

# SU Psychiatry Resident Research Newsletter

Letter from the Editor:

With start of the new year, it is time to contemplate the previous year and make plans and resolutions to move forward, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the tremendous effort my fellow residents are putting in to research. Some working on book chapters, reviews, contributions to encyclopedia where as other doing prospective and retrospective studies. I am surrounded by brilliance and feel it is utterly necessary to highlight their efforts. I feel proud of all their endeavors, bravo for all they have achieved and wish them best of luck now and in the years to come.

Ayesha Sajid, MD

PGY III

## JESS LEVY, MD PGY I

Dr. Levy is reviewing the literature on augmenting strategies for treatment of aggression in children with ADHD who are already on stimulants. He is particularly interested in looking at the addition of antipsychotics to stimulants, along with other classes of medications.

Dr. Kronenberger and Dr. Dunn are coauthors for this review article.



## MATTHEW RUNYAN, MD PGY I

Dr. Runyan is working on a review article which would be first of its kind looking at the effect of exercising on aspects of addiction specifically prevention, treatment and prevention of future relapses. Dr. Andrew Chambers is co-authoring the article.

## CAROLYN DOYLE MD, PGYII

Dr. Doyle is the contributing author to the Encyclopedia of Autism Spectrum Disorders, an online and print entity started by Dr. Fred Volkmar, MD of the Yale Child Study Center. The nine entries were co-authored by Dr. Christopher McDougle. These were reviews on clomipramine, Clozaril, venlafaxine, fluoxetine, haloperidol, hyperserotonemia, Lexapro, and the cholinergic system and each entry includes a review of autism-related research for that term. She is also working on an article entitled "Pharmacotherapy to control behavioral symptoms in autistic children" for the journal Expert Opinion on Pharmacotherapy, co-authored with Dr. McDougle. She is also starting to collect articles for a review on 'Williams Syndrome'.



## AMBER HUNT, DO PGY II



Dr. Hunt is studying the working memory training in kids with ADHD using a computer program called CogMed. Dr. Kronenberger is coinvestigating and they are currently in the process of analyzing the data and writing the manuscript.

Variables affecting working memory are also being investigated, included but not limited to, kids who score really low in WM at baseline vs kids who are higher functioning, kids who are already on meds vs. not on meds, etc. The results are looking promising and overall CogMed looks to increase working memory in kids with ADHD.

## RACHEL YODER, MD PGY II

Dr. Yoder started working on an article as a third year medical student which was recently accepted for publication in JAIDS in October 2010 and is currently available online. She studied the 'Long-term impact of the Kenya post-election crisis on clinic attendance and medication adherence for HIV-infected children in western Kenya' Kenya experienced a political and humanitarian crisis following presidential elections on 27 December, 2007. She sought to describe both the immediate and long-term impact of this conflict for HIV-infected children in western Kenya and found that the HIV-infected children are at risk for disruptions in clinic follow-up and medication adherence following a humanitarian crisis. Individual and contextual factors moderate the effects of these disruptions.



The article was co-authored by Winstone M Nyandiko, Rachel C Vreeman, Samwel O Ayaya, Peter O Gisore, Paula Braitstein, and Sarah E Wiehe, .

## BENJAMIN A. ADLER, MD PGY III



Dr. Adler a PGYIII is working on a chapter, 'From Kranner to the DSM V: A historical perspective, on the diagnosis of Autism spectrum disorder'. This chapter would be covering the advancement in the field of Autism. Mentoring him in this project is Dr. Noha Minshawi and Dr. Craig Erickson.

Apart from this, Dr. Adler is also dedicating his time to Co-investigating a chart review of persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders with medication resistant irritability with Dr. Craig Erickson at Indiana University Hospital Indianapolis, IN 2011 - present and also as a Co-investigator on pharmacogenomics of mood stabilizer response in Bipolar I Disorder with Dr. John Nurnberger, Jr.

## MICHAEL FRANCIS, MD PGY III

Dr. Francis is primarily interested in Psychotic disorder as evidence by his research. He is actively involved in the following projects.

- Project I: A pharmacologic study looking at a glutamatergic agent in the treatment of schizophrenia, as compared to atypical antipsychotic treatment., PI: Dr. Alan Breier
- Project II: Serial imaging studies (MRI/DTI) over a three year period, examining brain changes in early schizophrenia, comparing to a control group, PI: Dr. Alan Breier
- Project III: Placebo controlled trial looking at a new agent in the treatment of prominent negative symptoms in schizophrenia, PI: Dr. Alan Breier
- Project IV: Psychosis in Hindsight: A Collective Recollection of the Onset of Psychosis,, PI: Dr. Emily Liffick,
- Project V: Epidemiological Evaluation of treatment outcomes in a early intervention setting versus standard community treatment



## DANNY HACKMAN, MD PGY III



Dr. Hackman is working with a local clinic's patient population who are struggling with addiction. He would be running INSPECT reports in order to gathering information on number of benzodiazepine/opiate scripts written, total number benzodiazepine/opiate pills prescribed, number of incidences of overlapping prescriptions, number of prescribers, and number of pharmacies, for each patient. He would then he conducting a chart review to gather clinical data including Axis I and Axis II diagnoses on all those patients.

This would provide them insight into any existing correlations between abnormal INSPECT data variables and specific Axis I and Axis II diagnoses. Dr. Andrew Chambers is the co-investigator in this study.

## AYESHA SAJID, MD PGY III

Dr. Sajid has contributed in the following articles

- She wrote a quarterly series on Rx Primer in the Annals of Psychotherapy and Integrative health on topics including 'Adverse effects of antipsychotics', 'Overview ADHD', 'Long acting Olanzapine for intramuscular injection' and 'Depression and antidepressants'. Coauthors were Dr. Diaz and Dr. Poor.

She published an articles in International Psychiatry in February 2011 on 'Perceived coercion and need for hospital admission among psychiatric in-patients: figures from a Pakistani tertiary care hospital' a project she worked on as a research assistant in Pakistan.

The article was co authored by Saman I. Zuberi, Abdul Wahab Yousafzai, Naila Bhutto and Murad Moosa Khan

- She is also involved in a review article which provides an overview of the current research literature related to the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of culturally Deaf individuals suffering from mental disorders. Dr. Sarah A. Landsberger, Dr. David R. Diaz, Leah Schmelkin, & Courtney Weiler were also co-authors in the article.

