Internship Research Mentors
Updated 9-1-15
(listed in alphabetical order)

Carla Allan, PhD
Ongoing/planned projects:
• Collaboration with genomics, identifying candidate genes to predict treatment response to either methylphenidate or amphetamine.

Tim Apodaca, PhD
Research interests: motivational interviewing, screening and brief intervention for adolescent substance abuse
Ongoing projects:
• “Motivational Interviewing in Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes: A Randomized Control Trial.” Role: Co-Investigator (PI: Sarah Tsai)
  o (External funding: Cross Foundation)
  o (R21 grant application currently under review at NIH)

Amy Beck, PhD
Ongoing project:
• Co-Investigator. Parent and child adverse childhood experiences in overweight and obese children. Grant awarded from The Center for Children’s Healthy Lifestyles & Nutrition

Mark Connelly, PhD
Ongoing projects:
• “Headache Action Plan Project for Youth: System Change through School-Facilitated Intervention.” Role: Principal Investigator (External funding: Pfizer, Inc.)
• “Registry-Assisted Dissemination of Mobile Pain Management for Youth with Arthritis.” Role: Principal Investigator. (External funding: NIH)
• WebSMART: Efficacy of web-based pain self-management for adolescents with JIA.” Role: Principal Investigator (External funding: NIH)
• “Randomized Clinical Trial of FIT Teens for Juvenile Fibromyalgia” Role: Co-Investigator/Site Principal Investigator. (External funding: NIH)
• “A mobile-based intervention to improve adolescents’ headache self-management.” Role: Consultant. (External funding: NIH/Inflexxion, Inc.)
• “Jointly Managing JIA Online: An Internet-based Psycho-educational Game for Children with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) and their Parents.” Role: Co-Investigator. (External funding: CIHR)

Amanda Deacy, PhD
Ongoing projects:
• “Preliminary Evaluation of Clinical Outcomes in the Multidisciplinary Abdominal Pain Clinic (APC): A Retrospective Review.”
**Meredith Dreyer Gillette, PhD**

**Ongoing projects:**

- “Zoom to Health.” Role: Principal Investigator.
- “Development and Evaluation of a Treatment Clinic for Overweight Youth with Developmental Disabilities Such as ASDs and Down Syndrome.” Role: Principal Investigator.
- “Factors Related to Overweight and Consumption of New Foods in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders” Role: Co-investigator (CMH site PI). External Funding (NIH-NICHD)
- “Promoting Health in Teens and Kids (PHIT Kids).” Role: Co-Principal Investigator.

**Planned Projects:**

- “An adaptive research design to optimize weight management intervention in young children with ASD.” Planned submission to the Healthy Weight Research Network and the Society of Pediatric Psychology Targeted Research Grant

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**Sara Gould, PhD**

**Ongoing projects:**

- “Appraisal of existing clinical practice guidelines for the identification and management of eating disorders and related concerns.” This project is in the manuscript phase.
- “Identifying predictors of treatment success for eating disorders in an outpatient, multidisciplinary clinic.” Predictors include what services are utilized, parent participation in visits, and number of total contact hours with providers. Outcomes include referral to a higher level of care, and resolution of physical symptoms. This project is in the manuscript phase.
- “The impact of eating disorder care coordination on early treatment outcomes.” This project is in the manuscript phase.
- Validation of a child version of the Eating Pathology Symptom Inventory. This project is in the research design phase.

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**Rebecca Johnson, PhD, ABPP**

**Ongoing projects:**

- “Chronic Kidney Disease in Children (CKiD) Cohort Study.” Role: Core/Regional Psychologist (PIs: S. Furth, B. A. Warady, A. Muñoz, & G. Schwartz) (External Funding: NIH)
- “Long-term emotional/behavioral outcomes and perceived quality of life for patients with end stage renal disease (ESRD) during infancy and their siblings.”
- “Self-reported knowledge, beliefs, and perceived barriers related to pain prevention for routine childhood immunizations: Provider and nursing perspectives.”
- “An examination of adherence to the inpatient treatment regimen in a group of patients hospitalized for cystic fibrosis exacerbation.”
- “Factors that predict readiness to transition from pediatric to adult health care in cystic fibrosis.”

**Grant Proposals Under Review:**

- “Strengthening the Clinical Validity Evidence Base for PROMIS Measures in Chronically Ill Children” Role: Co-Investigator (PI: Christopher Forrest) (Grant application currently under review at NIH)
Planned projects/grant applications under development:
  
• “The impact of pediatric intestinal failure on parent health and well-being.”
• “Neurocognitive development in the context of intestinal failure/short gut syndrome.”

Michele Maddux, PhD
Ongoing projects:

• “Evaluating the Efficacy of a Multicomponent Adherence-Promoting Intervention Package in Youth with IBD: A Replication-Extension Study Using Single-Case Methodology”
  o (External funding: Katherine B. Richardson Foundation)
• “IBD KNOW-IT Questionnaire: Initial Validation”
• “Practice Survey: Adherence Monitoring and Intervention in Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology”
• “Telehealth Enhancement of Adherence to Medication in Pediatric IBD (TEAM study)”
• “Transition Policy in Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD): A National Survey”
• “Evaluating the Impact of a Transition Program among Youth with Inflammatory Bowel Disease”

Grant Proposals under review

• “Ready to Go: An Intervention to Improve Transition Readiness in Adolescents with Inflammatory Bowel Disease.” Role: Principal Investigator.
  o (R21 grant application currently under review at NIH)
• “Development of a Motivational Interviewing training simulation to support training and dissemination efforts in a pediatric hospital.” Role: Consultant
  o (SBIR grant application to NIH in development)

Cy Nadler, PhD
Ongoing projects:

• “Improving Access to Effective Behavior Management Strategies to Reduce Child Maltreatment.”
  o External funding from Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City
• “Implementation integrity of autism and developmental screening in primary care”
• “Parent behavioral observation data in the ADHD Summer Treatment Program”

Planned projects/grant proposals:

• “Effectiveness of culturally informed parent education videos.”
• “Long-term outcomes of autism/developmental screening failure in primary care.”
• “Current practices for accommodation/modification of the ADHD Summer Treatment Program for children with comorbid Autism Spectrum Disorder.”
• “Clinical outcomes of parent training & education for children with ASD.”
Jennifer Verrill Schurman, PhD  
**Ongoing projects:**
- “Precision medicine in pediatric chronic abdominal pain: Individualized assessment for tailored treatment”  
  o (Internal grant funding: Katharine B. Richardson Associates Endowment Fund)
- “A community-based quality improvement project to improve clinical outcomes for youth with chronic abdominal pain in the primary care setting”
- “Improving pain prevention strategies during childhood immunization: A quality improvement project.”
- “Replication and extension of factor analysis of symptoms for functional gastrointestinal disorders related to pain in children”
- “Development and validation of the CALI-Daily”

Brenda Salley, PhD  
**Ongoing Projects:**
- Preverbal communication and attention in young children: NICHD funded cross-sectional study with 6-12 month-old infants that examines the co-development of visual attention and joint attention in infancy
- Developmental precursors to joint attention and language development in infants: NICHD funded longitudinal study following infants from 6-months-old through 18-months-old to examine developmental precursors to joint attention emerging language development in infants
- Infant book sharing intervention: Intervention for caregivers and infants (9-12 months of age) to support high quality book sharing strategies and evaluate emerging joint attention skills

Kevin Smith, PhD  
**Ongoing projects:**
- Identifying variables that may affect the quality of sleep of CMH’s inpatients.
- Examining the effectiveness of The Sleep Smart program, a 8-week employee sleep health QI initiative.

Dustin Wallace, PhD  
**Ongoing projects:**
- "Sleep disruption in children with chronic pain." Grant funded study of actigraphy-based data for kids with pain
- "Emotional characteristics and changes in parents of adolescents undergoing intensive interdisciplinary pain rehabilitation." Prospectve study of parent functioning. Includes controlled trial of group-based art therapy in some parents
- "Neuropsychological functioning in adolescents with chronic pain enrolled in RAPS." Investigation of nonverbal learning disability and other neuropsychological characteristics in teens in the RAPS program. Will lay groundwork for later imaging studies.
- “Rehabilitation for Amplified Pain Syndromes Program Repository.” This is a repository to collect a variety of physiological and psychosocial measures on participants in the RAPS (pain rehabilitation) program. It is available for research following IRB approval.
• “Pain Management clinic data.” A set of psychosocial measures on patients seen in the Pain Management clinics (Comprehensive Headache, Amplified Pain, and Complex Pain). It is available for research following IRB approval.

Elizabeth Willen, PhD
Research Interests: Neuropsychological outcomes in children with congenital heart defects, parent coping and stress, developmental care in the pediatric ICU setting
Ongoing research:
• RESTORE –Cognition (NIH funded multicenter trial): Neuropsychological evaluation of children exposed to anesthesia in infancy (site PI).
• Early Integration of Physical Rehabilitation to Support Developmental Care (co-investigator): QI project to improve developmental care practices in the PICU for infants with congenital heart defects.
• Neuropsychological outcomes in congenital heart defects (co-investigator): Cross-sectional study comparing outcomes among infants and toddlers with single ventricle vs. biventricle congenital heart defects.

Briana Woods-Jaeger, PhD
Research interests: Community mental health, trauma-informed care, adolescent sexual health, health equity, and community-based participatory research
Ongoing projects:
• Principal Investigator. "Qualitative Study to Evaluate Perceptions of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Health Outcomes in Parents of Children aged 6 weeks to 5 years and Clinical Experts." [CMH Internal Funding]
• Principal Investigator. "Comparison of Enhanced Parent Support Primary Care Visits and Traditional Anticipatory Guidance to Promote Resilience among Families at-risk for Toxic Stress." [Grant application to Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute in development].