

2024
ISSUE

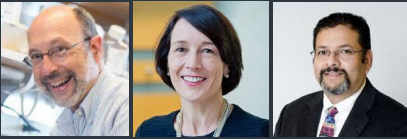
ANNUAL
NEWSLETTER FOR
POTENTIAL
MENTORS

R38 MGH Diseases of Aging Pathway Via Stimulating Access to Research in Residency Program (StARR)

Meet Our Leadership

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

- Brad Hyman, MD, PhD
- Christine Ritchie, MD, MSPH
- Jay Vyas, MD, PhD (*Contact PI*)



INTERNAL STEERING COMMITTEE

- Sherri-Ann Burnett-Bowie, MD
- Andrea Foulkes, ScD
- Bruce Yankner, MD, PhD



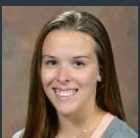
EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD

- Ana Maria Cuervo, MD, PhD
- Stephen Kritchevsky, PhD
- Jean Kutner, MD, MSPH



PROGRAM MANAGER

- Becca Ward, PhD



this issue

Overview of Program

Meet Our Trainees

Announcements

Revitalizing the Physician-Scientist Pipeline.

At the beginning of 2023, the National Institute of Aging (NIA) awarded us with an R38 to start our MGH Diseases of Aging Pathway (DAP) StARR Program. The MGH DAP StARR leadership has selected one highly motivated resident from the Department of Medicine to support during the current 2024-2025 research year, which started in July.

MENTORS IN OUR PROGRAM

Participating research preceptors were recruited based on their scientific work, funding history, proven track-record of mentorship, scientific integrity, and span a variety of expertise relevant to the mission of the NIA.

Mentors span the Departments of Medicine, Neurology, Radiology, Psychiatry, Anesthesia, and the Hebrew Senior Life Institute of Aging

Junior mentors will be paired with senior mentors for each resident.

Residents are encouraged to form mentoring committees to facilitate the career development.

Interested in being a mentor? Reach out to our Program Manager to learn more!

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The primary goal of the program is to train residents to be physician-scientists who can advance medical science in a broad range of areas from basic science to clinical investigations. Internal medical and neurology residents apply for the R38 program in December and are selected by January. Participants receive salary support (in agreement with the MGB PGY payscale) and \$11,500 for coursework, professional development opportunities, travel, and other costs (e.g., computers, software, books).

Before Starting:

- Creation of Individual Development Plan (IDP)

During Program:

- 80% effort toward research (20% clinical)
- Monthly programmatic curriculum
- RCR training
- Weekly meetings with mentors
- Routine meetings with leadership
- Prepare publications
- Presentations at conferences

After Program:

- Prepare publications
- Presentations at conferences
- Annual Survey

Example Curriculum

MENTORING

We bring in early career and senior investigators to share the importance of mentoring at various career stages.

TEAM SCIENCE

Collaborating as a team is a large part of science. Thus, we bring in physician-scientists to discuss the ins and outs of team science.

SCIENCE COMMUNICATIONS

Our Program Manager is a trained scientific writer. She spends 2-3 sessions discussing how to conduct literature searches and write a scientific manuscript and grant writing.

LEADERSHIP AS A PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST

Our Program Directors discuss the role of leadership skills in academic medicine and how to build these skills throughout your career.

CONDUCTING RESEARCH AS AN MD

We bring in investigators with only an MD to discuss how to they negotiated for their research efforts and what it means to them.

ADVOCATING & NEGOTIATING FOR YOUR CAREER

We bring in Departmental leaders to provide tips on how to advocate for a career in academic medicine.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

Resident-scholars are able to present their work throughout the research year informally to their peers in similar programs.

Interested in participating in seminars?
Reach out to our Program Manager

Meet the DAP StARR Resident Scholars

2023-2024 SCHOLARS

KATHERINE (KATIE) JOLIN, MD

Katie joined us from the Department of Medicine. Her project examined the motif-based graph analysis of pathology spreading in the aging brain and Alzheimer's disease under the mentorship of Jorge Sepulcre, MD, PhD. After completing her research year, she entered into radiology residency at Yale.



JASON C. YOU, MD, PHD

Jason joined from the Department of Neurology. His project elucidated network dysfunction in dementia with Lewy bodies under the guidance of Drs. Alice Lam and Stephen Gomperts. In July, Jason began his epilepsy and cognitive neurology fellowship at MGH.



OUR CURRENT SCHOLAR

HATEM ELLAITHY, MD

Jason joins us from the Department of Medicine following his PGY3 year. Project Title: The Effect of Replication Stress from Chemotherapy Exposure and Aging on Leukemic Risk



Mentor: Peter Miller, MD, PhD (*Oncology*)

Education:

- BS from New York University
- MD from Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Clinical and Research Interests: Translational research; Cancer prevention; Disease phenotyping; Leukemia; Germline mutations

Plans for the Future: Hematology and oncology fellowship

SUCSESSES FROM 2023-2024 YEAR

- Conferences and workshops attended include: Tau 2024 Global Conference; American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting; American Epilepsy Society (AES) Annual Meeting; AES Neurostimulation Workshop
- Publications
 - Fu CH, You JC, ..., Chin J (2024). Hippocampal Δ FosB expression is associated with cognitive impairment in a subgroup of patients with childhood epilepsies. *Front Neurol.* 2024; 14:1331194. PMID: [38274865](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38274865/).
 - 2 publications pending
- Feedback from exit interviews:
 - Both scholars provided positive feedback about the leadership and structure
 - The program provided freedom to truly examine academic interests

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For regular updates about our resident scholars and the program, follow us on Twitter

[@MGHResScholar](https://twitter.com/MGHResScholar)