

The Mindich Child Health and Development Institute

Annual Report 2015



The Mindich Child Health and Development Institute (MCHDI) is a translational research enterprise with the mission of advancing knowledge and therapies for diseases affecting infants, children, and adolescents. Led by Bruce D. Gelb, MD, the MCHDI provides an intellectually rich and supportive environment for fostering collaborative scientific investigation and Mount Sinai's "bench to bedside" philosophy, as well as training the next generation of scientific leaders in pediatric medicine.

Physician-scientists and scientists at the MCHDI work in a multidisciplinary manner with researchers and physicians in various departments and institutes at Mount Sinai. Together, we strive toward the objectives of developing robust paradigms for understanding the effects of genetics and environment on the health of infants, children and adolescents, and personalizing pediatric medicine through genetics and genomics.

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Message from the Director

I am pleased to present our institute's major highlights and developments of 2015. With funding from the National Institutes of Health increasing at a slow and steady rate across the country, our faculty are consistently surpassing national averages in grant funding. This year, the Mindich Child Health and Development Institute (MCDHI) faculty members received over \$20 million in new grants, more than double that of last year. Our commitment to progressing child health research in multiple areas including allergy & asthma, cardiovascular disease, neurodevelopmental disorders, obesity & diabetes, and more resulted in over 320 publications this past year. Understanding the molecular events leading to obesity, challenging the current paradigm in cardiac stem cell research, developing a blood test to predict the severity of allergic reactions, and designing a cognitive-behavioral intervention program to improve social cognitive skills in children with autism spectrum disorder are just some examples of breakthrough research pioneered by our scientists and physician-scientists. The MCHDI also welcomed three new outstanding faculty members who have joined our team including Nadia Micali, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Allan C. Just, PhD, Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine, and Dani Dumitriu, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Neuroscience and Resident in Pediatrics.

Furthermore, two of our MCHDI faculty received a total of \$20 million in funding from two out of three components of the Child Health Environmental Assessment Resource (CHEAR) program. Dr. Robert O. Wright is the recipient of the \$10 million CHEAR grant for the Laboratory Network Hub, while Dr. Chris Gennings is co-leading the Data Center, funded by the second CHEAR grant of \$10 million. The purpose of CHEAR is to promote children's health research focused on gene-environment interactions from pre-natal to post-natal development. Their studies will provide a comprehensive mapping of the "exposome" and further define the association between genetics/epigenetics and chemical, physical, biological, lifestyle, and social stressors.

Our 2015 annual report follows the accomplishments of our faculty and reaffirms our mission to create a collaborative network of researchers. We have started implementing our strategic planning process, seeking valuable input from trainees and faculty to guide our vision as a new institute and establish a sustainable organizational model. As we close in on another successful year, the MCHDI will continue to be at the forefront of pediatric research while focusing on improving existing programs, broadening our research goals, and reinforcing our long-term strategic plan.

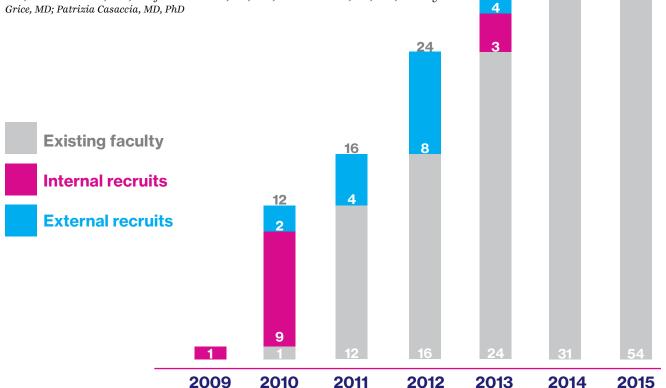
Bruce D. Gelb, Director

Faculty Growth

In 2015, we added two new external and one internal faculty members to the MCHDI family, bringing our total number to 57 scientists and physician-scientists across the disciples of Allergy & Asthma, Cardiovascular Disease, Neurodevelopmental Disorders, Obesity & Diabetes, and more.



MCHDI faculty members from left to right. First Row L-R: David Dunkin, MD; Jaime Chu, MD; Supinda Bunyavanich, MD, MPH; Shanna H. Swan, PhD; Dalila Pinto, PhD; Nadia Micali, MD, PhD; Second Row L-R: Yong Zhao, PhD, MD; Rupangi C. Vasavada, PhD; Adolfo García-Ocaña, PhD; Donald K. Scott, PhD; M. Cecilia Berin, PhD; Ross L. Cagan, PhD; Bruce D. Gelb, MD; Nicole C. Dubois, PhD; Megan K. Horton, PhD, MPH; Annemarie Stroustrup, MD, MPH; Andrew J. Sharp, PhD; Martin J. Walsh, PhD; Hirofumi Morishita, MD, PhD; Dani Dumitriu, MD, PhD; Dorothy E. Grice, MD; Patrizia Casaccia, MD, PhD



 $Breakdown\ of\ new\ faculty\ recruits\ since\ our\ inception\ in\ 2009.\ In\ 2015,\ our\ institute\ recruited\ three\ new\ external\ and\ internal\ faculty\ members.$

57 Total

24

31

New Faculty

New External Faculty



Nadia Micali, MD, MRCPsych, PhD, FAED

Dr. Nadia Micali is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and a clinician-scientist who will be developing a research and clinical program within the Center of Excellence for Eating and Weight Disorders under the direction of Tom Hildebrandt, PhD. Most recently, Dr. Micali was a Senior Lecturer in the Brain and Behavior Sciences Unit at the University College of London Institute of Child Health and an Honorary Child Psychiatrist in feeding and eating disorders at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Dr. Micali received her MD from the University of Messina School of Medicine in Italy, and her PhD from the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London. She trained in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, with

a specialty in Eating Disorders at the Maudsley Hospital and Institute of Psychiatry, London, UK. She is also a trained epidemiologist. Over the course of her career, Dr. Micali has written over 80-peer reviewed papers and has given over 50 lectures and presentations around the world. She serves as an elected executive member of several societies, including the Eating Disorders Faculty, Royal College of Psychiatrists, the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Surveillance System, and the Eating Disorders Research Society (of which she is currently President). Dr. Micali is also an active member of the Academy of Eating Disorders.

Dr. Micali's research focuses on understanding biological and intergenerational risk for eating disorders using a developmental perspective. Her research has investigated the epidemiology of adolescent eating disorders and behaviors and their etiology, including biological and intergenerational risk; the biological and neuropsychological basis of 'at risk' status; and pregnancy and reproductive outcomes. The impact of Dr. Micali's research is underscored by her role on editorial boards of top journals in the field, including *European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, the *European Eating Disorders Review*, and *Advances in Eating Disorders: Research, Therapy and Practice*.

Dr. Micali's contributions to the field of eating disorders have been recognized by several awards, most notably a prestigious fellowship by the Academy of Eating Disorders and her election as 2015 President of the Eating Disorders Research Society. She has also been appointed as a special advisor on the UK National Institute of Clinical Excellence Antenatal Mental Health Guideline Development Group that developed guidelines for the identification and treatment of

eating disorders in pregnancy. Dr. Micali is also extremely committed to training and education and helped establish a Master's Degree in Eating Disorders at University College London, the only such degree in the world.

Allan C. Just, PhD

Dr. Allan C. Just is an Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Dr Just is an environmental epidemiologist with interests in children's environmental health, computational methods for epigenomics, environmental epigenomics, endocrine disrupting compounds, and air pollution modeling using satellite data. He received his PhD in

Environmental Health Sciences from Columbia University in 2012. Since 2012 he completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Environmental Epigenetics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Dr Just is a past recipient of an EPA STAR graduate fellowship for his dissertation work on phthalate mixtures and children's respiratory health and was awarded a K99/R00 grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences entitled "Prenatal Exposure to Endocrine Disrupters, DNA Methylation, and Childhood Obesity" (R00ES023450). His R00 grant is based in the Mexico City cohort of the Programming Research in Obesity, Growth, Environment, and Social Stressors (PROGRESS) study as well as the Programming of Intergenerational Stress Mechanisms (PRISM) study. He is collaborating with the National Institute of Public Health, Mexico and the Mexican Center for Research in Geography and Geomatics on a grant from the Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACyT) that addresses air pollution and health using the Mexican National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (ENSANUT). He is also in the coordinating groups for several epigenomic meta-analyses as part of the Prenatal and Childhood Epigenetics (PACE) consortium and the Cohorts for Heart and Aging Research in Genomic Epidemiology (CHARGE) consortium.

New Internal Faculty



Dani Dumitriu, MD, PhD

Dr. Dani Dumitriu is an Assistant Professor in Neuroscience and Resident in Pediatrics. Following the completion of the MD/PhD Program at Mount Sinai, she matched into the Pediatrics residency and successfully negotiated a custom-tailored residency program with significant protected research time. She is currently a PGYIII and devotes approximately 50% effort to her medical training and 50% effort to running her lab. Her research focuses on understanding the neurobiological basis for resilience, i.e. the brain wiring that gives some individuals the ability to withstand adversity. Her lab currently uses a mouse model of social defeat in order to elucidate the pre-existing neural networks that render roughly one

third of the population immune to this type of stress. This question is being addressed with a combination of behavioral tasks, identification of neuronal subnetworks using anterograde and retrograde viruses, high resolution confocal microscopy of dendritic spines, resting state fRMI, quantitative whole-brain immunohistochemistry, graph theory analysis of network dynamics, electrophysiology and optogenetics. Following identification of resiliency networks, she plans to study developmental interference of these circuits by psychological and toxicological stressors. Her ultimate goal is to pioneer *developmental neuroprevention* by creating tools that will protect and enhance resiliency in children.

Faculty Research Areas

Asthma and Allergy



M. Cecilia Berin, MD (Associate Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Immune mechanisms of food allergy and regulation of immune tolerance
Faculty Interactions: Rosalind J. Wright, David Dunkin, Hugh A. Sampson, Scott H. Sicherer, Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn



Supinda Bunyavanich, MD, MPH (Assistant Professor, Pediatrics & Genetics and Genomic Sciences)
Research Areas: Integrative genomics of asthma and allergic diseases
Faculty Interactions: Hugh A. Sampson, Andrew J. Sharp, Scott H. Sicherer, Xiu-Min Li



Xiu-Min Li, MD (Professor, Pediatrics)

Research Areas: Integrative medicine for induction of immune tolerance for food allergy, asthma and Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Faculty Interactions: Hugh A. Sampson, Julie Wang, Madhan Masilamani, Scott H. Sicherer, Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn, Jia Chen, Martin J. Walsh, David Dunkin, Supinda Bunyavanich



Madhan Masilamani, PhD (Associate Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Food allergy, anti-inflammatory phytochemicals, T cell peptide immunotherapy
Faculty Interactions: Hugh A. Sampson, Xiu-Min Li, Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn



Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn, MD (Associate Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Food allergy, FPIES, oral immunotherapy, anaphylaxis, milk and egg allergy
Faculty Interactions: Hugh A. Sampson, Scott H. Sicherer, Julie Wang, M. Cecilia Berin, Madhan
Masilamani, Xiu-Min Li



Hugh A. Sampson, MD (Kurt Hirshhorn Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Immunopathogenesis of food allergy and anaphylaxis
Faculty Interactions: M. Cecilia Berin, Madhan Masilamani, Supinda Bunyavanich, David Dunkin,
Scott H. Sicherer, Xiu-Min Li, Julie Wang, Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn



Scott H. Sicherer, MD (Elliot and Roslyn Jaffe Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Food allergy epidemiology, treatments, natural course, quality of life
Faculty Interactions: Eyal Shemesh, Supinda Bunyavanich, M. Cecilia Berin, Hugh A. Sampson,
Julie Wang, Xiu-Min Li, Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn

$Asthma\ and\ Allergy$ continued



Julie Wang, MD (Associate Professor, Pediatrics)

Research Areas: Novel therapeutics for food allergy, epidemiology and management of food allergy in minority, urban populations

Faculty Interactions: Hugh A. Sampson, Scott H. Sicherer, Xiu-Min Li, Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn



Rosalind J. Wright (Dean, Translational Biomedical Research; Director, Clinical and Translational Science Award; Horace W. Goldsmith Professor, Children's Health Research; Professor, Pediatrics & Preventive Medicine)

Research Areas: Developmental epidemiology, environmental and chemical exposures, social and psychological influences in neurodevelopmental diseases, health disparities

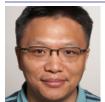
Faculty Interactions: Robert O. Wright, Manish Arora, Allan C. Just, Chris Gennings, Annemarie Stroustrup, M. Cecilia Berin, Jia Chen

Cardiovascular Disease



Harold S. Bernstein, MD, PhD (Adjunct Professor, Pediatrics)

Research Areas: Drug development (target validation through clinical proof of concept); heart failure, metabolic syndrome, diabetes, thrombosis, chronic kidney disease Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb



Chen-Leng Cai, PhD (Associate Professor, Developmental and Regenerative Biology) Research Areas: Heart development and regeneration Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Nicole C. Dubois, Yong Zhao, Anne Moon, Martin J. Walsh



Nicole C. Dubois, PhD (Assistant Professor, Developmental and Regenerative Biology) Research Areas: Genetics of cardiovascular disease, stem cell research Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Yong Zhao, Chen-Leng Cai, Robert S. Krauss, James J. Bieker, Andrew J. Sharp, Martin J. Walsh, Valerie Gouon-Evans, Michael Rendl



Bruce D. Gelb, MD (Gogel Family Professor and Director, Mindich Child Health and Development Institute: Professor, Pediatrics & Genetics and Genomic Sciences) Research Areas: Genetics of cardiovascular diseases, stem cell research Faculty Interactions: Joseph D. Buxbaum, Ross L. Cagan, Chen-Leng Cai, Nicole C. Dubois, Megan K. Horton, Alex Kolevzon, Andrew J. Sharp, Yong Zhao, Dalila Pinto, Brian D. Brown, Harold S. Bernstein, Anne Moon



Anne Moon, MD (Adjunct Professor, Pediatrics)

Research Areas: Developmental biology of congenital heart disease and limb defects, functions of Tbx and Fibroblast Growth Factors

Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Chen-Leng Cai, Yong Zhao



Yong Zhao, MD, PhD (Assistant Professor, Genetic and Genomic Sciences)

Research Areas: Genetics and epigenetics of heart disease

Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Chen-Leng Cai, Nicole C. Dubois, Brian D. Brown, Anne Moon

Neurodevelopmental Disorders



Manish Arora, PhD, BDS, MPH (Associate Professor, Preventive Medicine & Dentistry)
Research Areas: Environmental epidemiology and exposure biology
Faculty Interactions: Robert O. Wright, Rosalind J. Wright, Hirofumi Morishita, Megan K. Horton,
Chris Gennings, Jia Chen, Allan C. Just, Yaron Tomer, Lisa M. Satlin, Annemarie Stroustrup, Shanna
Swan, Philip J. Landrigan, Jeffrey M. Saland, Avi Reichenberg, Mihaela Stefan



Joseph D. Buxbaum, PhD (Vice Chair, Research & Mentoring; Director, Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment; Professor, Psychiatry, Neuroscience, & Genetics and Genomic Sciences) Research Areas: Autism spectrum disorder, neurodevelopmental disorders, gene discovery, functional genetics, molecular and cellular neuroscience, cell and animal model systems Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Patrizia Casaccia, Dorothy E. Grice, Alex Kolevzon, Philip J. Landrigan, Hirofumi Morishita, Coro Paisán-Ruiz, Dalila Pinto, Avi Reichenberg, Andrew J. Sharp, Ross L. Cagan, Eyal Shemesh



Patrizia Casaccia, MD, PhD (Professor, Genetics and Genomic Sciences, Neuroscience, & Neurology)

Research Areas: Epigenetics, myelin formation and mechanisms of neurodegeneration in Multiple Sclerosis

Faculty Interactions: Andrew J. Sharp, Joseph D. Buxbaum, Dani Dumitriu



Jia Chen, ScD (Professor, Pediatrics, Preventive Medicine, Medicine, & Oncological Sciences)
Research Areas: Environmental epigenetics, molecular epidemiology
Faculty Interactions: Robert O. Wright, Manish Arora, Rosalind J. Wright, Luca Lambertini, Xiu-Min Li, Andrew J. Sharp



Dani Dumitriu, MD, PhD (Assistant Professor, Neuroscience)

Research Areas: Functional and structural connectomics underlying resilience to mouse social defeat

Faculty Interactions: Megan Horton, Hirofumi Morishita, Patrizia Casaccia, Vilma Gabbay, Lisa M. Satlin, Robert O. Wright



Megan K. Horton, PhD, MPH (Assistant Professor, Preventive Medicine)
Research Areas: Children's environmental health, exposure assessment, pediatric neuroimaging
Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Robert O. Wright, Chris Gennings, Annemarie Stroustrup, Allan
C. Just, Shanna H. Swan, Manish Arora, Dani Dumitriu



Alex Kolevzon, MD (Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Associate Professor, Psychiatry & Pediatrics)

Research Areas: Autism spectrum and other neurodevelopmental disorders
Faculty Interactions: Joseph D. Buxbaum, Bruce D. Gelb, Avi Reichenberg, Nadia Micali, Dalila
Pinto, Jeffrey M. Saland, Eyal Shemesh



Robert S. Krauss, PhD (Professor, Developmental and Regenerative Biology & Oncological Sciences

Research Areas: Hedgehog signaling and birth defects; muscle stem cells and regeneration Faculty Interactions: Nicole C. Dubois, Michael Rendl, James J. Bieker



Luca Lambertini, PhD, MPH (Assistant Professor, Preventive Medicine & Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Science)

Research Areas: Placental biomarkers of altered fetal and child development Faculty Interactions: Jia Chen, Yaron Tomer, Andrew J. Sharp, Robert O. Wright

Neurodevelopmental Disorders continued



Philip J. Landrigan, MD, MSc (Professor, Preventive Medicine & Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Global environmental health, children's environmental health, drugs in development and therapeutics
Faculty Interactions: Robert O. Wright, Manish Arora, Joseph D. Buxbaum



Hirofumi Morishita, MD, PhD (Assistant Professor, Psychiatry, Opthamology & Neuroscience) **Research Areas**: Mechanisms of perceptual and cognitive development, drug repurposing for neurodevelopmental disorders

Faculty Interactions: Manish Arora, Joseph D. Buxbaum, Dani Dumitriu



Coro Paisán-Ruiz, PhD (Assistant Professor, Neurology, Psychiatry, & Genetics and Genomic Sciences)
Research Areas: Genetics of movement disorders, zebrafish models of neurodegeneration
Faculty Interactions: Joseph D. Buxbaum



Dalila Pinto, PhD (Assistant Professor, Psychiatry & Genetics and Genomic Sciences) **Research Areas:** Genetics and genomics of neurodevelopmental disorders (such as autism, epilepsy, intellectual disability), structural variation, transcriptomics, gene regulation, non-coding RNA

Faculty Interactions: Joseph D. Buxbaum, Alex Kolevzon, Bruce D. Gelb, Martin J. Walsh



Andrew J. Sharp, PhD (Associate Professor, Genetics and Genomic Sciences)

Research Areas: Epigenomics, transcriptomics, genome function, structural variation, imprinting, congenital disorders

Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Nicole C. Dubois, Patrizia Casaccia, Supinda Bunyavanich, Joseph D. Buxbaum, Jia Chen, Luca Lambertini



Annemarie Stroustrup, MD, MPH (Assistant Professor, Pediatrics & Preventive Medicine)
Research Areas: Neurodevelopment, perinatal environmental exposures
Faculty Interactions: Lisa M. Satlin, Robert O. Wright, Rosalind J. Wright, Shanna H. Swan, Megan K. Horton, Allan C. Just, Manish Arora, Chris Gennings



Shanna H. Swan, PhD (Professor, Preventive Medicine)
Research Areas: Prenatal exposures, sexually dimorphic development, phthalates, stress, anogenital distance, neurodevelopment, analgesics
Faculty Interactions: Avi Reichenberg, Chris Gennings, Manish Arora, Megan K. Horton, Allan C. Just, Annemarie Stroustrup, Dorothy E. Grice



Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Environmental causes of neurodevelopmental disorders and child obesity
Faculty Interactions: Rosalind J. Wright, Manish Arora, Chris Gennings, Philip J. Landrigan, Allan
C. Just, Megan K. Horton, Avi Reichenberg, Annemarie Stroustrup, Lisa M. Satlin, Jia Chen, Luca
Lambertini, Dani Dumitriu

Robert O. Wright, MD, MPH (Ethel Wise Professor and Chair, Preventive Medicine; Professor,

Obesity and Diabetes



Brian D. Brown, PhD (Associate Professor, Genetics and Genomic Sciences)
Research Areas: Immunology and immunotherapy, autoimmune disease, microRNA regulation, and biotechnology

Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Yong Zhao, Adolfo García-Ocaña



Ross L. Cagan, PhD (Associate Dean, Graduate School of Biological Sciences; Professor, Developmental and Regenerative Biology)

Research Areas: Drosophila as a tool to develop therapeutics for cancer, diabetes, and rare

mendelian diseases

Faculty Interactions: Bruce D. Gelb, Joseph D. Buxbaum



Adolfo García-Ocaña, PhD (Professor, Medicine)
Research Areas: Diabetes, pancreatic beta cell biology
Faculty Interactions: Rupangi C. Vasavada, Donald K. Scott, Yaron Tomer, Mihaela Stefan, Brian D.
Brown



Allan C. Just, PhD (Assistant Professor, Preventive Medicine)
Research Areas: Epigenomics, environmental exposures, endocrine disruptors, air pollution, obesity, birth outcomes
Faculty Interactions: Robert O. Wright, Rosalind J. Wright, Manish Arora, Chris Gennings, Annemarie Stroustrup, Shanna H. Swan, Megan Horton



Ruth J.F. Loos, PhD (Professor, Preventive Medicine)
Research Areas: Genetics of obesity and related cardiometabolic traits, genetic epidemiology, epidemiology

Faculty Interactions: Nadia Micali, Martin J. Walsh



Donald K. Scott, PhD (Professor, Medicine)
Research Areas: Obesity and diabetes
Faculty Interactions: Adolfo García-Ocaña, Rupangi C. Vasavada, Martin J. Walsh



Mihaela Stefan, PhD (Assistant Professor, Medicine)
Research Areas: Automimmune diseases, diabetes, epigenetics
Faculty Interactions: Yaron Tomer, Jaime Chu, Manish Arora, Adolfo García-Ocaña



Yaron Tomer, MD (Lillian and Henry M. Stratton Professor, Molecular Medicine)
Research Areas: Diabetes, thyroid autoimmunity
Faculty Interactions: Mihaela Stefan, Adolfo García-Ocaña, Manish Arora, Luca Lambertini

Obesity and Diabetes continued



Rupangi C. Vasavada, PhD (Associate Professor, Medicine & Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism Institute)

Research Areas: Diabetes, pancreatic beta cell biology, growth factors, cell signaling Faculty Interactions: Adolfo García-Ocaña, Donald K. Scott



Martin J. Walsh, PhD (Associate Professor, Pediatrics & Structural and Chemical Biology)
Research Areas: Chromatin biology and Gene transcription in cancer, early development and metabolism

Faculty Interactions: Nicole C. Dubois, Dalila Pinto, Donald K. Scott, Ruth J.F. Loos, Chen-Leng Cai, Xiu-Min Li

Psychiatric Disorders



Barbara Coffey, MD (Professor, Psychiatry)

Research Areas: Tic disorders, Tourette's disorder and its comorbid disorders including ADHD, OCD, trichotillomania, anxiety and depression, PANDAS, PANS.

Faculty Interactions: Vilma Gabbay, Dorothy E. Grice



Vilma Gabbay, MD (Associate Professor, Psychiatry & Neuroscience)
Research Areas: Pediatric mood disorders, neuroimaging
Faculty Interactions: Barbara Coffey, Eyal Shemesh, Dani Dumitriu



Dorothy E. Grice, MD (Associate Professor, Psychiatry & Neuroscience)

Research Areas: Genetic and epidemiological studies of OCD, Tourette disorder, autism and related childhood-onset neuropsychiatric disorders, prenatal exposures, including smoking, functional analysis of identified risk genes

Faculty Interactions: Avi Reichenberg, Joseph D. Buxbaum, Shanna H. Swan, Barbara Coffey



Nadia Micali, MD, MRCPsych, PhD, FAED (Associate Professor, Psychiatry)

Research Areas: Eating disorders development, risk factors (neurobiology, genetics, intergenerational risk), and outcomes; developmental aspects of eating behavior and obesity; epidemiology of childhood mental health disorders; childhood feeding disorders.

Faculty Interactions: Ruth J.F. Loos, Avi Reichenberg, Alex Kolevzon



Avi Reichenberg, PhD (Professor, Psychiatry & Preventive Medicine)
Research Areas: Autism, schizophrenia, other psychiatric disorders
Faculty Interactions: Joseph D. Buxbaum, Alex Kolevzon, Dorothy E. Grice, Robert O. Wright,
Manish Arora, Chris Gennings, Shanna H. Swan, Nadia Micali



Eyal Shemesh, MD (Associate Professor, Pediatrics and Psychiatry) **Research Areas:** Measurement and biological correlates of self-care behaviors. **Faculty Interactions:** Joseph D. Buxbaum, Alex Kolevzon, Vilma Gabbay, Scott H. Sicherer, Jeffrey M. Saland

Other Research Focuses



James J. Bieker, PhD (Professor, Developmental and Regenerative Biology)
Research Areas: Transcriptional regulation of gene expression in erythroid cells; derivation of marked stem cells

Faculty Interactions: Birte Wistinghausen, Robert S. Krauss, Nicole C. Dubois



Jaime Chu, MD (Assistant Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Disorders of glycosylation, cancer metabolism, liver fibrosis
Faculty Interactions: Mihaela Stefan



David Dunkin, MD (Assistant Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Tolerance induction and therapeutics in Inflammatory Bowel Disease
Faculty Interactions: Hugh A. Sampson, M. Cecilia Berin, Xiu-Min Li



Chris Gennings, PhD (Professor, Preventive Medicine & Population Health Science and Policy)
Research Areas: Biostatistical methods development for environmental health
Faculty Interactions: Robert O. Wright, Rosalind J. Wright, Megan K. Horton, Shanna H. Swan, Allan
C. Just, Manish Arora, Annemarie Stroustrup, Avi Reichenberg



Valerie Gouon-Evans, PhD (Assistant Professor, Developmental and Regenerative Biology & Medicine)
Research Areas: Liver development, regeneration and cancer, stem cell biology.
Faculty Interactions: Nicole C. Dubois, Michael Rendl



Michael Rendl, MD (Associate Professor, Developmental and Regenerative Biology & Dermatology)
Research Areas: Stem cells, hair regeneration, morphogenesis
Faculty Interactions: Valerie Gouon-Evans, Robert S. Krauss, Nicole C. Dubois



Jeffrey M. Saland, MD (Associate Professor, Pediatrics)
Research Areas: Kidney disease in children, lipoprotein metabolism in children with CKD, hemolytic uremic syndrome.
Faculty Interactions: Manish Arora, Eyal Shemesh, Alex Kolevzon, Lisa M. Satlin



Lisa M. Satlin, MD (Herbert H. Lehman Professor and Chair, Pediatrics)

Research Areas: Ontogeny and mechanoregulation of epithelial ion channels in secretory epithelia

Faculty Interactions: Annemarie Stroustrup, Robert O. Wright, Manish Arora, Jeffrey M. Saland,

Dani Dumitriu



Birte Wistinghausen, MD (Assistant Professor, Pediatrics) **Research Areas:** Pediatric and adolescent Non-Hodgkin-Lymphoma, immunodeficiency associated lymphomas, post-transplant lymphoproliferative syndrome **Faculty Interactions:** James J. Bieker

Awards and Publications

Awards

Manish Arora, PhD, MPH, International Association of Exposure Sciences (ISES), "Joan Daisey Award"

Joseph D. Buxbaum, PhD, Elected to the National Academy of Medicine

Jia Chen, ScD, Chairperson MEG Chairperson-Elect Nominating Committee Molecular Epidemiologic Group American Association of Cancer Research

Hirofumi Morishita, MD, PhD, Manish Arora, PhD, MPH, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, "Inaugural Faculty Innovative Collaborations-Idea Prize"

Select Publications

Andra SS, Austin C, **Wright RO, Arora M.** Reconstructing pre-natal and early childhood exposure to multi-class organic chemicals using teeth: Towards a retrospective temporal exposome. *Environ Int.* 2015 Oct;83:137-45.

Lohmann F, Dangeti M, Soni S, Chen X, Planutis A, Baron MH, ... **Bieker JJ.** The DEK oncoprotein is a critical component of the EKLF/KLF1 enhancer in erythroid cells. *Mol Cell Biol.* 2015 Nov 1;35(21):3726-38.

Siatecka M, Soni S, Planutis A, **Bieker JJ.** Transcriptional Activity of Erythroid Kruppel-like Factor (EKLF/KLF1) Modulated by Protein Inhibitor of Activated STAT3 (PIAS3). *J Biol Chem.* 2015 Apr 10;290(15):9929-40.

Järvinen KM, Westfall J, De Jesus M, Mantis NJ, Carroll JA, Metzger DW, **Sampson HA, Berin MC.** Role of Maternal Dietary Peanut Exposure in Development of Food Allergy and Oral Tolerance. *PLoS One.* 2015 Dec 10;10(12):e0143855.

Agudo J, Ruzo A, Park ES, Sweeney R, Kana V, Wu M, **Zhao Y, ... Brown BD.** GFP-specific CD8 T cells enable targeted cell depletion and visualization of T cell interactions with virtually any cell. *Nature Biotechnology.* 2015 Dec;33(12):1287-1292.

Kidd BA*, Wroblewska A*, Boland MR, Agudo J, Merad M, Tatonetti NP, **Brown BD**^, Dudley JT^. Mapping the effects of drugs on the immune system. *Nature Biotechnology.* 2015 Nov 30. *Equal contribution ^Co-corresponding authors.

Bunyavanich S, Schadt EE. Systems biology of asthma and allergic diseases: a multiscale approach. *J Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2015 Jan:135(1):31-42.

Sanders SJ, He X, Willsey AJ, Ercan-Sencicek AG, Samocha KE, Cicek AE, ... **Buxbaum JD**, Daly MJ, Devlin B, Roeder K, State MW. Insights into Autism Spectrum Disorder Genomic Architecture and Biology from 71 Risk Loci. *Neuron*. 2015 Sep 23;87(6):1215-33.

Soorya LV, Siper PM, Beck T, Soffes S, Halpern D, Gorenstein M, **Kolevzon A, Buxbaum J,** Wang, AT. Randomized comparative trial of a social cognitive skills group for children with autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.* 2015 Mar;54(3):208-216.e1.

Grodberg D, Siper P, Jamison J, **Buxbaum JD, Kolevzon A.** A Simplified Diagnostic Observational Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Early Childhood. *Autism Res.* 2015 Aug 25.

Na J, Sweetwyne MT, Park AS, Susztak K, **Cagan RL.** Diet-Induced Podocyte Dysfunction in Drosophila and Mammals. *Cell Rep.* 2015 Jul 28;12(4):636-47.

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Grants	Funding from	Funding from Existing
Agency	New Grants (\$)	& New Grants (\$)
National Institute Of Environmental Health Sciences/NIH/DHHS	\$11,104,733	\$13,357,393
Office of Research Infrastructure Programs/NIH/DHHS National Institute Of Diabetes And Digestive And Kidney Diseases/NIH/DHHS	\$2,000,000 \$1,178,493	\$2,000,000 \$3,229,522
National Institute Of Diabetes And Digestive And Ridney Diseases/NIH/DHHS National Institute Of Allergy And Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS	\$1,176,493 \$1,128,368	\$4,990,905
Albert Einstein College Of Medicine	\$655,167	\$655,167
Department Of The Army	\$566,601	\$566,601
National Heart, Lung, And Blood Institute/NIH/DHHS	\$453,446	\$2,816,789
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation	\$425,693	\$425,693
National Eye Institute/NIH/DHHS National Institute Of Dental And Craniofacial Research/NIH/DHHS	\$421,254 \$416,275	\$421,254 \$416,275
Biogen Idec Inc	\$410,261	\$410,261
Foundation for the NIH (FNIH)	\$249,763	\$249,763
Boston Children's Hospital	\$231,995	\$231,995
National Institute Of Child Health And Human Development/NIH/DHHS	\$224,187	\$1,549,355
National Multiple Sclerosis Society Food Allergy Research & Education	\$178,301 \$120,000	\$178,301 \$120,000
Human Frontier Science Program Organization	\$120,000	\$120,000
European Commission	\$75,625	\$75,625
American Heart Association - Founders Affiliate	\$66,000	\$66,000
St. Baldrick's Foundation	\$50,000	\$50,000
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	\$33,900	\$33,900 \$30,507
Stanley Medical Research Institute Brain and Behavior Research Foundation	\$32,507 \$30,000	\$32,507 \$30,000
Nestles Corporation	\$21,413	\$21,413
Weill (Joan And Sanford I.) Medical College Of Cornell University	\$19,952	\$19,952
Boston University	\$13,668	\$13,668
National Institute Of Mental Health/NIH/DHHS	_	\$3,811,809
National Cancer Institute/NIH/DHHS	_	\$1,813,947 \$1,319,741
National Institute Of Neurological Disorders And Stroke/NIH/DHHS Seaver Foundation		\$1,290,251
National Human Genome Research Institute/NIH/DHHS	_	\$1,073,505
National Institute Of Arthritis & Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases/NIH/DHHS	_	\$869,310
Dartmouth College	_	\$809,247
New York State Stem Cell Board	_	\$522,888
DBV Technologies Benaroya Research Institute At Virginia	_	\$414,880 \$385,692
University Of Pittsburgh	_	\$335,733
Food Allergy Initiative	_	\$298,919
University Of North Carolina	_	\$250,151
American Cancer Society, Inc.	_	\$240,000
March Of Dimes Queens College Of CUNY	_	\$200,001 \$186,877
Harvard School Of Public Health		\$154,628
University of Texas Health Center at San Antonio	_	\$143,844
Harvard University	_	\$109,638
American Diabetes Association	_	\$103,499
Bayer Hemophilia Human Frontiers Of Science Program	_	\$100,000 \$100,000
Washington University		\$86,115
New York University	_	\$53,603
Hirschl/Weill-Caulier Trust	_	\$35,000
Blacksmith Institute	_	\$34,988
UKCRC Centre for Diet and Activity Research (CEDAR)	_	\$33,232
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Tulane University	_	\$33,068 \$32,147
Seattle Children's Research Institute	_	\$20,342
Taisho Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	_	\$20,000
Columbia University	_	\$12,846
Total	\$20,220,102	\$46,970,740

Material Transfer Agreements

material framster figreements	Outgoing Material
Research Focus	Transfer Agreements (#)
Neurodevelopmental disorders	13
Cardiovascular disease	8
Diabetes and Obesity	22
Allergy and Asthma	1
Others	3
Total	47

Licenses

Licenses	Total Number
Antigens/Antibodies	9
Reagents/Methods/Tools	8
Genes	3
Therapeutics	1
Total	21

Pilot Program Awardees

The purpose of the pilot program is to provide MCHDI faculty with funding for initial stages of research projects with the goal of generating sufficient data to apply for larger, external grants. Projects were encouraged that were likely to: a) improve children's health, b) promote collaboration within the MCHDI, and c) leverage additional extramural funding for the Principal Investigators (PIs). Three innovative pilot projects impacting different aspects of children's health were selected to receive a one year internal grant of \$70,000 starting on January 1, 2016.



2015-2016 Pilot Program Recipients (from left to right): Martin J. Walsh, PhD; Dorothy E. Grice, MD; Hirofumi Morishita, MD, PhD

Pilot Projects Funded for 2016

▲ Project Title: "Nsun Family RNA Methyltransferases in Pluripotency, Reprogramming and Development"

Investigators: Martin J. Walsh, PhD, MCHDI Investigator and Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Structural & Chemical Biology, and Genetics and Genomics Sciences; Jianlong Wang, PhD, Associate Professor of Developmental and Regenerative Biology

▲ Project Title: "Maternal Effects in Childhood-Onset Psychiatric Disorders"

Investigators: Dorothy E. Grice, MD, MCHDI Investigator and Professor of Psychiatry; Joseph D. Buxbaum, PhD, MCHDI Investigator and Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience and Genetics & Genomic Sciences; Sven Sandin, PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

▲ Project Title: "Novel Tooth Matrix Biomarker For Neurodevelopmental Susceptibility"

Investigators: Hirofumi Morishita, MD, PhD, MCHDI Investigator and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience, and Ophthalmology; Manish Arora, PhD, BDS, MPH, MCHDI Investigator and Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine and Dentistry

Annual Retreat

Over 100 faculty and students attended MCHDI's 3rd Annual Retreat at the New York Academy of Medicine on November 18th. Researchers had the opportunity to present their work and receive valuable feedback, learn about the latest studies conducted within the institute, encourage research collaborations, and otherwise network among faculty and trainees. Finalists Elena Sanchez-Rodriguez, PhD (Coro Paisán-Ruiz's group) and Kathryn Manheimer, PhD candidate (Bruce D. Gelb's group) were chosen as the winners of the post-doctoral and predoctoral investigators competitions, respectively. This year's panel session, moderated by Dr. Ross L. Cagan, provided useful insight on the grant submission and review process. Following the panel, three newly awarded MCHDI pilot project recipients, Martin J. Walsh, PhD, Dorothy E. Grice, MD, and Hirofumi Morishita, MD presented the studies they will be undertaking in 2016. Finally, during the parent's perspective segment, John and Mary Mirkovic and their son John (JJ) shared the trials and tribulations their family experienced when JJ was born with congenital heart disease. Their journey reminded our researchers about the significance of their work and why they dedicate their careers to helping others like JJ have better outcomes with less invasive procedures.

See the full program for the Annual Retreat on the MCHDI website.

















Communications

The MCHDI delivers the latest updates on research advancements, events, and news, both internally and externally via various communications channels. Visit our website and social media platforms for more information:

Website ▲ Find information about our signature programs and events such as the annual retreat, pilot program, incubator series, grant review program, and child health research day on our website. Our annual reports, newsletters, and employment opportunities are also posted at www.mountsinai.org/mchdi

Newsletter • Our bi-annual newsletter is distributed internally to faculty, students, and other institute affiliates to highlight important research breakthroughs, publications, awards, and events within the MCHDI. See our latest newsletters featured on our MCHDI website.

Facebook ▲ Our official MCHDI Facebook page has close to 450 followers. Earlier this year, we launched a Child Health Social Media Campaign and polled our followers on their top three favorite child health topics. The topics that received the most votes were: 1) effects of environmental toxins 2) genetics of childhood diseases and 3) neurodevelopmental disorders. We are currently in Phase 2 of this campaign, asking our audience to submit specific questions on the selected topics. We have partnered with national health organizations such as the Children's Environmental Health Network and the Birth Defect Research for Children to promote this campaign. Visit our page at www.facebook.com/mindichchdi to follow our progress.

Twitter ▲ We are part of the Twitter community with tweets streaming on our website in real time. Follow or tweet to us @MindichCHDI or on our website at www.mountsinai.org/mchdi



From left to right: MCHDI website, newsletter, Facebook, and Twitter

Shared Resources

Grant Forward

Our institute sponsors Grant Forward subscriptions for all MCHDI faculty and trainees. Grant Forward is a pre-award funding database with a comprehensive list of federal, foundation, and other funding sources. It features a user-friendly search interface that allows



you to filter by sponsor, grant, or applicant type. Users can set up automated e-mails alerts of saved search results as well as a list of recommended grants based on researcher profiles and interests. Subscribers are able to access other MCHDI member profile pages or connect with external researchers with similar research interests. Webinars and tutorials are hosted once every month to introduce site features in detail.

Transdisciplinary Center on Health Effects of Early Environmental Exposures

The Transdisciplinary Center on Health Effects of Early Environmental Exposures (grant number P30 ES023515) was established in 2014 to address environmental health impacts leading to disease from infancy through adolescence. In line with MCHDI's research aims, the Center will focus on chronic illnesses such as asthma, neurodevelopmental disorders, obesity, and diabetes and the role of chemical, genetic, nutritional, and social exposures in disease risk. The Center offers several shared core facilities to support collaborative environmental health studies across disciplines. MCHDI members Dr. Robert O. Wright and Dr. Chris Gennings are the Program Director and Deputy Director respectively.

The P30 Core center supports 3 facility cores. The Integrated Health Sciences Facility Core (IHSFC), led by Dr. Robert O. Wright, offers expert consultation on standard as well as novel exposure, epigenetic, and mitochondrial biomarkers for environmental exposure studies. The IHSFC supports the Perinatal Biobank, directed by Dr. Rosalind J. Wright and co-sponsored by the Department of Preventive Medicine and the MCHDI. The Phenotyping and Stress Assessment Facility Core (PSAFC), led by MCHDI member Dr. Rosalind J. Wright, is based in the Department of Pediatrics and the MCHDI with additional members from the Seaver Autism Center and the Jaffe Food Allergy Institute. Pediatric physicians provide clinical consultations on disease phenotyping across multiple subspecialties and topics in pulmonology, allergy/ immunology, child psychiatry, metabolism, cardiology, and nephrology. Members will also have access to various tools, such as pulmonary function tests, neurodevelopmental and neurocognitive test procedures and other validated protocols to determine behavioral and physiological measures. The 3rd core on Epidemology/Statistics/Bioinformatics is led by Dr. Paolo Boffeta and Dr. Chris Gennings. This core provides consultative support for study design and data analysis in environmental health research. A Career Development core led by MCHDI member Dr. Lisa M. Satlin supports young investigators with resources and training relevant to environmental health research. Finally, the Community Engagement Core led by Dr. Carol Horowitz provides community translational and engagement activities designed to bring Mount Sinai's research in Environmental Health into public health practice in and around New York City.

The P30 center also has a pilot program with funding opportunities for multiple \$25K and \$70K pilot grants each year. Internal pilot funding will be used to support ideas leading to larger external National Institute of Health (NIH) grants. For more information on the Center's core facilities visit their website at tceee.icahn.mssm.edu/core-facilities/



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