Fellows’ Scholarly Activities

Gerald Montano, DO, 3rd yr fellow

Core research interest:
Components of parental monitoring and their associated health indicators among sexual minority and heterosexual females

Publications:


Montano GT, McCauley H, Miller E, Chisolm DJ, Marshal MP. Components of parental monitoring and their associated health indicators between sexual minority and heterosexual girls (submitted).

Poster presentation:
Montano GT, McCauley H, Miller E, Chisolm DJ, Marshal MP. Sexual minority girls’ perceptions of parental support. Poster presented at: the 3rd Annual Adolescent Medicine Symposium at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC; 2014 May; Pittsburgh, PA

Montano GT, McCauley H, Miller E, Chisolm DJ, Marshal MP. Sexual minority girls’ perceptions of parental support. Poster presented at: Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine, Annual Meeting, March 2015

Orquidia (Kiki) Torres. MD, 2nd yr fellow

Core research interest:
Reducing Provider Variation in the management of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome

Medical Education

Poster presentation:

Torres O, Witchel S, Rofey D, Miller E. Reducing Provider Variation in the Diagnosis of PCOS. Presented at Ohio Valley Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine, Oct. 2015
accepted for presentation North American Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Conference, to be held April 2016

Workshop:
Training session for advocacy in reproductive rights, dealing with the media, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Nov 2015.

Merrian Brooks, DO, 2nd yr fellow

Core research interest:
Future Orientation in Vulnerable Youth

Publications:


Presentations:

Brooks M, McCauley H, Miller E. Hope and risk behaviors in vulnerable youth. Health Disparities Poster Competition, University of Pittsburgh School of the Health Sciences, Pittsburgh PA, April 2015

Jessica Mac Cormac, DO, 1st yr fellow

Core research interest:
Transition care for patients with chronic illness
Reproductive health care for patients with chronic illness
Medical Education
Coaching Boys into Men - A program developed by Futures Without Violence, guides middle and high school coaches to talk to their male athletes about stopping violence against women and girls. The current research study is being conducted within 40 middle schools throughout southwest Pennsylvania, with athletes in grades 6-8. The study, which started data collection in Spring 2015, has enrolled over 700 participants to date and is ongoing.

Emergence of Gender Inequitable Practice in Adolescence – This project used participatory research methods (Visual Voices and Concept Mapping) to explore masculinity norms with middle and high school athletes and non-athletes as well as community stakeholders in the Pittsburgh region. In addition, a realist-review session was held with a subsample of the adult participants to review existing gender transformative programs. Information gathered from these research activities helped gain insight into local cultures of masculinity and is being analyzed to inform new measures of gender-equitable practices that are relevant to young men locally. We are also currently utilizing Visual Voices and Concept Mapping with adolescent girls to explore their perceptions of both masculinity and femininity and how these perceptions shape interactions with male peers and partners.

Engendering Healthy Masculinities (EHM) – “Manhood 2.0” teaches adolescent boys (ages 13-19) from disadvantaged neighborhoods in Pittsburgh about respect, nonviolence, and healthy sexuality. Importantly, the facilitators of the EHM curriculum are stakeholder-identified men from the communities where the program is taking place. We work closely with community
partners including the YMCA and Urban League to establish sustainable connections that will allow the program to be ongoing once the research is complete.

College Health Center-based Alcohol and Sexual Violence Intervention – Sexual violence is a hot topic issue that affects far too many students on college campuses. We are training student health and counseling center staff to talk to their students about consensual sex, healthy relationships and harm reduction behaviors to reduce risk of alcohol-related sexual violence. Twenty-four college campuses are participating, with a goal of enrolling 2200 students ages 18-24 (we’re almost halfway there!). Preliminary data from the baseline survey supports the need for this intervention; results from one large school show 43% experiencing sexual violence before college and 30% experiencing sexual violence since college.

Heather McCauley, MsD, PI of a BIRCWH K12 career development award, focuses on bolstering the support systems of young women in foster care to influence their sexual and reproductive health. She is currently surveying 150 young women with a history of foster care involvement, conducting in-depth social network interviews with young women (n=30) and conducting interviews with important adults in these young women’s lives (n=20) to inform intervention development.
Clinical Research Taking Place in the CAYAH Clinic

Ana Radovic – Supporting Our Valued Adolescents (SOVA)

This study aims to help young people with depression and anxiety. By connecting young people to each other, and parents to each other, in separate social media sites, we think they can learn about depression and treatment from each other and a moderator in a safe space. We are recruiting 100 adolescents and young adults who have experienced symptoms of anxiety and depression (sova.pitt.edu) and 100 parents who have adolescents and young adults (ages 14-26) who have experienced symptoms of anxiety and depression (wisesova.pitt.edu)

Elizabeth Miller – Perceptions of Research (for Clinical and Translational Science Institute)

This brief survey on an ipad explores how youth and parents in the clinical setting: hear about research and how they understand the reasons people do and do not participate in research, how to improve perceptions of research and what promotes participation. We are recruiting 200 CAYAH patients (14 and older) and 50 parents of CAYAH patients who are 13 and under.

Gerald Montano – Parent-Child Communication

This study seeks to better understand how parent-child communication affects health outcomes of teenagers and young adults. We are asking parents of CAYAH patients to answer a survey on an iPad. After completing the survey, the parents speak with Dr. Montano about how the questions can be useful for parents and the doctor.

Kelley Jones – Healthy Decision Making Survey for Adolescent Girls

This study is to learn about what influences contraceptive decision-making among adolescents and understand what affects those decisions related to pregnancy and STIs. This is an ongoing study to try to enroll a large number of our female patients (ages 14-26). Participants complete a survey on the iPad in clinic and then complete a follow up survey every 6 months.