Child Health Research Directory

SPRING 2015
The Jack and Lucy Clark
Department of Pediatrics
Lisa M. Satlin, M.D., Chair

Mindich Child Health and
Development Institute
Bruce D. Gelb., M.D., Director

Department of Preventive Medicine
Philip J. Landrigan, M.D., M.Sc., D.I.H., Chair
Dr. Annunziato’s research focuses primarily on the psychosocial needs of medically ill children and adults. She is interested in the transition to adulthood for adolescents with a medical illness. Her research in this area aims to develop interventions to improve medical and mental health outcomes when patients are shifted from pediatric to adult oriented settings.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**


Manish Arora, B.D.S., M.P.H., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine, and Dentistry
Director, Exposure Biology Laboratory

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Atran 3-02
Email: manish.arora@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Arora conducts laboratory and epidemiologic studies on environmental health. His team has developed a biomarker of fetal exposure to environmental chemicals using deciduous and permanent teeth. He also studies the environmental determinants of oral health.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Margaret Baron, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine (Hematology and Medical Oncology), Developmental and Regenerative Biology, and Oncological Sciences

Institute Affiliations: Tisch Cancer Institute; Black Family Stem Cell Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 24-68
Email: margaret.baron@mssm.edu

Research Interests: The research in the Baron lab combines embryology and stem cell biology, with a focus on hematopoietic development. The lab has a longstanding interest in embryonic hematopoiesis and more recently has been studying mechanisms regulating the development and maturation of adult-type (definitive) erythroid progenitors.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Baron, M.H. Early Embryonic Erythropoiesis ... Not so Primitive After All. Stem Cells. 2013; 31: 849-856.


**Keith Benkov, M.D.**  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Gastroenterology) and Division Chief of Gastroenterology  
Medical Director, Children's Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center  
**Lab/Location:**  
5 E. 98th Street, 10th Floor  
**Email:** keith.benkov@mssm.edu  

**Research Interests:** Dr. Benkov investigates the outcomes of children and adolescents with inflammatory bowel disease, based on a large database of over 1500 patients seen in the last 14 years at the Children's IBD Center. His particular interests include the genetic aspects of Crohn's disease and the unique clinical phenotype on young children presenting with inflammatory bowel disease.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational  

**Publications:**  

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**M. Cecilia Berin, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology)  
**Institute Affiliations:**  
Immunology Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute  
**Lab/Location:** Hess CSM 5-301  
**Email:** cecilia.berin@mssm.edu  

**Research Interests:** Dr. Berin studies mechanisms of tolerance and allergy to foods. Using mouse models of food allergy as well as samples from patients enrolled in clinical trials, her goal is to understand how allergic sensitization to foods occurs, and to identify ways to manipulate the immune response to re-establish immune tolerance.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational  

**Publications:**  
James J. Bieker, Ph.D.
Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology

Institute Affiliations: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Black Family Stem Cell Institute; Tisch Cancer Center

Lab/Location: Annenberg, 25-84B
Email: james.bieker@mssm.edu

Research Interests: We are actively pursuing the mechanism of action of the EKLF (KLF1) transcription factor using biochemical, molecular, cellular, and developmental approaches. Our focus is on illuminating EKLF-directed transcriptional and epigenetic controls that lead to regulated erythroid gene expression, and in determining whether mutations are causative for aberrant or malignant hematology.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Dusan Bogunovic, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology

Lab/Location: Annenberg 16-10
Email: dusan.bogunovic@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Bogunovic's research focuses on human immunogenetics. He studies individuals with severe clinical presentations of infections usually causing mild or no clinical disease. The hypothesis of the lab is that inter-individual variability in susceptibility to infectious agents can also be explained by the immune genetic composition of the host.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Research Interests: Dr. Bottinger is interested in understanding the genetic, environmental and clinical factors that underlie differences in risk for common complex disease, including diabetes and kidney disease. He is using electronic medical records and genomics to advance gene-based information in clinical practice.

Type of Research: Basic, Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Research Interests: Dr. Brown is deciphering the molecular networks that regulate the immune system, and exploiting this information to develop strategies that can enhance or subdue immune responses. The goal of his work is to develop a vaccine that can educate the immune system to prevent or reverse autoimmune diseases, such as type I diabetes.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Supinda Bunyavanich, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology) and Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Institute Affiliations:
Jaffe Food Allergy Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Icahn Institute for Multiscale Biology

Lab/Location: Annenberg 17-90
Email: supinda.bunyavanich@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Bunyavanich investigates the genetics and genomics of asthma and allergic diseases. She applies genetic and genome-wide approaches to population-based studies to better understand atopic disorders.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Joseph Buxbaum, Ph.D.
Vice Chair for Research and Mentoring, Department of Psychiatry; Director, Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment; Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience, and Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Institute Affiliations: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Friedman Brain Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 22-24
Email: joseph.buxbaum@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Buxbaum is interested in understanding the causes of childhood onset psychiatric disorders so that he can develop new treatments. He leads a very extensive program in autism including genetics, model systems, clinical research, and treatment research.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Ross L. Cagan, Ph.D.
Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology and Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Biological Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 25-40

Email: ross.cagan@mssm.edu

Research Interests: The Cagan lab uses Drosophila to explore cancer and diabetes with the goal of developing drug therapeutics designed to account for whole animal complexity. Using current human sequencing efforts, he has developed multigenic cancer models designed to capture the complexity observed in human disease. In addition, the lab has developed robotics-based methods for screening whole flies in a semi-high throughput manner, allowing for the development of novel drugs that target multiple pathways.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Chen-Leng Cai, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Hess CSM 7-105

Email: chenleng.cai@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Cai has a strong interest in elucidating the molecular pathways controlling mammalian heart development, disease and regeneration. His research uses genetic mouse models to uncover the networking of the key transcription factors during early cardiac induction and development, and how different cardiac precursors coordinate to contribute to the heart formation.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Jianyun Yan, Jinshu Xu, Xiaochiand Cai, Lu Zhang, Nishat Sultana, Jun Hu, Jun Li, Pin-Xian Xu, Chen-Leng Cai, Smad4 regulates ureteral smooth muscle cell differentiation during mouse embryogenesis, PLOS ONE. In press.


Patrizia Casaccia, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Neuroscience, Genetics and Genomics, Neurology; Chief Center of Excellence for Myelin Repair

Institute Affiliation:
Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Icahn 10th Floor, Room 70F

Email: patrizia.casaccia@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Casaccia’s lab adopts state-of-the-art molecular and cellular techniques to define key questions related to environment/gene interaction in physiological brain development and in pathological conditions. Her research addresses mechanisms relevant to pathogenesis and treatment of neurodevelopmental disorders characterized by impaired myelin formation as detected in premature babies, genetic disorders, traumatic brain injury.

Type of Research: Basic and Clinical Translational

Publications:

Mirna Chehade, M.D., M.P.H.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology) and Medicine (Gastroenterology)

Director, Mount Sinai Center for Eosinophilic Disorders, Jaffe Food Allergy Institute

Institute Affiliation:
Jaffe Food Allergy Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 17-90, Icahn 11th Floor

Email: mirna.chehade@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Chehade’s research is focused on allergic eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders, including eosinophilic esophagitis and eosinophilic gastroenteritis. She studies clinical outcomes of therapies as well as the immunopathogenesis of these diseases, and is examining for non-invasive blood and urine biomarkers for these diseases.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:
Jia Chen, ScD
Professor, Departments of Preventive Medicine, Pediatrics, Hematology and Medical Oncology, and Oncological Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Institute Affiliation: Institute of Translational Epidemiology

Lab/Location: Annenberg 21-94
Email: jia.chen@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Chen’s lab uses a molecular epidemiology approach to understand complex interactions between the environment and genome/epigenome in human diseases. Her lab performs functional epigenetic analyses in population studies to elucidate disease mechanisms and to identify/validate biomarkers for disease risk and prognosis.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Jaime Chu, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Hepatology)

Institute Affiliations:
Recanati-Miller Transplant Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 25-34
Email: jaime.chu@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Chu’s research is focused on investigating a novel intersection of p53 and congenital disorders of glycosylation (CDG). Children with CDG have defects in N-glycosylation and present with debilitating, multi-systemic disease, including liver and gastrointestinal diseases. Her research aims to elucidate a new metabolic role for p53 with potential therapeutic targets for CDG.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Barbara Coffey, M.D., M.S.
Professor of Psychiatry, Chief of the Tics and Tourette’s Clinical and Research Program

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Lab/Location: 1240 Park Avenue, 1-3
Email: barbara.coffey@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Coffey has focused on the clinical course, comorbidity, phenomenology, and treatment of Tourette Disorder.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Charlotte Cunningham-Rundles, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Immunology, Medicine and Pediatrics
Program Director, Allergy Immunology Fellowship
Lab/Location: Icahn 1120
Email: charlotte.cunningham-rundles@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Cunningham-Rundles is interested in the pathogenesis, characterization and treatment of primary human immune deficiency diseases. Her lab investigates the genetics and functions of B cells in primary immune defects and autoimmunity.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Robert J. Desnick, Ph.D., M.D.
Professor and Chair Emeritus of Genetics and Genomic Sciences; Dean for Genetic and Genomic Medicine

Office: Icahn 14-34
Email: robert.desnick@mssm.edu

Research Interests:
Dr. Desnick's research interests include genomics, gene discovery, pharmacogenetics, and inborn errors of metabolism. His translational research includes drug development for treatment of genetic diseases.

Type of Research: Basic, Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Angela Diaz, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Pediatrics (Adolescent Medicine) and Preventive Medicine

Lab/Location: 320 East 94th St.
Email: angela.diaz@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Diaz's research interests focus on adolescent related issues, including cervical, anal and oral HPV persistence and risk factors among adolescent girls, the impact of physical and sexual abuse on the health and mental well being of adolescents, adolescent disclosure of abuse in primary care settings and sexual and reproductive health.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:

Bachorik, A, Friedman, J, Nucci-Sack, A, Horowitz, C, Diaz A. Adolescent and young adult women's knowledge of and attitudes toward etonogestrel implants. Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology. August 2014; In press. (Accepted manuscript)


Nicole C. Dubois, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology

Institute Affiliations: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Black Family Stem Cell Institute

Lab/Location: Hess CSM, 8th Floor

Email: nicole.dubois@mssm.edu

Research Interests: The research in the Dubois lab focuses on understanding development and disease of the human heart using the pluripotent stem cell model. Specifically, the lab is interested in investigating the molecular mechanisms directing lineage specification with the aim to translate our knowledge to better understand human congenital heart disease.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


David Dunkin, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Gastroenterology and Nutrition)

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab: Annenberg 17-46
Email:david.dunkin@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Dunkin is interested in understanding the mechanism by which the human body develops or fails to develop tolerance to foreign antigens including food and intestinal flora that leads to diseases such as allergies and inflammatory bowel disease. Using animal models, he is investigating the mechanisms of epicutaneous exposure leading to the induction of tolerance to antigens. The goal is to apply this knowledge towards the treatment of diseases including food allergies and IBD. In addition, Dr. Dunkin and his collaborators in the Center for Chinese Medicine are investigating the use of Chinese herbal therapies in both murine models and in humans for the treatment of IBD.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Kirsten Sadler Edepli, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine (Division of Liver Diseases) and Developmental and Regenerative Biology

**Institute Affiliations:** Tisch Cancer Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

**Lab/Location:** Annenberg 25-30

**Email:** kirsten.edepli@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Edepli's research focuses on the epigenetic contribution to liver development and liver cancer and the cellular basis for fatty liver disease.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


Vilma Gabbay, M.D., M.S.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience Chief, Pediatric Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program

**Institute Affiliation:** Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

**Lab/Location:** Behavioral Science Unit, 1240 Park Ave (Lab Entrance: 96th Street)

**Email:** vilma.gabbay@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Gabbay studies the neurological and immunological mechanisms that contribute to the development and maintenance of mood disorders in youth. Her research efforts utilize an array of sophisticated, cutting-edge techniques, including functional magnetic resonance (MR) imaging, MR spectroscopy, immunological and genetic assays, and comprehensive clinical evaluations.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**


Maida P. Galvez, M.D., M.P.H.
Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine and Pediatrics

Lab/Location: 17 East 102nd St., 2nd Floor
Email: maida.galvez@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Galvez's research is focused on neighborhood factors in the urban built environment and environmental endocrine disruptor exposures and their impact on children's growth and development.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Adolfo Garcia-Ocana, Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine
(Endocrinology, Diabetes and Bone Diseases)

Institute Affiliations: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism Institute

Lab/Location: Atran 5-02
Email: adolfo.g.ocana@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Garcia-Ocana's research focuses on tissue regeneration, growth factors and intracellular signaling. More specifically, his group is analyzing the therapeutic potential of growth promoting agents to induce pancreatic beta cell regeneration and in diabetes.

Type of Research: Basic

Publications:


Dr. Bruce D. Gelb is interested in uncovering and then understanding the genetic causes of congenital heart defects (CHD). Using state-of-the-art genomic approaches, his research group is studying Mendelian and complex traits with CHD, and then models disease genes in cells and animals. 

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


Dr. Chris Gennings’ research focuses on development of novel biostatistical methods for designing and analyzing studies of mixtures, including environmental chemical mixtures and nutrients. An example includes the development of a method to estimate the “bad actors” in a mixture that are most related to a health outcome.

**Type of Research** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


Valerie Gouon-Evans, PharmD., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Developmental and Regenerative Biology
Department of Medicine,
Division of Liver diseases

Institute Affiliations:
Mindich Child Health and Development Institute;
Black Family Stem Cell Institute;
Tisch Cancer Institute

Lab/Location: Atran Rm 7-10F
Email: valerie.gouon-evans@mssm.edu

Research Interests:
My research focuses on liver development, regeneration and cancer using the pluripotent stem cell (PSC) differentiation system as well as mouse models and human specimens. Additionally, we are investigating the ultimate utility of human PSC-derived hepatic cells for cell therapy in liver diseases.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Goldman O*, Han S*, Gouon-Evans V. Liver progenitor cell and KDR. Cell Cycle. 2014; 13(7)1051-1052. (selected for cover page)


Dorothy E. Grice, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry;
Director, OCD and Related Disorders Clinical and Research Program;
Associate Director, Tics and Tourette's Clinical and Research Program

Institute Affiliations: Friedman Brain Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 1425 Madison Avenue
Email: dorothy.grice@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Grice focuses on phenomenology, genetics and biology of tic disorders, OCD and autism. Specific programs include an international epidemiological study of genetic and environmental risks for OCD and tic disorders (Denmark and Sweden), genetic studies of tic disorders and OCD, and the effect of antipsychotic medication on the microbiome.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:
Browne HA, Hansen SN, Buxbaum JD, ... Grice DE. Familial clustering of tic disorders and obsessive-compulsive disorder. JAMA Psychiatry. 2015; in press.


**Research Interests:** The focus of the Heeger research program is transplantation immunology and complement biology. The lab uses mouse models to identify mechanisms of immune injury and tolerance and then apply the findings to develop monitoring and treatment strategies in human transplant recipients with the long term goal of prolonging allograft survival and improving patient health.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


**Tom Hildebrandt, Psy.D.**
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry; Director, Eating and Weight Disorders Program

**Lab/Location:** 1425 Madison Ave, 6th Floor

**Email:** tom.hildebrandt@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Hildebrandt studies the neuroendocrinology of eating and weight disorders and anabolic-androgenic steroid use, with special interest in disruption of gonadal and appetite hormones and their influences on emotional and eating disturbances. He uses the identification of these neurobiological mechanisms to guide the development of behavioral and family based treatments for adolescents and adults.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**


Megan K. Horton,  
Ph.D., M.P.H.  
Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: CAM 3rd Floor  
Email: megan.horton@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Horton’s research focuses on understanding the mechanisms through which prenatal and early childhood exposure to environmental toxicants adversely affect children’s health.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Ethylin Wang Jabs, M.D.  
Professor of Genetics & Genomic Sciences, Pediatrics, and Developmental and Regenerative Biology

Lab/Location: Icahn 14-76  
Email: ethylin.jabs@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Jabs has a strong interest in understanding the genetic basis of birth defects. Her research is focused on craniofacial disorders including craniosynostosis and cleft lip and palate. Her group uses developmental biology and “omic” approaches to study the pathogenetic mechanisms, signaling pathways and networks involved in developmental processes. Based on these findings, therapeutic strategies are being tested in animals models.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Lawrence C. Kleinman, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Pediatrics and Population Health Science and Policy (Vice Chair for Research and Education)

**Institute Affiliation:** Institute for Translational Epidemiology

**Lab/Location:** Icahn, 3rd Floor, Suite L3-50

**Email:** lawrence.kleinman@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Kleinman is a health services researcher and methodologist who has developed innovative analytical approaches using quantitative and qualitative data and is known for his work in measuring and improving the quality of health care. His research frequently includes community engagement. He directs the Collaboration for Advancing Pediatric Quality Measures (CAPQuaM), an AHRQ-CMS Center of Excellence in the federal Pediatric Quality Measures Program.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**

Alex Kolevzon, M.D.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics; Clinical Director, Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment

**Institute Affiliation:** Friedman Brain Institute

**Lab/Location:** Icahn, 4-32

**Email:** alexander.kolevzon@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Kolevzon's research is focused on developing new pharmacological treatments in autism spectrum disorders. He collaborates with basic scientists at the Seaver Autism Center where genetic discovery in autism leads to the use of model systems and testing targeted molecular therapeutics. Dr. Kolevzon leads the clinical research team to then study these compounds in clinical trials.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**
Robert S. Krauss, Ph.D.
Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology and Oncological Sciences

Institute Affiliations:
Black Family Stem Cell Institute; Tisch Cancer Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab: Annenberg 25-70

Email: robert.krauss@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Krauss, a cell and developmental biologist, is interested in mechanisms of cell adhesion and signal transduction during fetal development and how when these processes go awry it contributes to birth defects and disease. One area of focus is the role of the Hedgehog pathway in midline patterning, defects in which cause the common and devastating birth defect holoprosencephaly.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Luca Lambertini, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine and Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Science

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 21-94/CAM D4-123

Email: luca.lambertini@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Lambertini’s research is focused on the identification and characterization of biomarkers of improper fetal development leading to the manifestation of chronic and developmental disorders in children. Dr. Lambertini co-directs the Mount Sinai Pregnancy Biobank (MSPB), a tissue bank that collects and makes available placenta and umbilical cord blood samples linked to relevant clinical information for research on pregnancy outcomes and child health.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications


Philip J. Landrigan, M.D., M.Sc., D.I.H.
Professor and Chair of Preventive Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: CAM 3 West
Email: phil.landrigan@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Landrigan has a strong interest in discovering how environmental exposures in prenatal and early postnatal life – in particular, to toxic chemicals – influence health and development in children and across the entire human lifespan. He has studied the developmental toxicity of heavy metals, pesticides and endocrine disruptors. He utilizes the power of prospective, birth cohort, epidemiologic studies to elucidate the neurobehavioral consequences of early-life exposures to toxic chemicals.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Xiu-Min Li, M.D., M.S.
Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology)

Institute Affiliations: Jaffe Food Allergy Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Altenburg 17-25 and 17-80
Email: xiu-min.li@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Li’s research focuses on understanding the mechanisms underlying the pathogenesis of allergic diseases including food allergy and allergic asthma, and on developing novel therapies for these diseases, including immunomodulators, natural products, and novel active compounds isolated from natural products.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Dr. Loos’ research interests focus on the identification of genetic loci contributing to risk of obesity and related metabolic traits. She has led several large-scale gene-discovery efforts for obesity-related traits and has contributed to similar efforts for metabolic traits. Increasingly, her gene discovery work focuses on the identification of low-frequency variants through the implementation of exomechip and sequencing projects, in particular in non-white ancestry populations. Her work also assesses the predictive value of established genetic loci and their interaction with lifestyle factors.

**Type of Research:** Translational

**Publications:**


**Dr. Lucchini’s research focuses on neurotoxic effects from occupational and environmental exposure to chemicals including manganese, lead, mercury, PCB, solvents, pesticides. A variety of motor, cognitive, sensory and endocrine outcomes are related to the exposure in different age groups including children, workers, and elderly.**

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**


Madhan Masilamani, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
(Allergy and Immunology)  

Institute Affiliations: Jaffe Food Allergy Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute  

Lab/Location: Annenberg 17-40  

Email: madhan.masilamani@mssm.edu  

Research Interests: Dr. Masilamani is interested in finding novel ways to treat food allergy. His current research focus is on the effects of anti-inflammatory phytochemicals on allergic sensitization and anaphylaxis to food in animal models. He is also involved in the development of T cell based immunotherapy for peanut allergy.  

Type of Research: Basic/Translational  

Publications:  


Hirofumi Morishita, M.D.  
Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience, and Ophthalmology  

Institute Affiliations: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Friedman Brain Institute  

Lab/Location: Hess CSM 9-113  

Email: hirofumi.morishita@mssm.edu  

Research Interests:  
Dr. Morishita’s research focuses on understanding the mechanisms of experience-dependent brain plasticity during developmental critical periods. By combining molecular, circuit, and systems level methodologies, his research aims to understand pathophysiology and therapeutic intervention for amblyopia and other neurodevelopmental disorders such as schizophrenia.  

Type of Research: Basic/Translational  

Publications:  


Eric Nestler, M.D.
Professor and Chair of Neuroscience; Professor of Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics, and Psychiatry

Institute Affiliation: Friedman Brain Institute (Director)

Lab/Location: Annenberg 21-32

Email: eric.nestler@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Nestler's research focuses on identifying the neurobiological basis of drug addiction and depression in rodent models. He studies the molecular and cellular changes that occur in regions of the brain important for reward and motivation in response to chronic administration of a drug of abuse or chronic exposure to stress. He is particularly interested in long-lasting changes that are mediated via alterations in gene expression and chromatin remodeling. The result of his research will guide future efforts toward the development of more effective treatments for addiction and depression.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Maria I. New, M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics (Endocrinology) and Genetics & Genomic Sciences

Director, Adrenal Steroid Disorders Program

Lab/Location: Terence Cardinal Cooke 419 Annex

Email: maria.new@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. New is interested in discovering and then understanding the genetic causes of adrenal steroid disorders, including congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH). Her research emphasizes genotype/phenotype correlation and prenatal diagnosis and treatment.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Ahmed M. Khattab, Cedric H.L. Shackleton, Beverly A. Hughes, Jayesh B. Bodalia, Maria I. New. Remission of hypertension and electrolyte abnormalities following renal transplantation in a patient with apparent mineralcorticoid excess well documented throughout childhood. J Ped Endocrinol Metab. 2013;Aug; 0;0,1-5.

Jeffrey H. Newcorn, M.D.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry (Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) and Pediatrics
Director, Division of ADHD and Learning Disorders;
Director, Pediatric Psychopharmacology
Institute Affiliation: Friedman Brain Institute
Lab/Location: 19 East 98th St. 5th Floor
Email: jeffrey.newcorn@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Newcorn studies the neurobiological basis of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and clinical efficacy and mechanism of action of stimulant and non-stimulant medications. He conducts clinical treatment studies which include neuroimaging and genetic biomarkers of response.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology)
Institute Affiliations: Jaffe Food Allergy Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Lab/Location: Jaffe Food Allergy Institute
Email: anna.nowak-wegrzyn@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Nowak-Wegrzyn has a special interest in food allergy. Her research focuses on egg and milk allergy treatment and pathophysiology of food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome (FPIES).

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Coro Paisán-Ruiz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Neurology, Genetics and Genomic Sciences, and Psychiatry

**Institute Affiliations:** Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Friedman Brain Institute

**Lab/Location:** Annenberg 22-38

**Email:** coro.paisan-ruiz@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Paisan-Ruiz’s laboratory focuses on elucidating and understanding the molecular basis underlying and contributing to movement disorders, such as Parkinson’s disease, atypical parkinsonism, and essential tremor. By collaborating with internationally recognized physicians and employing state-of-art molecular techniques, her research team has identified the first pathogenic mutations in genes underlying Mendelian forms of movement disorders.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


Dalila Pinto, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, and Genetics and Genomic Sciences

**Institute Affiliations:** Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Friedman Brain Institute; Seaver Center; Icahn Institute for Multiscale Biology

**Lab/Location:** Hess CSM 8-115

**Email:** dalila.pinto@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Pinto’s laboratory focuses on identifying risk factors and pathways involved in neurodevelopmental disorders (including autism, epilepsy, intellectual disability, and Rett syndrome-like). By using a combination of innovative high-throughput experimental and bioinformatics approaches, her lab maps and characterizes various forms of genetic variation (deletions, duplications, complex rearrangements, and point-mutations) that are further integrated with coding and non-coding gene expression, epigenetics and clinical data to shed light on the mechanisms underlying these disorders.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


Francesco Ramirez, D.Sc.
Professor of Pharmacology and Systems Therapeutics, Medicine (Cardiology) and Orthopaedics

Lab/Location:
Annenberg 19-64A

Email:
francesco.ramirez@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Ramirez is a molecular geneticist with a long standing interest in heritable disorders of connective tissue. Current work focuses on elucidating the pathogenesis of cardiovascular and musculoskeletal abnormalities in mouse models of Marfan syndrome, and on identifying new therapeutic means to mitigate progression of these systemic manifestations.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Robert Rapaport, M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Division of Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes

Lab/Location:
Annenberg 4 Room 4-81

Email:
robert.rapaport@mountsinai.org

Research Interests: Dr. Rapaport’s research interests are focused on three main areas: growth, growth hormone treatment and metabolic aspects of children born small for gestational age, neonatal thyroid disease and pubertal disorders.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Avi Reichenberg, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychiatry and Preventative Medicine

Institution Affiliations: Seaver Center for Autism; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: CAM West Tower D5-143

Email: avi.reichenberg@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Reichenberg's research group focuses on the role of environmental and familial factors in the etiology of developmental and psychotic disorders. His work includes human population-based studies, molecular genetic and epigenetic, bioinformatic methods and animal models. The goal is to gain better insight into the causes of psychiatric disorders, particularly autism and schizophrenia.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational/Clinical

Publications:


Michael Rendl, M.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Developmental and Regenerative Biology, Department of Dermatology

Institute Affiliations: Black Family Stem Cell Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Atran 7-10C

Email: michael.rendl@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Rendl’s lab studies the function of stem cell niches. They utilize genetic mouse models for embryonic hair follicle formation and adult hair regeneration to uncover how Dermal Papilla niche cells instruct hair follicle stem cells. Insights from these studies will provide a platform for developing hair regenerative therapies.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Sennett R, Rendl M. Mesenchymal-epithelial interactions during hair follicle morphogenesis and cycling [review]. Seminars in cell & developmental biology. 2012 Oct; 23(8).
Laura Rodriguez-Murillo, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Genetics and Genomic Sciences / Pediatric and Genetics and Genomic Sciences Department

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Hess CSM 8-108

Email: laura.rodriguezmurillo@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Murillo’s research is on investigating the role of genetic variation on the etiology of complex disorders. Her main focus is in the genetics of congenital heart disease, applying methods in genetics and genomics to array and sequencing data to study plausible candidate genes and their interactions that may cause congenital heart disease.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Jeffrey M. Saland, M.D., M.S.C.R.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Nephrology) and Division Chief of Nephrology

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 14-22

Email: jeff.saland@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Saland participates in local and multicenter clinical studies of chronic kidney disease. He has focused on disorders of lipoprotein metabolism and cardiovascular complications in children with CKD. Dr. Saland has also been active in developing treatment for children with atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Hugh A. Sampson, M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology)
Dean for Translational Biomedical Sciences

Institute Affiliations: Jaffe Food Allergy Institute (Director); Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 17-40; 17-46; 17-60

Email: hugh.sampson@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Sampson’s research interests have focused on food allergic disorders including work on the immuno-pathogenic role of food hypersensitivity in atopic dermatitis, the pathogenesis of food-induced anaphylaxis, characterization of food-induced gastrointestinal hypersensitivities, molecular characterization of food allergens, and more recently immunotherapeutic strategies for treating food allergies.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Lisa M. Satlin, M.D.
Professor (Nephrology) and Chair of Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 14-18, -19

Email: lisa.satlin@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Satlin's developmental physiology lab focuses on exploring the molecular mechanisms underlying the ability of the maturing kidney to adjust sodium and potassium balance during periods of somatic growth, and the role of variations in urinary flow rate in the mechanoregulation of ion channels and transport proteins in the kidney in health and disease.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Kurt P. Schulz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Lab/Location: 19 East 98th St., 5th Floor
Email: kurt.schulz@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Schulz uses behavioral, neuropsychological, neuroendocrine and functional imaging techniques to study the development of cognitive processes in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and other disruptive behavioral disorders. His current research interests include neurobiological mechanisms of ADHD treatments and ancillary emotion problems.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Donald Scott, Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology)

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Obesity, Diabetes and Metabolism Institute

Lab/Location: Atran 5-17
Email: donald.scott@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Scott has a longstanding interest in how nutrients change cellular phenotype. Dr. Scott has focused on two transcription factors, ChREBP and Myc. The Myc/ChREBP relationship reflects fundamental cellular adaptations to varying metabolic environments, and is applicable to a wide range of diseases, including diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease and aging.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Andrew Sharp, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Hess CSM 8-301
Email: andrew.sharp@mssm.edu

Research Interests: The Sharp lab is an integrated research environment combining both experimental and bioinformatic approaches. Dr. Sharp’s research uses genomic approaches to perform basic studies of human genome function, and a wide variety of diseases, including congenital disorders such as cleft lip/palate and spina bifida, and chromosomal disorders such as translocations and microdeletions.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


*Sponsored equally to this work


Eyal Shemesh, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry; Division Chief of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 4-54
Email: eyal.shemesh@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Shemesh, who trained as both a pediatrician and a child psychiatrist, studies ways to assess and then improve the well-being (especially emotional well-being) of children and adults who suffer from medical illnesses and their families, with a particular focus on traumatic stress reactions and nonadherence to medical regimens.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Scott H. Sicherer, M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology) and Division Chief of Allergy and Clinical Immunology; Medical Director, Clinical Research Center
Institute Affiliation: Jaffe Food Allergy Institute, Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Lab/Location: Annenberg 17-90
Email: scott.sicherer@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Sicherer has a strong interest in food allergy with research focusing on epidemiology, psychosocial issues, prevention, modalities to educate physicians and parents about food allergy, daily management, natural history, and novel therapeutics.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Mary V. Solanto, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychiatry in Child Psychiatry Director, ADHD Center
Lab/Location: 19 East 98th St.; Suite 5-D
Email: mary.solanto@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Solanto’s work has focused on the diagnosis and neuropsychology of ADHD in children and adults, the effects of stimulant medication on cognitive and behavioral functioning, and the mechanisms of action of treatment. She innovated a cognitive-behavioral treatment for adult ADHD, and currently also has a particular interest in interventions to facilitate adherence to medication treatment in children with ADHD.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Philippe M. Soriano, Ph.D.
Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology and Oncological Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Tisch Cancer Institute (Associate Director)
Lab/Location: Annenberg 25-70
Email: philippe.soriano@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Soriano is a developmental biologist who studies growth factor signaling pathways that have important roles in mouse craniofacial development and in stem cells of the early embryo. His laboratory uses state-of-the-art molecular genetic approaches in the mouse to address the general question of how biological specificity is acquired upon engagement of growth factor signaling.

Type of Research: Basic

Publications:


Mihaela Stefan, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Endocrinology, Diabetes and Bone Disease

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Lab/Location: Annenberg Rm 18-20
Phone: 212-241-1728
Email: mihaela.stefan@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Stefan's research focuses on how environmental-induced epigenetic changes affect gene expression and contribute to the development of autoimmune diseases (AID), identification of AID causative gene variants, finding the mechanisms by which these variants trigger the diseases and, identification of cell-type specific functional epigenetic features associated with autoimmunity.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Dr. Cheryl R. Stein
Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine

Lab/Location: CAM D2-135
Email: cheryl.stein@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Stein is a perinatal epidemiologist and her research focus is environmental exposures during pregnancy and their effect on pregnancy health, birth outcomes, and child development.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Karslioglu E, Kleinberger J, Salim F, Cox A, Takane KK, Donald K. Scott DK, Stewart AF. cMyc is the principal upstream driver of beta cell proliferation in rat insulinoma cell lines and is an effective mediator of human beta cell replication. Mol Endocrinology 2011;25:1760-72.
Annemarie Stroustrup, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Newborn Medicine) and Preventive Medicine

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 1184 5th Avenue, P6-336

Email: annemarie.stroustrup@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Stroustrup’s research focuses on modifiable causes of adverse outcomes in preterm and/or low birth weight neonates. She is particularly interested in understanding the impact of the hospital environment on neurodevelopmental outcomes of NICU graduates.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Shanna H. Swan, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: CAM West Tower D3-135

Email: shanna.swan@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Shanna Swan is an Environmental and Reproductive Epidemiologist. Her research group examines the impact of environmental exposures on reproductive health and neurodevelopment in multi-center pregnancy cohort studies that include over 1,000 mothers and their children. This research is focused on identifying sex-differences in environmental effects, development and disease.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Yaron Tomer, M.D.
Professor and Chief, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Bone Disease

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Lab/Location: Annenberg 18-20
E-mail: yaron.tomer@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Tomer’s research focuses on the immunogenetic, epigenetic, and environmental mechanisms underlying the development thyroid autoimmunity, and type 1 diabetes. Specific areas of research include: analyzing peptide presentation by MHC II in thyroid autoimmunity and type 1 diabetes and developing novel strategies to block peptide presentation, mapping and analyzing susceptibility genes for autoimmune thyroiditis and diabetes, studies on the role of infection and genetic-epigenetic interactions in the development of autoimmune thyroiditis.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Rupangi Vasavada, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology, Diabetes and Bone Disease)

Institute Affiliation: Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism Institute
Lab/Location: Atran 5-02
Email: rupangi.vasavada@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Vasavada’s research has focused on understanding the pathways and mechanisms that regulate pancreatic beta cell growth, survival, and function, in normal beta cell physiology and in the pathophysiological settings of diabetes and islet transplantation, specifically centered on the role of growth factors and the signaling and molecular pathways through which they mediate their effects.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Alfin G. Vicencio, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Pulmonology) and Chief of the Division of Pulmonology

**Lab/Location:** 5 East 98th Street, 10th Floor

**Email:** alfin.vicencio@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Vicencio is investigating sub-clinical fungal infection as a potential cause of severe, refractory asthma. Together with collaborators, he is studying deficiencies in airway immune factors that could potentially contribute to infection, and is also analyzing fluid collected from the lower airways of children for molecular evidence of infection.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**


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Martin J. Walsh, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Gastroenterology) and Structural and Chemical Biology

**Institute Affiliations:** Tisch Cancer Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

**Lab/Location:** Annenberg 14-30A

**Email:** martin.walsh@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Walsh’s area of interest is in chromatin biology of human disease and development. The focus of the laboratory is to investigate the transcriptional regulatory networks that are associated cancer and cystic fibrosis.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


Virginia Walther, M.S.W., L.C.S.W.
Associate Director of Social Work for Women's and Children's Health

**Lab/Location:** 1184 Fifth Avenue, 6th Floor

**Email:** virginia.walther@mountsinai.org

**Research Interests:** Ms. Walther is a social worker whose research interests are related to the role high risk psychosocial factors play in adherence to care in chronically ill populations of children and their families and the roles social workers can play in mitigating the impacts of illness in families. She is also interested in transition of care for adolescents with chronic illnesses who are aging into adulthood as well as utilization of pediatric palliative care programs. Other research interests are concerned with family violence and its treatment.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**

Julie Wang, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology)

**Institute Affiliations:** Jaffe Food Allergy Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

**Lab/Location:** Annenberg 17

**Email:** julie.wang@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Wang's research interests include Chinese herbal medicine for the treatment of food allergy, diagnostic issues in food allergy, and food allergy in the inner city.

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**
Mary S. Wolff, Ph.D.
Professor of Preventive Medicine/Oncological Sciences

**Lab/Location:** CAM D3-109
**Email:** mary.wolff@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Wolff's research focuses on environmental exposures, chiefly hormonally active agents in early life, and their relationships with child development, including neurobehavior, somatic growth, and pubertal timing as well as mechanisms of action.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**
Robert O. Wright, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Preventive Medicine and Pediatrics
Director, Division of Environmental Health, Preventive Medicine

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Atran 3-02
Email: robert.wright@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Wright conducts epidemiologic studies of children's environmental health, focused primarily on neurodevelopment and fetal growth. His work incorporates molecular biomarkers of effect with measures of toxic chemical exposure, social environment and nutrition.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Rosalind J. Wright, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Pediatrics (Pulmonology) and Preventive Medicine
Vice-Chair, Clinical & Translational Research, Department of Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 5 E. 98th Street, 10th Floor
Email: rosalind.wright@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Wright has a primary interest in early life (prenatal and early childhood) predictors of developmental diseases including asthma, obesity, neurobehavioral development, and lung growth and development. A particular focus has been on population-based studies considering the role of both social (e.g., psychosocial stress) and physical (e.g., air pollution, allergens) environmental factors in explaining health disparities among urban, ethnic minority populations.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Lakshmanan A*, Chiu YHM*, Coull BA, Just AC, Maxwell SL, Schwartz J, Gryparis A, Klooog I, Wright RJ, Wright RO. (*co-first authors) Associations between prenatal traffic-related air pollution exposure and birth weight: modification by sex and maternal pre-pregnancy body mass index. Environ Res. [Epub ahead of print]

Yong Zhao, Ph.D. M.D.  
Assistant Professor of Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Hess CSM 7-202  
Email: yong.zhao@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Zhao is interested in how genetic and epigenetic programs regulate cardiac development. Using mouse genetics, ES cells differentiation in vitro, and other cutting edge technologies, his lab is beginning to understand the roles of transcription factors and epigenetic regulators in regulating heart development and in pathogenesis. It is anticipated that his studies will improve the treatment of human heart disease.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:

Wu M, Zhao Y. Inducible gene deletion in the entire cardiac conduction system using Hcn4-CreERT2 BAC transgenic mice. Genesis. 2014; 52: 134-140.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grice, Dorothy E., M.D.</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heeger, Peter, M.D.</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hildebrandt, Tom, Psy.D.</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horton, Megan K., Ph.D., M.P.H.</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jabs, Ethylin Wang, M.D.</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kleinman, Lawrence C., M.D., M.P.H.</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolevzon, Alex, M.D.</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krauss, Robert S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamberti, Luca, Ph.D.</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landrigan, Phillip J., M.D., M.Sc., D.I.H.</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Xiu-Min, M.D., M.S.</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loos, Ruth J.F., Ph.D.</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucchini, Roberto, M.D.</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masilamani, Madhan, Ph.D.</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morishita, Hirofumi, M.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nestler, Eric, M.D.</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New, Maria I., M.D.</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newcorn, Jeffrey H., M.D.</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nowak-Wegrzyn, Anna, M.D.</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paisan-Ruiz, Coro, Ph.D.</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinto, Dalila, Ph.D.</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramirez, Francesco, D.Sc.</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapaport, Robert, M.D.</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reichenberg, Avi, Ph.D.</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rendl, Michael, M.D.</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodriguez-Murillo, Laura, Ph.D.</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saland, Jeffrey M., M.D., M.S.C.R.</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson, Hugh A., M.D.</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satlin, Lisa M., M.D.</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schulz, Kurt P., Ph.D.</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott, Donald, Ph.D.</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharp, Andrew, Ph.D.</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shemesh, Eyal, M.D.</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sicherer, Scott H., M.D.</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solanto, Mary V., Ph.D.</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soriano, Philippe M., Ph.D.</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stefan, Mihaela, Ph.D.</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stein, Cheryl R., Ph.D.</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewart, Andrew F., M.D.</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroustrup, Annemarie, M.D., M.P.H.</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swan, Shanna H., Ph.D.</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomer, Yaron, M.D.</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vasavada, Rupangi, Ph.D.</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicencio, Alfin G., M.D.</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walsh, Martin J., Ph.D.</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walther, Virginia, M.S.W., L.C.S.W.</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wang, Julie, M.D.</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wistinghausen, Birte, M.D.</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolff, Mary S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright, Robert O., M.D., M.P.H.</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright, Rosalind J., M.D., M.P.H.</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhao, Yong, Ph.D., M.D.</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>