

Research Brief

Message from the Senior Associate Dean for Research

Dear Colleagues,

As the fall semester draws to a close and we approach the holidays, I would like to express the importance of practicing self care. Self care can come in many forms, whether it be having less screen time, meditating, or saying "no"; no matter what self care looks like to you, it is an important part of maintaining physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. Papers, reports, exams, or whatever challenges you may be facing as this year rounds to a close can be tough; remember to be gentle with yourself and be grateful for all that you have accomplished.

A reminder that both ORE and Pod2 will be closed, like the rest of GW from 23 Dec 2022 to 2 Jan 2023; please note that for any research related activities and ensure that you work with research staff to complete them in advance or after the break.

Good luck and have a wonderful winter break!

AH

Adnan Hyder, MD MPH PhD
Senior Associate Dean for Research
Professor of Global Health
Milken Institute School of Public Health

Research Project Highlight



Dr. Emily R. Smith

Dr. Smith is an assistant professor in the Department of Global Health. Her research focuses on infection and nutrition across the life course, with a goal of generating, analyzing, and translating epidemiological data to improve maternal, newborn, and child health in low- and middle-income countries. Some of the most recent research by Dr. Smith analyzes the efficacy of micronutrient supplementation. While most pregnant people in the US take prenatal vitamins, these multivitamins are not standard of care globally. But now, more than 20 clinical trials in low- and middle-income countries have shown that maternal micronutrient supplements (MMS) containing iron and folic acid are superior when compared to iron and folic acid alone (IFA). Some countries are considering switching from IFA to MMS, but there is controversy over the optimal amount of iron to include in the MMS.

The newly funded randomized controlled trial will assess the effect of MMS containing 60 and 45 mg iron as compared to MMS that contains 30 mg of iron (standard MMS dose) on maternal anemia and other important maternal and newborn health outcomes. The trial will also assess side effects and adherence to find out what dose is most acceptable to women. Smith and colleagues in Tanzania intend to enroll more than 6,000 women in Tanzania in the trial and hope to begin the study in mid-2023. This study will help inform countries like Tanzania (that currently use IFA containing 60 mg of iron) as they transition

to using multivitamins.

We are proud of our Research!

Lectures & Events



Bootcamp for New Investigators in Clinical Research

Session two out of four workshops on how to operationalize biologic trials at GW and CNH for New Investigators in Clinical Research will be held

this Thursday December 15 from 12 noon - 2 pm.

In session two, the discussion will include roles on the study team and the clinical trial contract. Whether or not you joined the first session, you are welcome to attend.

Session 2. Thurs DEC 15, 12-2 pm (virtual)
Optimizing Roles on the Study Team <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How the strengths of CRA and the investigator tie into the audit: Radwa Aly• Who is part of the Safety team? Caitlin Joffe• Optimizing stakeholder input: Randi Streisand
The clinical trial contract <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budgeting and Contracts: Melanie Bossi• Standard of care testing vs research costs: Stephanie Bair• Service biostatistics: Qing Zeng
Breakouts: Institutional Solutions to Challenges: <i>Who pays for what? Standard of care and protocols for escalation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sheila Garrity• Bobbe Thomas, Stephanie Bair/ Khan

For Zoom links and calendar invites, please contact Pesh Rubinstein at pesharubinstein@gwu.edu or gwsmsresearch@gwu.edu



Join NASEM for a **Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable**

When: February 7-8, 2023

Where: National Academy of Sciences Building 2101 Constitution Ave, NW Washington, DC (virtual option available)

Topic: Strategic Innovation and Commercialization: Supporting IP and Tech Transfer to Advance U.S. Research Competitiveness

The meeting will consider opportunities for enhancing U.S. economic competitiveness by improving intellectual property security and protection, time to market competitiveness, and U.S. leadership in international standards bodies. Particular attention will be given to cross-sector forums and mechanisms that promote information exchange and build capacity across the research enterprise.

There will be a networking reception and dinner **February 7, 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ET** and a workshop **February 8, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ET.**

JOIN

Research Outlook

Mental Health Needs in 2022

an article co-authored by Matthew Rae

Matthew Rae is a health policy PhD student at GWSPH, as well as the Associate Director for the Program on the Health Care Marketplace at Kaiser Family Foundation. In October 2022, he coauthored "Mental Health Needs in 2022" which was published in the Health Affairs Newsletter. The aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic showed an increase in unmet mental health needs. In his paper, Rae breaks down the accessibility of mental health services provided by employers and the barriers employees face in accessing them.

[Read More](#)



Funding Opportunities



Upcoming PCORI Funding Opportunities 2023: Maternal Health Disparities

Adverse maternal health outcomes persist in the U.S., especially for Black or African-American people, American Indian/Alaska Native people, Hispanic people, people with disabilities, residents of rural areas, and people of lower socioeconomic status. Social determinants of health must be addressed through evidence-based solutions that comprehensively address both the clinical and social needs of communities impacted by these disparities.

PCORI seeks to fund rigorous high-quality studies that address the following research question: What is the comparative effectiveness of multicomponent, multilevel interventions to improve maternal outcomes for individuals from populations highly impacted by maternal health disparities? Proposed CER studies may focus on pre-and/or postnatal care and should include at least one of each of the following types of interventions:

- **Health systems strategies to address disparities in maternal health outcomes** (e.g., data accountability measures; bias awareness training; trauma-informed care; team-based care; community-informed models of care; telehealth; standardized protocols for monitoring/treatment of hypertension, substance use, depression, and diabetes)
- **Strategies to address social determinants of health** (e.g., active assistance with resources; medically tailored meals; vouchers for food, housing, or other needs; medical-legal partnerships; integrated social services in clinical settings).

Important dates to consider:

Online System Opens: January 10, 2023; 9:00 am ET

Letters of Intent Deadline: February 7, 2023; 5:00 pm ET

Application Deadline: May 2, 2023; 5:00 pm ET

Virtual Applicant Town Hall: January 20, 2023; 12 pm ET

[Learn More](#)

[More PCORI Funding Opportunities](#)



HealthAffairs

Call for Abstracts: Global Health Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic

Deadline: January 16, 2023

Preparation and formatting guidelines

Submit abstracts via our [online submission form](#)

For consideration to be published in their December 2023 issue, Health Affairs global is now accepting abstracts with a theme of policy lessons from global experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic. A key focus of the issue will be on evaluating equity in access to health care and health-supporting programs during the pandemic, exploring determinants of variation across subpopulations, and identifying and evaluating policies that promoted equity in access to testing, treatment, vaccines, and other pandemic mitigation responses.

Editors will review the abstracts and, for those that best fit the vision and goals for the issue, invite authors to submit full papers for consideration for the issue. For a list of topics and areas, guidelines, as well as how to submit, click [here](#).

December Deadlines

Continuous Deadlines

💡 Pod 2 Team Spotlight 💡



Kyle Dimovitz
Sponsored Research
Administrator POD 2

Kyle joined Pod 2 as a School Research Administrator in July 2022. He graduated from American University in 2021. Since joining the Pod, Kyle has worked on both pre-award and post-award activities. He enjoys the mystery of seeing a new proposal, as you never know what sort of nuances will arise in the pre-award arena.

We love Pod 2!
Thank you for your hard work.

📢 Research Resources



**Important Message
for NIH funded
researchers!**

The NIH has issued a final **Policy for Data Management and Sharing** (DMS Policy) to promote the management and sharing of scientific data generated from NIH-funded or conducted research. The NIH DMS Policy applies to all NIH funding mechanisms except training grants and fellowships.

This policy allows direct costs to be allocated in the budget to support the proposed data management and sharing plan activities.

For NIH proposal submissions due on and after January 25, 2023, applicants will be required to submit a Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Plan describing how researchers will manage scientific data generated and a budget including DMS direct costs with justified limitations or exceptions. For more information, click [here](#).

REDCap (Research Electronic Data Capture) is a secure web application for building and managing online surveys and databases. REDCap can be used to collect virtually any type of data, enables



**REDCap is available for
current GW faculty, staff,**

rapid project development, provides users with complete autonomy and control of a project, and direct exports to common statistical packages.

Visit the [website](#) for more information.

students, and affiliates after completing the GW RedCap Online Training.

Subscribe here for more updates!

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