Child Health Research Directory 2021

The Jack and Lucy Department of Pediatrics
The Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Kravis Children’s Hospital
Rachel A. Annunziato, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Behavioral and Developmental Pediatrics)

Lab/Location: Annenberg 4-51
Email: rachel.annunziato@mssm.edu

Research Interests: 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, BDS, MPH, PhD
Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research

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, MD, PhD
Professor of Medicine
(Hematology and Medical Oncology), Developmental and Regenerative Biology, and Oncological Sciences;
Director, MD/PhD Program;
Senior Associate Dean for MD/PhD Education
Institute Affiliations:
Tisch Cancer Institute;
Black Family Stem Cell Institute

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

Research Interests: The Baron lab is interested in molecular and cellular pathways that regulate hematopoietic development. Our research uses animal and cellular models to study hematopoiesis at steady-state and under conditions of stress.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Keith Benkov, MD
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 (IBD), based on a large national registry of over 27,000 patients. His particular interests include the genetic aspects of IBD, the unique clinical phenotype on young children presenting with IBD, transition of grown patients to adult providers and the role of anxiety in IBD.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


M. Cecilia Berin, PhD
Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology)

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


Berin, MC, Chiang, David. Identification of a T follicular helper cell subset that drives anaphylactic IgE. Science Robotics. 2020;34(4)2470-9476.
James J. Bieker, PhD
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:

Huang LJ, Bieker JJ. A master erythroid regulator gets its own GPS. Blood. 2020 Jun 18;135(25):2209-2210


Research Interests: Dr. Bogunovic's research focuses on human immunogenetics. He studies individuals with severe clinical presentations of infections and or autoinflammation. The hypothesis of the lab is that inter-individual variability in susceptibility to infectious agents and/or autoinflammation can also be explained by the immune genetic composition of the host.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Michael S. Breen, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Icahn 14-26/14-20
Email: michael.breen@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Our research is at the intersection of genomics and neuroscience, utilizing a number of transcriptomic and functional genomic approaches to investigate gene expression, RNA editing and function in the human brain and in neurodevelopmental disorders.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Brian D. Brown, PhD
Professor of Genetics and Genomic Sciences

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

Lab/Location:
Hess CSM, 5th S-117

Email: brian.brown@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Brown is deciphering the molecular networks that regulate the immune system, and exploiting this information to develop strategies that can induce immunological tolerance to help prevent autoimmune disease, or boost the immune system to fight cancer.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Research Interests: Dr. Bucuvalas's research is focused on providing pediatric liver transplant recipients the promise of full life by delivering state-of-the-art care and by acquiring and applying new knowledge. His translational research reflects the premise that precision immunosuppression will optimize allograft health and minimize complications of immunosuppressive medications and he also has collaborative efforts focused on the impact of socioeconomic deprivation on outcome.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Supinda Bunyavanich, MD, MPH
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: Icahn 13-70D
Email: supinda.bunyavanich@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Bunyavanich combines tools in epidemiology, genomics, and sequence analysis to study asthma and allergic diseases in human cohorts.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Joseph Buxbaum, PhD  
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:


Minji Byun, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Institute Affiliation: Precision Immunology Institute; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Lab/Location: Icahn 11-20D (office), Icahn 11-02 (lab)
Email: minji.byun@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Byun laboratory is interested in understanding the genetic basis of immune dysregulation disorders. Using various cutting-edge human genetics tools and pluripotent stem cell-based in vitro models, we identify and characterize inherited and acquired genetic variants in patients with rare and life-threatening disorders such as multicentric Castleman disease. The ultimate goal of our group's research is to evaluate the evidence supporting causality of the identified genetic variants and to elucidate immunological mechanisms underlying the disease, thereby contributing to the development of new treatments for poorly understood rare disorders that often affect children and adolescents.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Ross L. Cagan, PhD  
Adjunct Professor of  
Cell, Developmental and  
Regenerative Biology and  
Director, Center for Personalized  
Cancer Therapeutics 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, diabetes, and rare Mendelian diseases with the goal of developing drug therapeutics designed to account for whole animal complexity. Using current human sequencing efforts, they have developed multigenic cancer models designed to capture the complexity observed in human disease. In addition, the lab has developed a collaborative platform that combines fly genetics with medicinal and computational chemistry to build a new generation of ‘polypharmacology’ leads designed to address disease complexity.  

Type of Research: Basic/Translational  

Publications:  


Mirna Chehade, MD, MPH
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: Icahn L6-90, 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:


Ko E, Chehade M. Biological Therapies for Eosinophilic Esophagitis: Where Do We Stand? Clinical Reviews in Allergy & Immunology. 2018;55:205-16.


Jia Chen, ScD
Professor, Departments of Environmental Medicine and Public Health, Pediatrics, Hematology and Medical Oncology, and Oncological Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Tisch Cancer Institute

Institute Affiliation: Institute of Translational Epidemiology

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

Research Interests: Chen's lab uses a molecular epidemiology approach to understand complex interactions between the environment and genome/epigenome in human diseases. Her lab performs genomic and epigenomic 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, MD  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Hepatology)  
Associate Chief, Division of Pediatric Hepatology

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

Lab/Location: Annenberg 14-46

Email: jaime.chu@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Chu’s basic research group focuses on how sugar metabolism pathways work together to sustain rapid cell growth in liver development and disease. Her clinical and translational research is focused on defining risk factors for biliary atresia and fatty liver disease.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Charlotte Cunningham-Rundles, MD, PhD
Professor of Immunology, Medicine and Pediatrics; Acting Chief of Clinical Immunology, Department of Medicine

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:


Maria A. Curotto de Lafaille, PhD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Jaffe Food Allergy Institute, Precision Immunology Institute, Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Icahn 11-26

Email: maria.lafaille@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr Curotto de Lafaille studies the immune mechanisms involved in allergic diseases, specifically on the production of pathogenic high affinity IgE. Her current studies in the laboratory aim to elucidate the mechanisms that maintain the B cell memory of allergic responses in mice and human.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Tirtha Kamal Das, PhD
Assistant Professor of Cell, Developmental & Regenerative Biology

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute/CDRB

Lab/Location: 25-40 Annenberg

Email: tirtha.das@mssm.edu

Research Interests: We use an ‘Integrated Fly-Vertebrate Modeling’ approach to study human diseases and identify novel therapeutics. We use whole animal fly models, human cell lines, mouse xenografts, and patient data analysis to identify mechanisms of cancer and rare mendelian disease progression and related therapeutics.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Silvia De Rubeis, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Institute Affiliation: Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment, Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 1468 Madison Avenue, 22-38

Email: silvia.derubeis@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. De Rubeis focuses on the genetics and neurobiology of autism spectrum disorder

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Robert J. Desnick, PhD, MD
Dean for Genetics and Genomic Medicine;
Professor and Chair Emeritus of Genetic and Genomic Sciences
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, MD, PhD
Professor of Pediatrics (Adolescent Medicine) and Department of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Lab/Location: 320 East 94th St.
Email: angela.diaz@mountsinai.org

Research Interests: Dr. Diaz’s research interests focus on the burden of HPV in inner-city adolescent and young adult female cohort. Dr. Diaz also studies a range of correlates and predictors of resilience in youth with high levels of trauma and the impact of physical and sexual abuse on the health and mental well-being of adolescents.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


George A. Diaz, MD, PhD
Professor of Genetics and Genomic Sciences and Pediatrics

Lab/Location: Atran 1-45

Email: george.diaz@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Diaz's main research interests include translational clinical research focused on inborn errors of metabolism, particularly urea cycle disorders. Ongoing efforts include the application of next generation sequencing technologies to characterize undiagnosed rare diseases and clinical trial work to develop new therapies for mendelian disorders including gene therapies and other innovative approaches.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Marla Dubinsky, MD
Professor of Pediatrics
Professor of Medicine

Lab/Location: 17 East 102nd Street, 5th Floor, Area D

Email: marla.dubinsky@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Dubinsky’s main research interests are the influence of genetics and immune responses on the variability in clinical presentations of early-onset IBD and prognosis. Additional interests include the study of pharmacogenetics to evaluate how heredity influences drug responses and optimizing and individualizing the management of IBD as well as the impact of IBD on fertility and pregnancy.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Dolinger MT, Choi JJ, Phan BL, Rosenberg HK, Rowland J, Dubinsky MC. Use of Small Bowel Ultrasound to Predict Response to Infliximab Induction in Pediatric Crohn’s Disease. *J Clin Gastroenterol.* 2020;10.1097
Nicole C. Dubois, PhD
Associate Professor of Cell, Developmental & 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, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Gastroenterology and Nutrition)

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab: Icahn 11-26

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. His investigations have examined the mechanisms of epicutaneous exposure leading to the induction of tolerance to antigens and how this might be used as a therapy for treating inflammatory disease of the intestines. In addition, Dr. Dunkin and his collaborators are investigating the use of Chinese herbal therapies in both murine models and in humans for the treatment of IBD and EoE.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational/Clinical Trials

Publications:


Lisa Eiland, MD  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  

**Institute Affiliation:** Mindich Child Health and Development Institute  
**Lab/Location:** Mount Sinai West, 1000 10th Avenue, 10th Floor  
**Email:** lisa.eiland@mountsinai.org  

**Research Interests:** Dr. Eiland’s research interests are on the effects of stress on the developing brain. Particularly, how NICU stressors may contribute to increased adverse neurodevelopmental outcome in the preterm infant.  

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational  

**Publications:**  


Fernando Ferrer, MD, FACS, FAAP
Professor of Urology
Chief Operating Officer at Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital and Vice Chair of Hospital Operations in the Department of Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Email: Fernando.ferrer@mountsinai.org

Research Interests: Dr. Ferrer’s researcher interest include Renal injury, Cancer, and Imaging.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational/Basic

Publications:


Vilma Gabbay, MD, MS
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience
Chief, Pediatric Mood and Anxiety Disorders Program

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, MD, MPH
Professor of Departments of Environmental Medicine and Public Health and Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research

Lab/Location: 17 East 102nd St., 2nd Floor

Email: maida.galvez@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Galvez’s research is focused on environmental factors that impact children's growth and development, as well as risk communication, research translation and community engagement.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Research Interests: Dr. Garcia-Ocaña'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 for diabetes treatment.

Type of Research: Basic

Publications:


Bruce D. Gelb, MD  
Professor of Pediatrics (Cardiology) and Genetics & Genomic Sciences; Director of The Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Institute Affiliation:  
Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab: Hess CSM 8-301  
Email: bruce.gelb@mssm.edu

Research Interests:  
Dr. 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:


Chris Gennings, PhD  
Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health  

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute  
Lab/Location: CAM D3-134  
Email: chris.gennings@mssm.edu  

Research Interests: Dr. 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:  
**Dorothy E. Grice, MD**  
Professor of Psychiatry;  
Director, Tics, OCD and Related Disorders 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 the phenomenology, genetics and biology of OCD, tic disorders and autism. Specific programs include epidemiological studies of genetic and environmental risks (Denmark and Sweden), molecular genetic studies and characterization of genes implicated in risk, and study of cross disorder risks for childhood-onset psychiatric conditions

**Type of Research:** Clinical/Translational

**Publications:**


Katherine Guttmann, MD, MBE
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Newborn Medicine

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 1185 5th Avenue, 6th Floor

Email: katherine.guttmann@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Guttmann conducts research focusing on ethics and communication with families of babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Ke Hao, PhD
Associate Professor of Genetics & Genomic Sciences

Institute Affiliation:
Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Icahn Institute of Genomic and Multiscale Biology

Lab/Location:
Icahn L3-39

Email: ke.hao@mssm.edu

Research Interests:
The Hao lab focuses on integrative genomics and xQTLs of disease relevant tissue, health effect of environmental toxin exposure during early life and detection and genotyping structure alternation (SV) in cancer and germline genome, and SV-based association studies.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Hala Harony-Nicolas, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience

Institute Affiliation:
Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment, Mindich Child Health and Development Institute, Friedman Brain Institute

Lab/Location: 1468 Madison Ave, Annenberg 22-38A

Email: Hala.Harony-Nicolas@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Harony-Nicolas research interest focus on understating the mechanisms underlying social behavior deficits in autism spectrum disorder and the implication of the hypothalamic oxytocin system in neurodevelopmental disorders.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Peter Heeger, MD
Professor of Medicine
(Nephrology)

Institute Affiliations:
Immunology Institute; Recanati Miller Transplant Institute
(Director of Research)

Lab/Location: Annenberg 21-32
Email: peter.heeger@mssm.edu

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:


Carol R. Horowitz MD, MPH
Professor, Department of Population Health Science and Policy
Professor, Department of Medicine
Co-Director, Center for Health Equity and Community Engaged Research

Lab/Location: East Building 2-42
Email: carol.horowitz@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Horowitz is a health services researcher and practicing general internist who has been PI and investigator part of numerous NIH, CDC and PCORI grants related to chronic disease prevention and control, and has implemented and evaluated programs to improve the quality of care and outcomes of diverse populations of adults with diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease and other health conditions through clinical and community programs.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Megan K. Horton,
PhD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research; 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:


Laura Huckins, PhD
Assistant Professor of Genetics & Genomic Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Charles Bronfman Institute for Personalized Medicine

Lab/Location: Icahn L3-35

Email: laura.huckins@mssm.edu

Research Interests: We develop and apply complex statistical algorithms to probe the genetic, epigenetic, and higher-level multi-omic basis of understudied psychiatric disorders and trajectories. My lab will focus on historically under-studied and vulnerable populations, including anorexia nervosa (AN), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), autism spectrum disorder, and OCD.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Yuval Itan, PhD
Assistant Professor of Human Disease Genomics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg building, 18-85

Email: yuval.itan@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Itan has focused on developing computational methods to identify mutations and genes underlying human disease in whole genome and whole exome sequencing data, applying approaches across machine learning, population genetics, biostatistics, computational biology, bioinformatics and more.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Ethylin Wang Jabs, MD
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:


Magdalena Janecka, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

**Institute Affiliation:** Mindich Child Health and Development Institute, Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment

**Lab/Location:** 17 East 102nd

**Email:** magdalena.janecka@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** Dr. Janecka has focused on the epidemiology of neurodevelopmental disorders in order to identify parental and early-life risk factors.

**Type of Research:** Basic/Translational

**Publications:**


Allan C. Just, PhD
Assistant Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: CAM D3-131
Email: allan.just@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Just's research focuses on molecular epidemiologic approaches to children's environmental health using high-dimensional satellite and epigenomic data to develop exposure models and novel biomarkers. He links common environmental exposures, including phthalates and air pollution with children's health outcomes including gestational age, growth, and obesity.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Alex Kolevzon, MD
Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics;
Clinical Director, Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment

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


Amy R. Kontorovich, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cardiology
Medical Director of Adult Cardiovascular Genetics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; The Zena and Michael A. Wiener Cardiovascular Institute

Lab/Location: Hess CSM 8-301
Email: amy.kontorovich@mountsinai.org

Research Interests: Dr. Kontorovich’s research centers on identifying novel genetic factors underlying various cardiovascular diseases. One focus is on the role of human genetic factors in the pathogenesis of myocarditis, recently including that due to COVID-19. We use human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived cardiomyocytes and CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing to model viral-induced myocardial injury in vitro, as well as genomic studies in affected patient cohorts. Another focus is in studying the natural history, penetrance and prevalence of heritable transthyretin amyloidosis, seeking to identify and characterize novel clinical features in genetically at-risk individuals that herald the onset of this disease through studies involving genomics, genetic epidemiology and population genetics, along with biomarker discovery and advanced cardiac imaging.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Robert S. Krauss, PhD
Professor of Cell, 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, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology) and Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Science

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

Lab/Location: Atran-Berg AB4-10

Email: luca.lambertini@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Lambertini’s research is focused on the identification and characterization of the epigenetics underpinnings of insulin production and pancreatic beta cell replication.

Type of Research: Basic

Publications:


Philip J. Landrigan, MD, M.Sc., D.I.H.
Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health; Professor of Pediatrics and Dean for Global Health

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research; Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 21-102
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 is currently studying the impacts of global pollution on child health and co-chairs a Lancet Commission on Pollution & Health.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Shelley H. Liu, PhD
Assistant Professor, Center for Biostatistics, Department of Population Health Science and Policy

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 1425 Madison Ave, 2nd Floor

Email: shelley.liu@mountsinai.org

Research Interests: Dr. Liu is a biostatistician, focusing on longitudinal data analysis, Bayesian statistics, latent class analysis and statistical issues arising from cohort studies. She is interested in developing statistical methods for environmental health research, such as estimating the health effects associated with exposure mixtures, and identifying critical time windows of vulnerability.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Ruth J.F. Loos, PhD
Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health;
Director, Genetics of Obesity and Related Metabolic Traits Program

Institution Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research;
Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 18-80
Email: ruth.loos@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Loos’ 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 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:


Roberto Lucchini, MD
Director, Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
Professor of Preventive Medicine

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research

Lab/Location: CAM D3-112
Email: roberto.lucchini@mssm.edu

**Research Interests:** 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:**


Florence L. Marlow, PhD
Associate Professor of Cell, Development, and Regenerative Biology

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 525 Annenberg
Email: florence.marlow@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Marlow has focused on development and function of the reproductive system, fertility, and the maternal factors that govern normal development and patterning of the embryonic axes and organ systems and neurodegenerative pathologies.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:
Romano S, Kaufman OH, Marlow FL. Loss of dmrt1 restores female fates in the absence of cyp19a1a but not rbpms2a/b.. Development. 2020 Sept 28; bioRxiv 2020/009522


Marek Mlodzik, PhD
Professor and Chair, Department of Developmental and Regenerative Biology

Institute Affiliation: Friedman Brain Institute, Mindich Child Health and Development Institute, Tisch Cancer Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 18th floor

Email: marek.mlodzik@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Interests of the Mlodzik lab focus on the regulation of Wnt-Planar Cell Polarity (PCP) signaling and its involvement in embryonic development and organogenesis, utilizing a combination of Drosophila genetics and cell biology state-of-the-art techniques to dissect the molecular framework underlying cell polarity and patterning aspects of PCP during development and disease.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Research Interests: The goal of Dr. Morishita's research is to identify the cortical mechanisms of developmental critical periods to establish (1) perception and (2) cognition such as attention and social cognition relevant to neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders. We take an integrated approach combining molecular, anatomical, imaging, electrophysiological, and behavior methodologies using mouse models.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


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, MD
Professor of Pediatrics (Endocrinology) and Genetics & Genomic Sciences
Director, Adrenal Steroid Disorders Program

Lab/Location: Annenberg 4th Floor
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:


Jeffrey H. Newcorn, MD
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:


Coro Paisán-Ruiz, PhD
Associate 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: The Paisán-Ruiz laboratory focuses on the identification and characterization of genes underlying Parkinson’s disease, parkinsonism, tremor, and other complex forms of movement disorders. We employ state-of-the-art molecular genetic techniques, such as whole genome sequencing, whole transcriptome, and single cell RNA sequencing, and conduct cellular and animal work to functionally characterize newly identified genes and mutations. We also use CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing to model recessive parkinsonism genes in the zebrafish nervous system.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Dalila Pinto, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, and Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Institution Affiliations: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute; Seaver Autism Center, Friedman Brain Institute, 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 and schizophrenia. By using a combination of innovative high-throughput experimental and bioinformatics approaches, her lab maps and characterizes various forms of genetic variation (copy number 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 19-66

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, MD
Professor of Pediatrics and Director of the Division of Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes

Lab/Location: Annenberg 4 Room 4-81
Email: robert.rapaport@mounsinai.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:


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, MD
Professor of Cell, Developmental & Regenerative Biology and 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:**


Jeffrey M. Saland, MD, MSCR
Associate Professor of Pediatrics (Nephrology) and Division Chief of Nephrology

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Icahn 6-10A
Email: jeff.saland@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Saland participates in local and multicenter clinical studies of chronic kidney disease. Areas of interest include lipoprotein metabolism, and cardiovascular complications in children with CKD. Dr. Saland has developed treatment for atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome and is engaged in clinical trials to treat primary hyperoxaluria.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Hugh A. Sampson, MD
Kurt Hirshhorn Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy & Immunology)

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

Lab/Location: Icahn 11-26
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:


Alison P. Sanders, PhD, MS
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics & Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg, 14-30
Email: alison.sanders@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Sanders studies developmental nephrotoxicology with a focus on in utero toxic metals exposure, shorter gestation, children’s blood pressure, and immature renal development. Her group uses high-dimensional modeling approaches to examine how environmental mixtures and complex microRNA signaling contribute to renal health and disease.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Research Interests:
Dr. Satlin's developmental renal physiology lab focuses on exploring the role of variations in urinary flow rate in the mechanoregulation of ion channels and transport proteins in the kidney in health and disease, unraveling the molecular mechanisms underlying the ability of the maturing kidney to adjust sodium and potassium balance during periods of somatic growth, and developing physiologically appropriate 3D bioprinted distal renal tubules-on-a-chip.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Kurt P. Schulz, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

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

Research Interests: Dr. Schulz has a long record of translational research on the pathophysiology of neurodevelopmental disorders and the identification of biomarkers for treatment response. His research has focused on the role of prefrontal cortex maturation as a mechanism for the recovery from ADHD and the therapeutic actions of stimulant and non-stimulant medications for ADHD on these prefrontal processes.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Donald Scott, PhD  
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 glucose-responsive transcription factors, including ChREBP and Myc. These studies provide a glimpse into how cells respond to varying metabolic environments, which is applicable to a wide range of metabolic diseases, including diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and aging.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Andrew Sharp, PhD
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:


Eyal Shemesh, MD  
Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry;  
Division Chief of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics  

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

**Lab/Location:** Icahn 6th Floor, L6-13

**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, MD  
Professor of Pediatrics (Allergy and Immunology) and Division Chief of Allergy;  
Medical Director,  
Clinical Research Center  

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

Lab/Location: Icahn L6-87  

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:  
Paige Siper, PhD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Chief Psychologist of the Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: 1428 Madison Avenue, E Level, Room 22

Email: paige.siper@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Siper’s lab combines electrophysiological approaches and comprehensive phenotyping to identify biological and bio-behavioral markers of idiopathic and single-gene causes of autism spectrum disorder.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Siper P.M.†, De Rubeis, S.†, Trelles, M.P., Durkin, A., Di Marino, D., Muratet, F., et al. Prospective investigation of FOXP1 syndrome. 2017; Molecular Autism 57 (8), 1-16.

Philippe M. Soriano, PhD
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:


Soriano P. Intersectional gene inactivation: there is more to conditional mutagenesis than Cre. Sci China Life Sci. 2018 Sep;61(9):1115-1117.

Andrew F. Stewart, MD
Irene and Dr. Arthur M. Fishberg Professor of Medicine

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

Lab/Location: Atran 5

Email: andrew.stewart@mssm.edu

Research Interests: The Stewart lab is interested in drug discovery for human beta cell and expansion of human pancreatic beta cells for regenerative and replacement therapies for Types 1 and 2 diabetes mellitus.

Type of Research: Basic

Publications:


Research Interests: Dr. Stroustrup's research focuses on modifiable causes of adverse outcomes following preterm birth or neonatal illness. 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, PhD
Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research; 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:


Research Interests: Dr. Teitelbaum is a classically trained environmental and cancer epidemiologist with extensive experience in conducting epidemiologic field studies, assessing complex environmental exposures and performing advanced statistical analysis of large epidemiologic data sets. Her research focuses on the influence of the environment on children's health as well as breast cancer.

Type of Research: Epidemiology

Publications:


Rebecca Trachtman, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology, Department of Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute
Lab/Location: Icahn, L6-94

Email: rebecca.trachtman@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Trachtman's research focuses on the biomarkers and patient-reported outcomes in juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


M. Pilar Trelles, MD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

Institute Affiliation: Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment, Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Seaver Autism Center, Atran-E level

Email: pilar.trelles@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Trelles is interested in using community-based approaches to address autism care inequalities and improve ethnic disparities in autism genomic research.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


De Rubeis S; Siper PM; Durkin A; Weissman A; Muratet F; Halpern D; Trelles MP; Frank Y; Lozano R; Wang T; Holder Jr. J; Betancur C; Buxbaum J; Kolevzon A. Delineation of the genetic and clinical spectrum of Phelan-McDermid syndrome caused by SHANK3 point mutations. Mol Autism. 2018 Apr 27;9: 31.
Ernest Turro, PhD  
Associate Professor of Genetics and Genomic Sciences  

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute  
Lab/Location: Hess CSM 8-119  
Email: ernest.turro@mssm.edu  

Research Interests: Dr. Turro’s research focuses on the development and application of statistical methods for interpreting genomic and phenotypic data. He has a strong interest in understanding the genetic basis of rare hereditary diseases, particularly blood-related disorders.  

Type of Research: Basic/Translational  

Publications:  


Dr. Vangeepuram aims to lead national efforts to prevent and treat conditions disproportionately impacting ethnic-minority youth and their families, by leveraging the assets of community-academic partnerships. Her Career Development Award (K23) and current R03 support a study using community-based participatory research, in addition to other novel methods (peer education and mobile health technologies), to develop models for the prevention of Type 2 diabetes among at-risk East Harlem youth and adults. I have specific experience in collaborating with community stakeholders to develop and implement health surveys, interventions, and disease prevention programs, and in conducting quantitative and qualitative research.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Alfin G. Vicencio, MD
Professor of Pediatrics (Pulmonology) Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs and Strategy for the Department of Pediatrics, and Division Chief for Pediatric Pulmonology

Lab/Location: 5 East 98th Street, 10th Floor
Email: alfin.vicencio@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Vicencio is investigating subclinical 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:


Rachel Vreeman, MD, MS  
Chair, Department of Global Health and Health System Design  
Professor, Department of Pediatrics  
Director, Arnhold Institute for Global Health  

Institute Affiliation: Arnhold Institute for Global Health  
Lab/Location: 1216 Fifth Avenue, Suite 565

Email: rachel.vreeman@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Vreeman’s research focuses on improving healthcare for children and adolescents living with HIV within resource-limited settings. She is an international expert on children's adherence to HIV therapy, disclosure of HIV status, mental health and stigma challenges for adolescents living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Ryan Walker, PhD, MS
Assistant Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Institute Affiliation: Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Lab/Location: 1240 Park Avenue, 1-3

Email: ryan.walker@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Walker is a clinical obesity and type 2 diabetes scientist with expertise in nutrition, exercise physiology and the genetics of metabolic disorders. He studies the relationships between diet, the environment, the gut microbiome and health to establish targets for interventions that reduce disease risk.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Bien SA, Wojcik GL ... Walker R.... Kenny EE, Carlson CS, on behalf of PAGE Study. Strategies for Enriching Variant Coverage in Candidate Disease Loci on a Multiethnic Genotyping Array. *PLOS ONE*. 2016 Dec 14;11(12):e0167758

Martin J. Walsh, PhD
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:


Jianlong Wang, PhD
Associate Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology

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

Lab/Location: Atran 7-10D

Email: jianlong.wang@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Our lab studies the molecular mechanisms underlying pluripotency and reprogramming. We employ both proteomic and genomic approaches to study protein interaction and transcriptional regulatory networks that govern stem cell pluripotency and somatic cell reprogramming. Insights from these studies will facilitate efficient generation and optimal propagation of pluripotent cells for disease therapeutics and regenerative medicine.

Website: www.stemcellwanglab.com

Type of Research: Basic

Publications:


Julie Wang, MD
Professor of Pediatrics
(Allergy and Immunology)

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

Lab/Location: Icahn 6

Email: julie.wang@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Wang’s research interests include novel therapeutics for food allergy as well as epidemiology and management of food allergy.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Research Interests: Dr. Webb's research has focused on gene discovery for rare congenital anomalies. She currently has an NIH grant to study mitochondrial aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase disorders, including MARS2 deficiency, by creating cellular models of these diseases with CRISPR/Cas9 technology and by employing RNA-seq and network analysis. She is also an investigator in the Pediatric Precision Medicine initiative.

Type of Research: Basic/Translational

Publications:


Karen M. Wilson, MD, MPH, F.A.A.P.
Debra and Leon Black Division Chief and Professor of General Pediatrics, and Vice-Chair for Clinical and Translational Research

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute, Tisch Cancer Institute

Lab/Location: 1184 5th Ave, 6th Floor

Email: karen.wilson@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Wilson studies the impact of secondhand tobacco and marijuana smoke on children, and how to help parents reduce their children’s exposures to reduce or prevent respiratory illness.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Mary S. Wolff, PhD
Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health and Oncological Sciences

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research

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, MD, MPH
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental Medicine and Public Health; Professor of Pediatrics; Director, Institute for Exposomic Research

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research
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, MD, MPH
Professor of Pediatrics (Pulmonology) and Environmental Medicine and Public Health; Dean for Translational Biomedical Sciences, Department of Pediatrics

Institute Affiliation: Institute for Exposomic Research

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

Research Interests: Dr. Wright has a primary interest in lifecourse epidemiology and in particular early life (prenatal and early childhood) programming of chronic disorders including asthma, obesity, neurodevelopment, and lung growth. This work focuses on population-based studies considering the role of both social (e.g., psychological stress, community violence), dietary, and physical (e.g., air pollution, allergens, chemicals) environmental factors explaining health disparities. The lab also examines underlying programming mechanisms including autonomic and neuroendocrine functioning, immune disruption, epigenetics and mitochondriomics.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Anusha K. Yeshokumar, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Neurology

Institute Affiliation: Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Lab/Location: Annenberg 14-10

Email: anusha.yeshokumar@mssm.edu

Research Interests: Dr. Yeshokumar’s research focuses on understanding outcomes after autoimmune encephalitis and identifying clinical and biologic factors associated with these outcomes.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:


Ali N. Zaidi, MD, FACC  
Associate Professor, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics  
Director, Mount Sinai Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center, Mount Sinai  
Cardiovascular Institute  
Director, Academic Affairs and Transition Program, Children’s Heart Center at Mount Sinai  
Kravis Children’s Hospital

Institute Affiliation: Mount Sinai Cardiovascular Institute

Email: ali.zaidi@mountsinai.org

Research Interests: Dr. Zaidi’s research focuses on neurocognitive dysfunction in adolescents and adults with congenital heart disease and pulmonary hypertension in CHD.

Type of Research: Clinical/Translational

Publications:  


Kay WA, Moe T, Suter B, Tennancour A, Chan A, Krasuski RA, Zaidi AN. Long Term Consequences of the Fontan Procedure and How to Manage Them. Prog Cardiovasc Dis. 2018 Sep 17

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