The Research in Addiction Medicine Scholars (RAMS) Program

RAMS Co-Directors:

Patrick G. O’Connor, MD, MPH, FACP & Jeffrey Samet, MD, MA, MPH

Supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (R25DA033211)
Why RAMS?

- The U.S. has a shortage of physicians with clinical training in Addiction Medicine.
- The Addiction Medicine Foundation (formerly the ABAM Foundation) was founded in 2007 to promote training and certification in addiction medicine.
- Since then, 46 Addiction Medicine fellowships have been created which focus on clinical training.
- Research training within both Addiction Medicine and Addiction Psychiatry training programs is limited.
RAMS: Overall Goal

To provide an infrastructure to supplement Addiction Medicine and Addiction Psychiatry fellowship programs in order to support the development of a cadre of physician investigators and training programs with clinical addiction research expertise.
RAMS: Specific Aims

1.) to select Addiction Medicine and Addiction Psychiatry fellows and provide clinical research training;

2.) to augment institutional mentoring of Addiction Medicine and Addiction Psychiatry fellows in the conduct of an addiction research;

3.) to facilitate the development of a robust research training infrastructure as part of addiction fellowships and;

4.) to build a network of physicians trained in research.
### Current RAMS Scholars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholar</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Institutional Mentor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAMS Class of 2015-2017</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki Bozinoff, MD</td>
<td>St. Paul’s Hospital British Columbia</td>
<td>Seonaid Nolan, MD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Addiction Medicine</td>
<td>Michael Stein, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nadia Fairbairn, MD</td>
<td>St. Paul’s Hospital British Columbia</td>
<td>Alex Walley, MD, MS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addiction Medicine</td>
<td>Patrick O’Connor, MD, MPH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allison (Lewei) Lin, MD</td>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
<td>Amy Bohnert, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addiction Psychiatry</td>
<td>Jeffrey Samet, MD, MA, MPH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Peglow, DO</td>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>William Becker, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addiction Psychiatry</td>
<td>Edward Nunes, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leila Vaezazizi, MD</td>
<td>New York University School of Medicine</td>
<td>Helena Hansen, MD, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addiction Psychiatry</td>
<td>Gail D’Onofrio, MD, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RAMS Class of 2016-2018</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anahita Bassir-Nia, MD</td>
<td>Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai NY</td>
<td>Yasmin Hurd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addiction Psychiatry</td>
<td>Patrick O’Connor, MD, MPH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curtis Bone, MD</td>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>Jeanette Tetrault</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Addiction Medicine</td>
<td>Gail D’Onofrio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Fairgrieve, MD</td>
<td>St. Paul’s Hospital, BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>Seonaid Nolan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Addiction Medicine</td>
<td>Jeffrey Samet, MD, MA, MPH</td>
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<tr>
<td>María García Vassallo, MD</td>
<td>Yale School of Medicine/ VA Connecticut Healthcare System Research</td>
<td>Margaret Altemus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fellowship</td>
<td>Kathleen Brady, MD, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Schatz, MD</td>
<td>NYU</td>
<td>Joshua Lee</td>
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<td>Addiction Medicine</td>
<td>Michael Stein, MD</td>
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4 Core Components of RAMS
2 year Program

- Boston 3-day Retreat (December)
- National Advisory Committee & Institutional Mentor (year round)
- College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) Retreat (June)
- Webinars (monthly)

Goal: Develop a research project that incorporates substance use and will be completed during participation in the RAMS program.
1: Boston 3-day retreat

- Provides an overview of the two-year RAMS program
- Begins the mentoring with NAC mentor
- Facilitates development of the RAMS research project
- Trains scholars on research methodology
- Engages institutional mentors on the scholar's research project
- Prepares scholars to enter an academic research career
- Provides a community of like-minded individuals
Research Methodologist

- Key use of time
- Helps scholars refine their research project ideas
- Works with scholars remotely via email and phone calls, as well as 1-on-1 during the Boston Retreat and CPDD.
- Scholars are encouraged to communicate with Dr. Tsui before they present at the research-in-progress webinar sessions.
- Serves as “coach” helping scholars creatively think through solutions to barriers to their research that they may face along the way.

Dr. Judith Tsui, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Washington
Section of General Internal Medicine, Harborview Medical Center Seattle, WA
2: Institutional Mentors & National Advisory Committee

- Assigned nationally recognized researchers that are available monthly
- Serves as a resource for the scholar
- Facilitates the successful completion of the research project
- Provides career development advice
National Advisory Committee

Dr. Gail D’Onofrio
Yale University

Dr. Jeffrey Samet
Boston Medical Center

Dr. Patrick O’Connor
Yale University

Dr. Kathleen Brady
Medical University of South Carolina

Dr. Michael Stein
Boston University

Dr. Edward (Ned) Nunes
Columbia University
3: RAMS Webinars

- Hosted monthly
- *Research Content:* Led by clinician investigators and focuses on a specific area of addiction research
- *Research in Progress (RIP):* opportunity for scholars to get feedback/input about their research project
The RAMS Webinar Series:

The Class of 2016-18 will present Research In Progress (RIP) on designated days.

The Class of 2015-17 will participate via feedback and during June CPDD practice session.

Note: 3:00-3:30 pm is open for further questions/dialogue about one’s research or other related issues.
4: College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) Retreat
June 17-22, 2017 Montréal, Canada

- Present at a scientific session (oral or poster)
- Opportunity for further interaction with scholars and mentors
- Facilitate the meeting of RAMS scholars and other addiction researchers
Other Major RAMS Components

- Research Support Funds
- Program Evaluation
- RAMS “Across the Lifespan”: The Alumni Years
- Research Grants and Publications
Research Support Funds

- $8,000/scholar to support their research project and specific trainings
- To be spent over the duration of scholars’ two-year participation in the RAMS Program and up to one year after graduation.

The Class of 2014-16
RAMS Program Evaluation

• Surveys Include
  – Baseline Survey
  – Quarterly Mentoring Logs
  – Webinar Survey
  – Follow up assessment post graduation

• Course evaluations

• Feedback
RAMS: The Alumni Years

- Participate in Retreats
  - Boston
  - CPDD
  - AMERSA
- Attend CPDD networking event
- Keep connected
- Provide mentorship and career support
RAMS Alumni

• The four inaugural alum of the program have all accepted faculty positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Class of 2012-14</th>
<th>Where are they now?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Bagley, MD</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and Pediatrics, Boston University School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tae Woo “Ted” Park, MD</td>
<td>Assistant Professor (pending), Department of Psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babak Tofighi, MD</td>
<td>Instructor at New York University’s Departments of Population Health and Medicine Clinical faculty at Bellevue Hospital Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Wilder, MD, MSc</td>
<td>Assistant Professor at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, Addiction Sciences Division. Staff Psychiatrist at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sarah Bagley, MD
• Grants: Principal Investigator on newly submitted NIDA K23 Grant number DA044324-01, “A Behavioral Intervention to Engage Emerging Adults in Addiction Treatment after a Non-fatal Opioid Overdose”.

Tae Woo (Ted) Park, MD
• Grants: Principal Investigator on newly submitted NIDA K23 Grant number DA044321-01. Submitted on 10/12/16. “Distress Tolerance and Benzodiazepine Discontinuation in Opioid.” Received score of 23.

Babak Tofighi, MD

Christine Wilder, MD, MSc
## RAMS Alumni: Class of 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class 2013-15</th>
<th>Where are they now?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Michael Dekker, DO</strong>&lt;br&gt;AP</td>
<td>Addiction Psychiatrist at the Tucson, Arizona VA Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sandra Gomez Luna, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;AP</td>
<td>Medical Director the South West CT Mental Health System (SWMCS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annie Levesque, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;AM</td>
<td>Medical director of the opiate treatment program at Mount Sinai West Hospital, and assistant professor in the department of psychiatry at Mount Sinai.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seonaid Nolan, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;AM</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor with the Department of Medicine, Division of AIDS at the University of British Columbia and Research Scientist at the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Darceilia Plott, MD, MPH</strong>&lt;br&gt;AM</td>
<td>Faculty and Director of the Inpatient Detox Program in the Substance Use Department Group at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center</td>
</tr>
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Class of 2013-15: Publications

Annie Levesque, MD

Seonaid Nolan, MD
# RAMS Alumni: Class of 2016

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Caudarella, MD</td>
<td>Clinician Investigator, St. Michael’s Hospital, Toronto, ON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hussam Jefee-Bahloul, MD</td>
<td>Asst. Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, UMass School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitika Kanabar, MD, MPH</td>
<td>Associate Physician, Family Medicine, Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ajay Manhapra, MD</td>
<td>Medical Director, Pain and Addiction Clinic, Hampton VA Medical Center; Adj. faculty, Dept. of Psychiatry, Yale School of Medicine; Researcher, Education and Clinical Center, VA CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe Weinstein, MD, MSc</td>
<td>Instructor of Medicine, General Internal Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine</td>
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RAMS Alum, Class of 2014-16
Class of 2014-16: Publications

**Alexander Caudarella, MD**

**Hussam Jefee-Bahloul, MD**

**Mitika Kanabar, MD, MPH**

**Ajay Manhapra, MD**

**Zoe Weinstein, MD, MSc**
RAMS is positioned to make important contributions to the development of the next generation of physician addiction researchers in order to provide better care for patients with and at risk for addictive diseases.
Research In Addiction Medicine Scholars Program

Questions?

Thank you.