme: "Harnessing the Power of E-Health: Enhancing Curricula around Technology and Health."

Education and Experience in Residency: Mapping Clinical Data to Capture Resident's Inpatient Educational Experience

PI: Daniel J. Sartori, MD • Co-PIs: David W. Rhee, MD and Jay Pendse, MD, Department of Medicine

Researchers derived a crosswalk tool that transforms resident-attributed ICD-10 diagnosis codes into educationally meaningful medical content areas to characterize their clinical experiences and inform changes to the resident curriculum to ensure clinical exposure and underrepresented content. Presented at the 2021 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting. (\$12,000)

Building Telemedicine Training Tools for Residents—a "Trainee-Centered" Design Approach

PI: Katharine Lawrence, MD, MPH • Co-PI: James Cho, MD, Department of Medicine and Department of Population Health

This study leverages a "trainee-centered" design approach to engage resident learners in the evaluation and development of novel, telemedicine training tools to identify gaps in current residency telemedicine training, and partner with resident learners to develop innovative and learner-centered competency-based tools. Presented at the 2021 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting. (\$6,000)

Tele-psychotherapy Training Development Project (TTDP)

PI: Cory Chen, MD • Co-PIs: Amy Palfrey, PhD; Julia Buckley, PsyD; Christine Ingenito, PhD; Nicole Nehrig, PhD Department of Psychiatry/VA New York Harbor
The project will systematically develop, pilot, and evaluate

a customizable, virtually delivered, rapidly deployable, telepsychotherapy training program designed to integrate into the psychotherapy training curricula of academic programs or be delivered as a standalone training in the event of crises that require tele-psychotherapy. (\$5,000)

Competency-Based Hands on Curriculum using Simulation for Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

PI: Robert Angert, MD • Co-PI: Sweta Bhargava, MD, Department of Pediatrics

The aim of this project is to develop and introduce a competency-driven point of care ultrasound (POCUS) training curriculum and assess the effect on the performance of neonatal learners for central catheter (CC) monitoring. (\$4,000)

2021-2022 theme: "Taking Your Education Ideas to the Next Level: Using Instructional Design or Implementation Strategies to Enhance Impact."

Implementation and Evaluation of the Family Presence Facilitator Role Using Standardized Patients in a Multidisciplinary In-Situ Simulation Curriculum

PIs: Ellen Duncan, MD, PhD; Selin Sagalowsky, MD, MPH; Pediatric Emergency Medicine (\$10,000)

Facilitators and Barriers to Implementing a Collaborative Residency Research Block

PI: Fred LaPolla, MLS; Medical Library, NYU School of Medicine • Co-Is: Colleen Gillespie, PhD; Genevieve Milliken, MA, MSLIS (\$5000)

Ensuring the Implementation of Workplace-Based Assessment in the Core Clerkships Achieves Intended Learning, Fairness, and Transparency Outcomes

PIs: Caroline Paul, MD; Molly E. Poag MD; Department of Pediatrics (\$12,000)

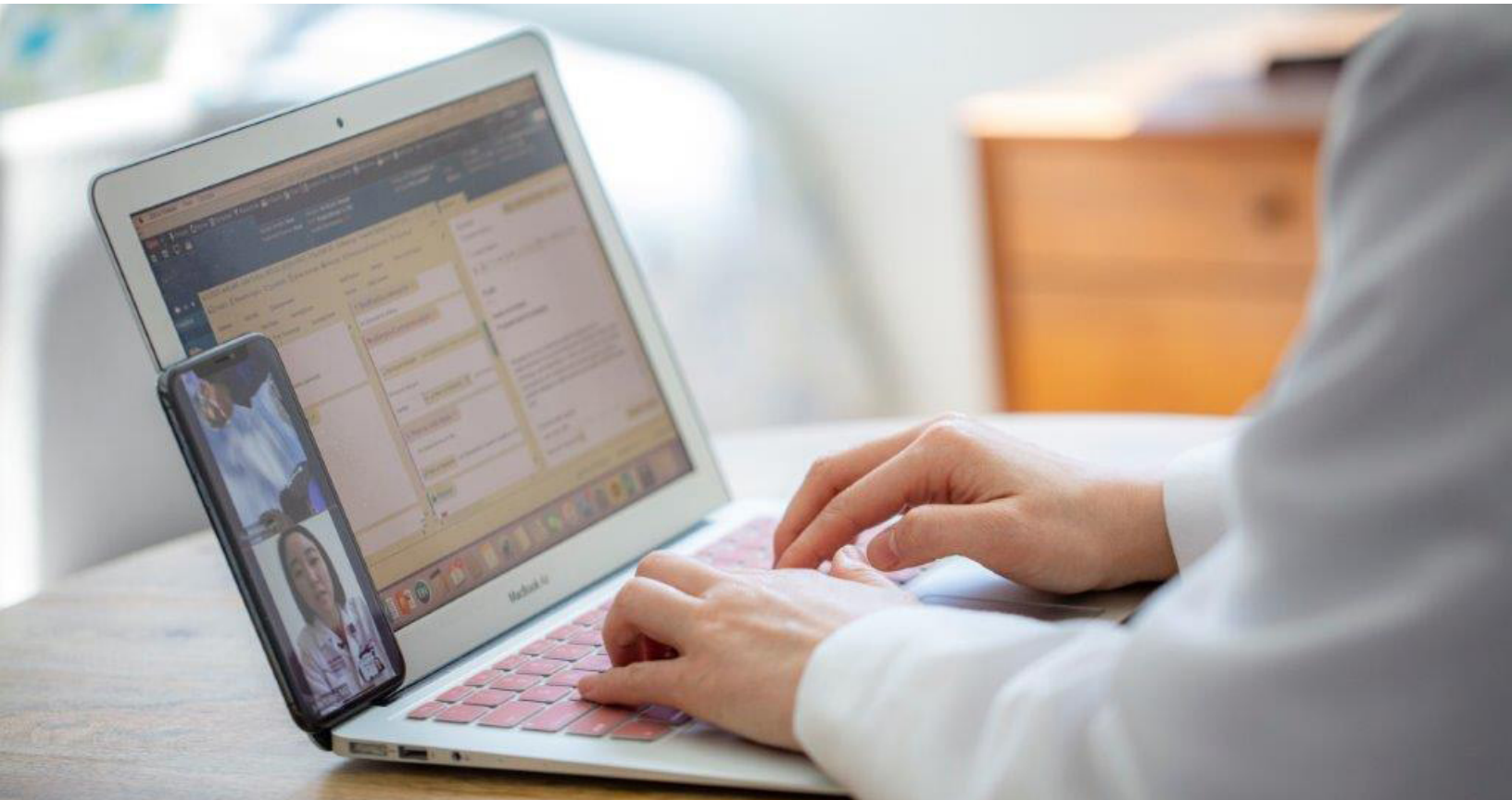
Fellows Teaching Faculty Point-of-Care Ultrasound: Exploring Reverse Educational Distance

PI: Deepak Pradhan, MD, Department of Medicine • Co-I: David T. Stern, MD, PhD, FACP (\$5,000)



TELEMEDICINE

The COVID-19 pandemic brought telemedicine to the forefront of primary care and we recognize that it will continue to be common practice. DGIMCI is committed to developing a research portfolio to assess and strengthen telemedicine skills, identify and address barriers to quality telemedical care and evaluate patient health outcomes in relation to telemedicine practice. We are leveraging our expertise in implementing standardized patients to assess and teach the unique communication skills necessary for telemedicine visits, integrate this new skill into our growing transition of care management program and contribute to a national program on telemedicine practice.



Optimizing Telemedicine: Using Standardized Patients to Assess and Train Clinicians in Digital Communication and Use of Technology

PIs: Anne Dembitzer, MD; Melanie Jay, MD • Co-I: Sondra Zabar, MD

This project seeks to create a VA national model for competency-based experiential training in digital health communication. We will train and assess VA GIM faculty and resident clinicians in digital health communication skills using announced standardized patients in their clinical practice. Aggregate system performance data will be given to clinical leadership for quality improvement. We will create exportable training materials to be made available to other VA sites and clinics.

Funder: VA Office of Connected Care (01/2021 – 12/2021 (with renewal options for year 2 and 3); \$200,000)

Patient Use Characteristics of VA Telehealth Services and Impact on Quality of Care during COVID-19

PIs: Melanie Jay, MD; Paul Krebs, PhD, Department of Population Health

We are evaluating the impact of patient and provider characteristics on telehealth utilization, satisfaction, and individual clinical outcomes in chronic care delivery. More specifically, we will assess the patient, provider, and system level factors associated with the uptake and impact of implementing synchronous, telehealth services in primary care.

Funder: VA Office of Connected Care (01/2021 – 12/2021; \$198,958)

Optimizing Telemedicine to Ensure Safe, Equitable, Quality Primary Care for Vulnerable Populations

PI: Sondra Zabar, MD • Co-Is: Kathleen Hanley, MD; Andrew Wallach, MD; Lisa Altshuler, PhD; Colleen Gillespie, PhD

PrMEIR is partnering with NYC H+H leadership to pilot a targeted program of quality improvement assessment to re-design primary care for “tele” modalities and implement best practices using USPs.

Funder: H+H Office of Ambulatory Care (01/2021 – 12/2021; \$7,500)

Challenges To and Attitudes Toward Providing Virtual Patient Care

PI: Sondra Zabar, MD • Co-Is: Lisa Altshuler, PhD; Colleen Gillespie, PhD; Kathleen Hanley, MD; Eric Goldberg, MD; Andrew Wallach, MD; Jeffrey Wilhite; Harriet Fisher

Outpatient general internal medicine (GIM) physicians working at NYU Langone Health, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue and Gouverneur, and the VA NY Harbor Health System (n=378) were surveyed about their challenges to and attitudes toward providing virtual patient care during the rapid transition to telemedicine. Data collected has been used to offer actionable recommendations for health system leaders and medical educators. Initial results will be published in an upcoming volume of Telemedicine and E-Health. A follow up survey is currently being distributed.

Division project

TRANSITIONS OF CARE

The TeleHealth OSCE: Preparing Trainees to Use Telemedicine as a Tool for Transitions of Care

PIs: Daniel J Sartori, MD; Rachael W Hayes, MD; Margaret Horlick, MD; Jennifer G Adams, MD, Sondra Zabar, MD

We created an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) case to assess residents' telemedicine-specific skills for post-discharge encounters, a skill not routinely taught or practiced. A behaviorally-anchored assessment tool is introduced.

Division project

Telehealth Training in Transitions of Care Management

PIs: Kevin Eaton, MD; Kevin Hauck, MD

Collaborator: Paul Testa, MD, Chief Medical Information Officer

This project leverages telemedicine to strengthen the continuum of care for recently discharged patients. We are using just-in-time training for hospitalists and residents, using Standardized Patients through our EMR-based integrated telehealth platform, giving them the opportunity to practice their telemedicine and communication skills.

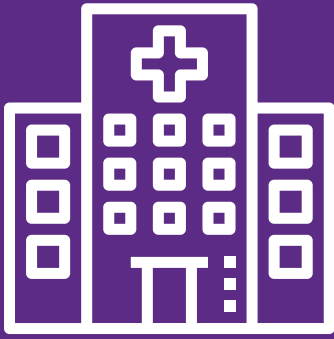
Division project

Post-Discharge Clinic at the NYULH Family Health Center

PIs: Marwa Moussa, MD; Daniel Sartori, MD; Rachael Winchester-Hayes, MD; Ramiro Jervis, MD

The purpose is to identify virtual clinical skills in a live, realistic clinical environment, and to provide specific, actionable feedback regarding residents' learning gaps over time, using a Virtual Standardized Patient Program (SP). We will be able to measure progression of virtual clinical skills and milestone achievement as residents complete each SP encounter.

Division project



AMBULATORY CARE DELIVERY RESEARCH

To deliver the highest quality health care that is both patient and population centered, faculty are conducting health systems research across NYULH and its affiliates. Researchers seek to understand and improve healthcare delivery; study how care teams work together to deliver care; and advance the health system to improve patient care and health care delivery. Our researchers benefit from shared resources that include practice-based research networks, large observational databases, and integrated information technology platforms across a comprehensive academic medical system with multiple care settings at NYU Langone's Tisch Hospital and Faculty Group Practices, NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn, Family Health Centers at NYU Langone, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Gouverneur and the VA NY Harbor Healthcare System in Manhattan.



HEALTH EQUITY

Challenges to a Safe Transition Home from Skilled Nursing Facility Following Heart Failure Hospitalization

PI: Himali Weerahandi, MD, MPH

This translational research targets system drivers of adverse outcomes such as hospital readmission and mortality, with the goal of improving health care quality. Her research has identified multifactorial challenges to safe discharge from skilled nursing facility (SNF) for patients with heart failure. She and colleagues are investigating patient-level factors, such as cognitive impairment and frailty that may interact with systems-level factors such as health care professional communication and follow-up affecting the SNF to home transition.

Funder: NIH K23 (08/2019 – 06/2024; \$903,540)

NYC Public Housing Residents COVID-19 Response (NYCHA RCR)

A Supplement to Evaluation of Smoke-Free Housing Policy Impacts on Tobacco Smoke Exposure and Health Outcomes

PIs: Lorna Thorpe, PhD, MPH; Natasha Williams, EdD, MPH; Donna Shelley, MD, MPH, Department of Population Health, and NYU College of Global Public Health • **Co-I:** Andrew Wallach, MD

The study has developed a structure for collaborating with community-based organizations, NYC Public Housing Authority (NYCHA) resident associations, and city agencies to guide COVID-19 testing and vaccination options for public housing residents, a population disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The researchers will compare community-informed strategies to increase COVID-19 testing uptake. They will measure the rates of infection and testing among public housing residents, and determine what barriers they experience to testing, isolation, and follow-up care.

Funder: NIH Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics for Underserved Populations (RADx-UP) Program (09/2020 – 11/2022)

Enhanced Quality in Primary Care for Elders with Diabetes and Dementia (EQUIPED-ADRD)

PI: Joshua Chodosh, MD, Department of Population Health • **Co-I:** Sondra Zabar, MD • **DGIMCI Lead:** Eric Goldberg, MD

The purpose of this program is to improve diabetes care for older adults and to help family caregivers or care partners. The study will examine if the new program can improve the quality of the diabetes care, and whether it can make the effort that participants put into managing their diabetes less difficult.

Funder: NIH R33 (09/2017 – 05/2022)

Expanding Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) by Embedding SNAPS Navigators in High Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Testing Clinical Sites

PIs: Robert Pitts, MD; Melinda Katz, MD

This is a multilevel intervention to target the “weakest chains in the link” of PrEP initiation at safety-net hospitals. The goal is to engage patients throughout the clinics and offer same day PrEP. The study will compare rates of PrEP prescribing overall, PrEP initiation in disproportionately-impacted groups and PrEP retention pre- versus post-initiation of SNAPS Patient Navigators.

Funder: Gilead Sciences, Inc (06/2019 – 10/2021; \$293,000)

ADDICTION MEDICINE

Addressing the U.S. Opioid Epidemic in Incarcerated Adults: Long-Acting Buprenorphine vs. Naltrexone Opioid Treatments in Criminal Justice System-Involved Adults

PI: Joshua D. Lee, MD, MSc; Department of Population Health • **Co-Is:** Barbara Porter, MD; Sapana Shah, MD, MPH

Researchers will assess the efficacy of two medications used to treat opioid dependence, extended release formulations of buprenorphine and naltrexone, among adults incarcerated in U.S. jails and prisons.

Funder: National Institute on Drug Abuse as part of The Helping to End Addiction Long-term Initiative (HEAL Initiative) (08/2019 – 04/2024)

Optimizing Pharmacotherapy Strategies for Opioid Use Disorder: Individual Level Predictive Modeling of Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Outcome

PI: John Rotrosen, MD; Department of Psychiatry • **Co-Is:** Mathew B. Kladney, MD; Alexandra Goodwin, MD

This project is a two-phase randomized clinical trial that will test strategies to improve opioid use disorder (OUD) pharmacotherapy treatment and retention, and to improve outcomes among patients who have been stabilized successfully on OUD medications and want to stop medication.

Funder: National Institute on Drug Abuse as part of The Helping to End Addiction Long-term Initiative (HEAL Initiative) (09/2020 – 02/2026)

PRIMARY CARE

BRIDGE (Broadening the Reach, Impact, and Delivery of Genetic Services) Study

PI: Ophira Ginsburg, MD; Department of Population Health and Perlmutter Cancer Center • **DGIMCI Lead:** Eric Goldberg, MD and Internal Medicine Associates

Working with the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah, the High-Risk Cancer Genetics Program will use a clinical decision support tool embedded within electronic medical records to automatically identify cancer-free patients in the primary care setting who qualify for genetic testing.

Funder: National Cancer Institute Cancer Moonshot (09/2018 – 08/2023)

Using a Smartphone-Delivered Progressive Muscle Relaxation (PMR) for the Treatment of Migraine in Primary Care

PI: Mia T Minen, MD, MPH; Department of Neurology • **DGIMCI Lead:** Eric Goldberg, MD and Internal Medicine Associates

This pilot study, of adults with four or more migraines a month, will assess the feasibility and acceptability of progressive muscle relaxation (PMR) delivered by a smartphone application (app) in the Primary Care setting.

Funder: NIH K23, NYU Center for Healthcare Innovation and Delivery Science; NYU Clinical Translational Science Institute (01/2018 – 12/2022)

BETTER-BP (Behavioral Economics Trial to Enhance Regulation of Blood Pressure)

PI: John A. Dodson, MD, MPH; Division of Cardiology • **Co-I:** Natalie Levy, MD

This phase II, single-center, prospective, pragmatic randomized clinical trial, within the New York City Health and Hospitals (NYC H+H) system and NYU Langone Family Health Centers, will use a lottery incentive program to promote adherence to antihypertensive medication and will be delivered via smartphone for 6 months.

Funder: NIH R01/NHLBI (09/2019 – 07/2024)

CHORD: CHOLEsterol Lowering and Residual Risk in Type 2 Diabetes

PI: Jeffrey S. Berger, MD; Division of Cardiology • **Co-I:** Natalie Levy, MD

This study will investigate why individuals with type 2 diabetes are at increased risk for heart disease and stroke.

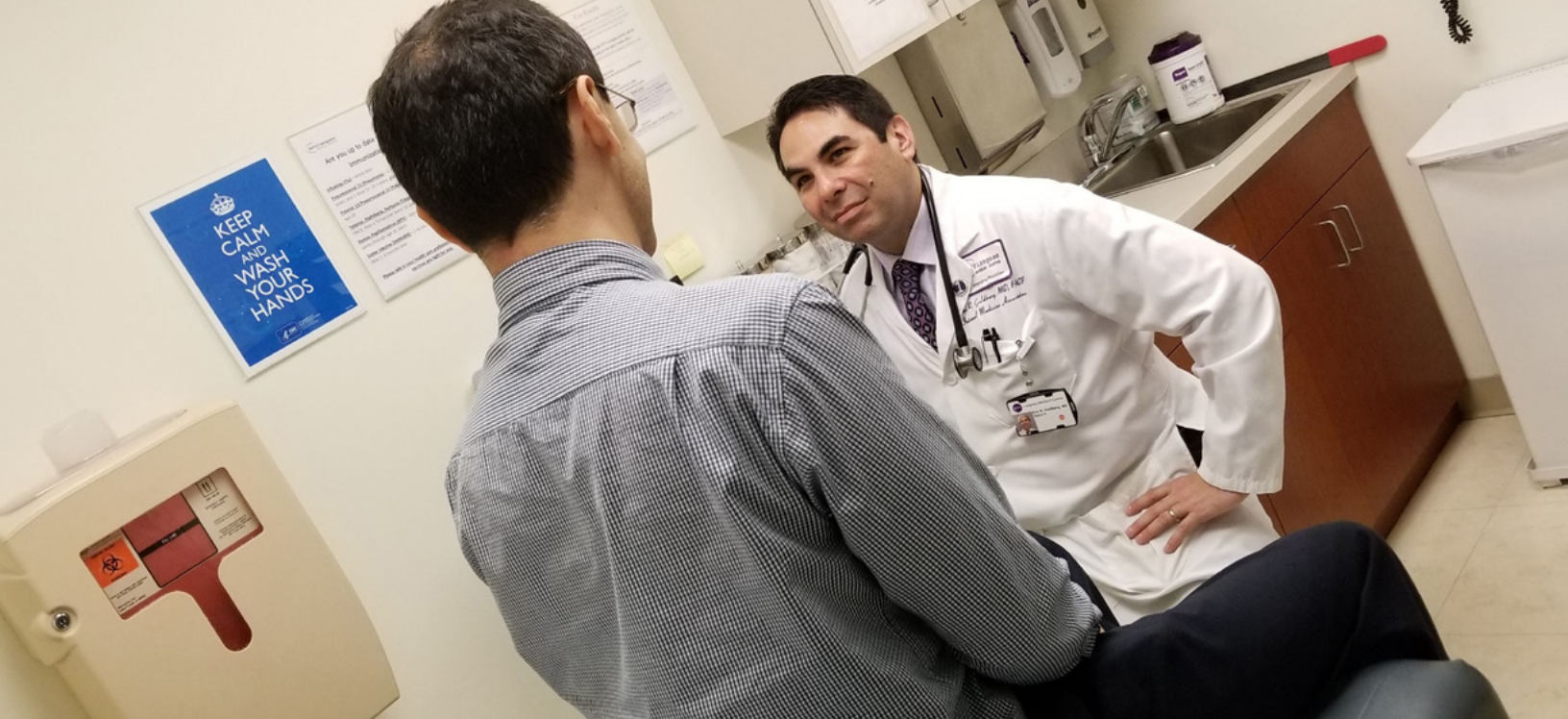
Funder: American Heart Association (06/2020 – 12/2023)

EMERALD-D Arsenic, Disordered Glucose Homeostasis and Atherosclerosis

PI: Jonathan Newman, MD, MPH; Division of Cardiology • **Co-I:** Natalie Levy, MD

The goal of this project is to add to the growing understanding of environmental exposures as modifiable risk factors for CVD.

Funder: AHA/NHLBI (11/2015 – 09/2020)



Evaluation of the Plant Based Lifestyle Medicine Program

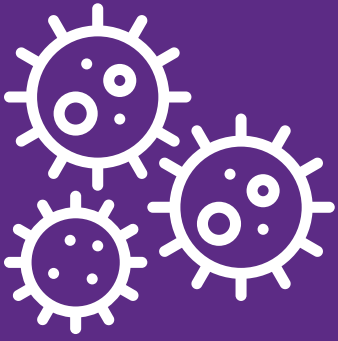
PI: Stephanie Lynn Albert, PhD; Department of Population Health • **Co-I:** Michelle McMacken, MD

The Plant-Based Lifestyle Medicine Program is designed to support individuals who wish to improve their health by implementing healthful lifestyle changes, including a plant-based eating pattern. The goal of the evaluation is to understand whether and how the program is working.

Funder: NYC Health + Hospitals Pilot Project

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- Aggarwal, M, Grady A, Desai D, Hartog K, Correa L, Ostfeld RJ, Freeman AM, McMacken M, Gianos E, Reddy K, Batiste C, Wenger C, Blankstein R, Williams K, Allen K, Seifried RM, Aspry K, Barnard ND. [Successful Implementation of Healthful Nutrition Initiatives into Hospitals](#). *The American Journal of Medicine*. 2020 Jan;133(1):19-25.
- Applegate M, Scott E, Taksler GB, Sanchez M, Duong N, Mark L, Caniglia E, Wallach A, Braithwaite RS. [Project ACTIVE: a Randomized Controlled Trial of Personalized and Patient-Centered Preventive Care in an Urban Safety-Net Setting](#). *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 2021, 36(3):606-613.
- Dubin S, Cook TE, Radix A, Greene RE. [Sexual Orientation Demographic Data in a Clinical Cohort of Transgender Patients](#). *Applied Clinical Informatics*. 2021 Mar;12(2):222- 228.
- Minen MT, Adhikari S, Padikkala J, Tasneem S, Bagheri A, Goldberg E, Powers S, Lipton RB. [Smartphone-Delivered Progressive Muscle Relaxation for the Treatment of Migraine in Primary Care: A Randomized Controlled Trial](#). *Headache*. 2020, 60(10):2232-2246.
- Weerahandi H, Bao H, Herrin J, Dharmarajan K, Ross JS, Jones S, Horwitz L. [Home Health Care after Skilled Nursing Facility Discharge Following Heart Failure Hospitalization](#). *Journal of American Geriatric Society*. 2020 Jan;68(1):96-102.
- Weerahandi H, Paul S, Quintiliani LM, Chokshi S, Mann DM. [A Mobile Health Coaching Intervention for Controlling Hypertension: Single-Arm Pilot Pre-Post Study](#). *JMIR Formative Research*. 2020:4(5).



COVID-19 RESEARCH

Like most medical institutions, the COVID-19 pandemic thrust us into new opportunities of care delivery. As the pandemic progressed, general internal medicine (GIM) providers quickly came to the frontlines and are collaborating in a number of clinical trials. This has set the standard for partnerships and infrastructure for GIM to be at the forefront of clinical trial research in the primary care setting.

New York University Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (NYU VTEU)

PI: Mark Mulligan, MD, Division of Infectious Disease • **Bellevue, Satellite Site: Co-Lead, Jennifer Dong, MD;**
Manhattan VA Satellite Site: Director, Melanie Jay, MD; Co-Director, Sabrina Felson, MD

NYU's VTEU has four community-based sites, including NYC H+H/Bellevue Hospital, the Manhattan VA, NYU Langone Hospital – Brooklyn and NYU Langone Hospital – Winthrop. Each site has created its own clinical trial research team and designated clinics to conduct vaccine clinical trials, spearheaded by GIM and Infectious Disease faculty. The centers will continue their work to test booster vaccines as they become available.

- PHI/Immune response - Specimen Collection for Infectious Diseases with Public Health Importance
- COVPN 3006 - RCT to assess SARS-CoV-2 infection, viral shedding, and subsequent potential transmission in university students immunized with Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine
- AstraZeneca phase 3 study of AZD1222 (ChAdOx1 nCoV-19) vaccine
- Regeneron - Monoclonal Antibodies in Preventing SARS-Cov-2 Infection in Household Contacts of Individuals Infected with SARS-CoV-2
- ACTT-4 - Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial - Baricitinib/Remdesivir vs. Dexamethasone/Remdesivir

Funder: NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (04/2020 – 11/2026)

Investigating the Association between Smoking Status and Covid-19 Outcomes

PI: Eduardo Iturrate, MD

In addition to investigating the association between Smoking Status and COVID-19 outcomes, we also are developing the processes required to combine datasets from multiple sites and creating a combined dataset that will also be used to explore other research questions of interest related to COVID care.

Funder: University of Wisconsin (06/29/2020 – 06/28/2021; \$50,850)

Evaluation of the RAM Group SARS-CoV-2 Detection System Assay for Diagnostic Testing of COVID-19 Cases in New York City

PIs: Andrew Wallach, MD; Isaac Holmes, MD;

Kenra Ford, MD; partnership with RAM Global

This study is testing the use of a laser refractive technique on saliva samples to detect the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in a rapid fashion.

Funder: NYC Health + Hospitals and RAM Global



Post-Discharge Outcomes in Patients Treated for Severe COVID-19 Disease

PIs: Himali M. Weerahandi, MD; Katherine Hochman, MD; Leora Horwitz, MD; Department of Population Health

We are conducting a prospective cohort study to evaluate the overall health status and long-term effects, including the physical and mental health of patients, to understand the cumulative impact of this disease beyond hospitalization and mortality. Initial findings demonstrate that one month after discharge, overall health, as well as physical and mental health, were significantly worse. Three quarters of patients reported persistent shortness of breath and more than one in eight required oxygen. In the future, our researchers plan to examine objective functional outcomes and longer-term outcomes. Division project

UNDERSTANDING LONG TERM EFFECTS OF COVID-19

Under the leadership of Rany Condos, MD of the Division of Pulmonary Medicine, DGIMCI faculty, **Eric Goldberg, MD**, Medical Director of Internal Medicine Associates and **Caren Behar, MD, FACP**, Director of Clinical Operations at the Joan H. Tisch Center for Women's Health, are at the center of NYULH's efforts to address the lingering medical issues of people who had severe symptoms of COVID-19. Working with a multidisciplinary team including pulmonary medicine, neurology, cardiology, general internal medicine, rehabilitation, and population health, clinicians and researchers are seeking to standardize care and data collection across the NYULH system. One of their first efforts is to create a comprehensive post COVID-19 template in Epic, so that every clinician can track patients' clinical data, ensure coordinated, quality care, and identify ongoing COVID-19 research. After consenting to being part of a COVID Registry and research studies, we will be able to collect, store and analyze blood samples from patients for ongoing research.

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Blecker S, Jones SA, Petrilli CM, Admon AJ Weerahandi H, Francois F, Horwitz LI. [Hospitalizations for Chronic Disease and Acute Conditions in the Time of COVID-19.](#) *JAMA Internal Medicine.* 2021;181(2):269-271.

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Petrilli CM, Jones SA, Yang J, Rajagopalan H, O'Donnell L, Chernyak Y, Tobin KA, Cerfolio RJ Francois F, Horwitz LI. [Factors Associated with Hospital Admission and Critical Illness among 5279 People with Coronavirus Disease](#)

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Schaye VE, Reich JA, Bosworth BP, Stern DT, Volpicelli F, Shapiro NM, Hauck KD, Fagan IM, Villagomez SM, Uppal A, Sauthoff H, LoCurcio M, Cocks PM, Bails DB. [Collaborating Across Private, Public, Community, and Federal Hospital Systems: Lessons Learned from the Covid-19 Pandemic Response in NYC.](#) *NEJM Catalyst Innovations in Care Delivery.* 2020. Oct 21;1(6).

Weerahandi H, Hochman KA, Simon E, Blaum C, Chodosh J, Duan E, Garry K, Kahan T, Karmen-Tuohy SL, Karpel HC, Mendoza F, Prete AM, Quintana L, Rutishauser J, Santos Martinez L, Shah K, Sharma S, Simon E, Stirniman AZ, Horwitz LI. [Post-Discharge Health Status and Symptoms in Patients with Severe COVID-19.](#) *Journal General Internal Medicine.* 2021 Mar;36(3):738-745.

ADVANCED TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DGIMCI faculty play key roles in these advanced training programs, with research at their core.

Obesity Medicine Fellowship

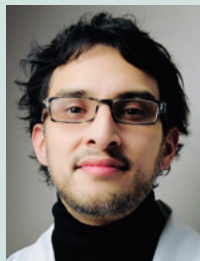
Directed by Holly Lofton, MD and **Co-directed by** **Melanie Jay, MD**. **Funded by** The Obesity Medicine Fellowship Council.

This 12-month fellowship is designed to train one physician per year in the management of obesity and weight related conditions, via nutrition, behavioral therapy, and pharmacotherapy, and to foster research in the field. Fellows work closely with the NYU Comprehensive Program on Obesity and learn to diagnose and treat patients in various clinical settings including the outpatient obesity, bariatric surgery, and endocrinology clinics. The selected fellow will be well prepared to become a Diplomate of the American Board of Obesity Medicine at the completion of the fellowship. Since 2017, we have had 4 Fellows, 2 of whom have stayed on at NYULH after graduating.

Obesity Medicine Fellows



Shanna Tucker, MD
(2020-2021)



Ananda Chatterjee, MD
(2021-2022)

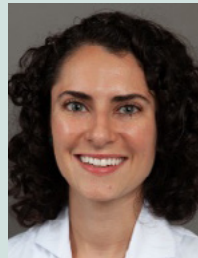
Addiction Medicine Fellowship

Co-directed by Joshua Lee, MD and **Ann R. Garment, MD** and funded by a HRSA grant: *Growing the Addiction Medicine Workforce for the Medically Underserved*.

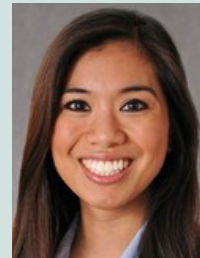
A new ACGME accredited Addiction Medicine (AM) fellowship will train three fellows per year, with the intention of placing them in medically underserved communities. The 12-month fellowship includes multiple rotations in community clinics and within the inpatient and emergency settings at NYC H+H/Bellevue Hospital, NYC H+H/Gotham Health, Gouverneur and NYU Langone Brooklyn

Sunset Terrace FQHC. Additionally, fellows will train in our homeless and post-incarceration clinics. They will embark on research and scholarship projects with a faculty mentor. Partnering with NYU's Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship we are able to enhance the education of behavioral health issues in addiction. Fellowship graduates are eligible to take the addiction medicine certification exam by the American Board of Preventive Medicine.

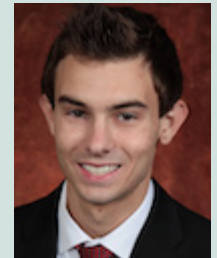
Addiction Medicine Fellows 2021-2022



Caitlin Driscoll, MD



Diana Lee, MD



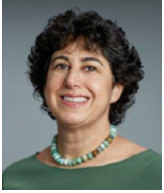
Jeffrey Wunderlich, MD

Master of Health Professions Education (MHPE)

Co-Directed by David Stern, MD and **Adina Kalet, MD**

NYU Langone's Department of Medicine began offering an MHPE in 2015. To date 20 candidates have graduated equipped with the knowledge and skills to design high-quality educational programs for healthcare professionals. DGIMCI Drs. Zabar, Gillespie, Altshuler, Green, Eliasz are core faculty and thesis advisors. Learners conduct high-impact, rigorous research and apply educational theories, including student-centered learning, to solve problems within their individual professional environment. The two-year, part-time MPHE program combines campus-based and distance-learning activities in collaboration with the School of Health Professions Education at Maastricht University in the Netherlands and four international sites in Canada, Egypt, and Singapore, in addition to NYU Langone.

DGIMCI LEADERSHIP



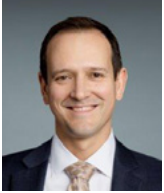
Sondra R. Zabar, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine
Director, Division of General Internal Medicine
and Clinical Innovation
Director, Standardized Patient Program



Melanie Jay, MD, MS

Associate Professor, Departments of Medicine
and Population Health
Co-Director, NYU Langone Comprehensive
Program on Obesity
Director, Research Collaboration and Mentoring,
Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical
Innovation



Isaac Dapkins, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor, Departments of
Population Health and Medicine
Chief Medical Officer, Family Health Centers at
NYU Langone Health



Joseph Leung, MD

Clinical Professor, Department of Medicine
Director, Outpatient Medicine, VA NY Harbor
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and Clinical Innovation, NYC H+H/Bellevue
Medical Director, Primary Care Addiction
Medicine Clinic, NYC H+H/Bellevue
Co-Director, Addiction Medicine Fellowship
Program



Mack Lipkin, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine
Founding Director, Primary Care Residency
Program



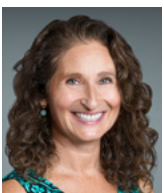
Eric R. Goldberg, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of
Medicine
Section Chief, Division of General Internal
Medicine and Clinical Innovation, Tisch/Kimmel
Senior Medical Director, Department of
Medicine Faculty Group Practices
Medical Director, NYU Langone Internal
Medicine Associates



James A. Schmidtberger, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of
Medicine
Director, Department of Medicine, NYC H+H/
Gotham Health Gouverneur



Kathleen Hanley, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine
Associate Director, Department of Medicine, NYC
H+H/Gotham Health Gouverneur
Associate Director, Primary Care Internal
Medicine Residency Program



Andrew B. Wallach, MD, FACP

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine
Associate Director, Clinical Innovations and
Clinical Affairs, Division of General Internal
Medicine and Clinical Innovation
Ambulatory Care Chief Medical Officer, NYC H+H
Office of Ambulatory Care
Clinical Director, Ambulatory Care, Bellevue
Hospital Center

COLLABORATIONS

We, in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation, have a shared purpose of advancing compassionate quality medical care for the people we serve. Through our research collaborations across NYU Grossman School of Medicine, the institution as a whole, our affiliated agencies and external organizations, we are making strides toward our core goal of improving the health of patients seen in diverse health care settings using strategies that are both practical to implement and translatable beyond our walls. As researchers, our faculty bring expertise in improving medical education, disease prevention and chronic disease care among urban populations. We want to thank all our collaborators. We look forward to working with these and other institutions and organizations.

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