ACMG In Action

Essential Updates: Member News You Can Use

ACMG American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics
Translating Genes Into Health®

August 2021

In This Issue...

Recruiting Members for the New Workforce Development & Optimization Committee

ACMG is organizing a new committee on Workforce Development and Optimization whose purpose will be to examine the causes for the shortage of clinical geneticists and clinical laboratory geneticists in the United States and develop strategies that the College can take to help alleviate the shortage. The Committee is seeking members with diverse perspectives and innovative ideas. We hope these will include ACMG members from states with workforce shortages as well as those who have experience studying root causes and solutions to this problem. We will liaison with other organizations that have begun similar initiatives including the ABMGG, SIMD, APHMG, and NSGC. Dr. Cynthia Powell, FACMG will be Chair of the Committee and Dr. Hutton Kearney, FACMG will serve as Co-Chair. If you are interested in being considered for membership on the Committee, please email a letter of interest and CV with the subject line: Workforce Development and Optimization Committee. Please contact Dr. Powell with questions.

Applications Now Being Accepted for the Next Generation Fellowship Program

The ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine (ACMGF) is excited to announce that we are now accepting applications for our Next Generation Fellowship & Residency Training Award program. Applications will be accepted through September 30, 2021.

Our Next Generation Fellowship & Residency Training Award program has been streamlined to make our application process easier to navigate. ACMGF encourages all qualified institutions and trainees to apply. Institutions must be fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

As funds permit, awards will be made available to support the Next Generation Fellowship and Residency Training awards listed below:

• Clinical Genetics Residency
• Medical Biochemical Genetics Subspecialty (Residency)
• Clinical Biochemical Genetics (Laboratory Fellowship)
• Laboratory Genetics and Genomics (LGG Fellowship)
• Ophthalmology Specialty (one-year MD Program)

- Four New Part IV CCP Modules Now Available
- Save the Dates for the 2022 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting – Attend in Nashville or Participate Online

Upcoming Events

2022 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting
March 22-26, 2022

Website Links

ACMG
ACMG Foundation
ACMG Meetings Website
ACMG Education Center
NBSTRN
NCC
ClinGen
GIM

Read more about our Residency and Fellowship Programs.

Application deadline: September 30, 2021. For more information and to apply, visit our Application Portal. Reviews will be conducted this summer and fall. Awardees will be notified in the fall.

Residency/Fellowships will begin by July 1, 2022. Questions should be directed to Nataly Schwartz at acmgf@acmgfoundation.org.

ACMG Provides Roadmap for Screening Couples Before or During Pregnancy: New ACMG Clinical Practice Resource for Autosomal Recessive and X-linked Conditions

In case you missed it, the ACMG has released an important new Clinical Practice Resource (CPR) that reviews the current status of carrier screening, provides answers to emerging questions, and recommends a new tiered, consistent and equitable approach for offering carrier screening to all individuals during pregnancy or preconception. The paper, "Screening for autosomal recessive and X-linked conditions during pregnancy and preconception: a practice resource of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG)," was published in ACMG's official journal, *Genetics in Medicine*.

"This CPR redefines carrier screening and promotes the values of equity and access to reproductive choices for carriers," said co-author and ACMG President-elect Susan Klugman, MD, FACMG, FACOG in a news release. "We have the technology to make a meaningful improvement in health outcomes. Patients should be able to utilize this testing, of course with appropriate pre- and post-test counseling."

Read more

Elsevier Partners with ACMG to Publish *Genetics in Medicine* Starting in 2022

We are excited to announce that ACMG is partnering with Elsevier, a global leader in research publishing and information analytics to publish ACMG's official journal, *Genetics in Medicine* (*GIM*). The journal will also offer authors an open access option and will be hosted on Elsevier's leading online platform, ScienceDirect, beginning January 2022. This collaboration signifies a strong commitment by all stakeholders to maintain the journal's high standards and expand its global prominence.

ACMG Chief Executive Officer Maximilian Muenke, MD, FACMG, said: "We welcome Elsevier as our new publisher and look forward to taking advantage of their publishing expertise and commitment to innovation, as we continue to increase the visibility and influence of *Genetics in Medicine* together. Medical, scientific and research professionals in a broad range of specialties turn to ACMG's official journal for the very latest research and clinical practice in medical and laboratory genetics. Together with our new trusted partner, we will continue to publish cutting edge original research, appropriate reviews, as well as recommendations and guidelines from our ACMG committees."

Medical genetics is becoming increasingly important in the wider medical practice. *GIM*'s eminent editorial board, under the continued leadership of Editor-in-Chief Robert D. Steiner, MD, FAAP, FACMG, ensures that this

high quality, peer-reviewed journal will continue to be an authoritative resource for the dissemination of medical genetic knowledge to providers both within and outside of the genetics community.

Read more

ACMG Joins 90 Organizations in Supporting COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates for All Workers in Health and Long-Term Care

ACMG is proud to reaffirm our commitment to patients' health by joining the growing list of more than 90 healthcare organizations in calling for mandatory COVID-19 vaccination of healthcare workers. The healthcare sector has an ethical duty to lead in this area.

The letter states, "Due to the recent COVID-19 surge and the availability of safe and effective vaccines, our health care organizations and societies advocate that all health care and long-term care employers require their workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. This is the logical fulfillment of the ethical commitment of all health care workers to put patients as well as residents of long-term care facilities first and take all steps necessary to ensure their health and well-being." It adds, "As we move towards full FDA approval of the currently available vaccines, all health care workers should get vaccinated for their own health, and to protect their colleagues, families, residents of long-term care facilities and patients. This is especially necessary to protect those who are vulnerable, including unvaccinated children and the immunocompromised. Indeed, this is why many health care and long-term care organizations already require vaccinations for influenza, hepatitis B, and pertussis."

Diagnosing the Undiagnosed: Genetic Testing Identifies the Underlying Causes of Kidney Disease

Identifying the underlying genetic cause of kidney failure in patients awaiting transplant can impact donor choice and lead to changes in management and treatment. On this month's GenePod, Eva Schrezenmeier at Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Carsten Bergmann at Medizinische Genetik Mainz and University Hospital Freiburg, discuss how genetic testing can identify a diagnosis for patients with kidney failure who are waitlisted for a kidney transplant.

ACMG Volunteer Opportunities – Deadline Aug. 25

Are you interested in serving on an ACMG Committee or helping with special projects? Volunteers are needed for the April 2022 – March 2023 committee service term. Trainee and early career members are highly encouraged to volunteer.

To respond to our Call for Volunteers, please use your member credentials to log onto the ACMG Members Only webpage and then select the "Volunteer" option at the bottom of the benefits blocks to access our volunteer form. The information provided through the online form will be shared with ACMG Committee Chairs for volunteer selection purposes only. Submissions must be received by **August 25th**.

Qualifications for Committee Service:

• Current Membership in the ACMG.

• Due to the technical nature of some committee projects, board certification in clinical genetics, cytogenetics, biochemical genetics, molecular genetics, medical genetics, or genetic counseling may be considered in some committee appointment decisions.
• Because some of the activities of committees involve working with the AMA and associated organizations, AMA membership may be considered in some committee appointment decisions.

Read more

ACMG Welcomes New Members

ACMG welcomes and congratulates its nine new and newly certified members. There has never been a more exciting time to be a part of this field and we encourage current members of the College to invite friends and colleagues to join and help grow the medical genetics and genomics community.

Thank you to all of our members who make important contributions and the work of the College possible through your membership, support, and involvement.

Associate Member
Megan Martin, MS, CGC

Affiliate Member
Alexander Bick, MD, PhD

Trainee Members
Sara L. Cook, MD, PhD
Noemi Fuentes-Bolanos, MD, MS, DSci
Terry Kho, MD

Student Members
Jessica Ann Cooley Coleman, BS
Rebecca Moore, MS
Amie R. Schweitzer, PhD, MS
Cristy Stagnar, MS

Know someone who should join ACMG? Please tell them to visit the Join ACMG webpage.

Accelerating NBS Research: Virtual NBSTRN Summit is September 1-3, 2021

NBSTRN Newborn Screening Translational Research Network

In celebration of Newborn Screening Awareness Month, the Newborn Screening Translational Research Network (NBSTRN) will be hosting a virtual summit on September 1-3, 2021, from 1 PM to 4 PM (EST). NBSTRN invites viewers to spend three days learning from and connecting with innovators expanding the reach of newborn screening research in technology, advocacy, and clinical care. Each presentation will describe innovative efforts in NBS and include a live Q&A with speakers.

2021 NBSTRN Summit speakers will include:

• Anna Grantham - Hunter's Hope
• Stephen Kingsmore, MD, DSc - Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego

• Jolan Walter, MD, PhD - University of South Florida

• Mia Morrison, MPH - Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA)
• Lisa R. Diller, MD; Richard B. Parad, MD, MPH; and Jennifer Yeh, PhD - Harvard Children's Hospital and Boston Children's Hospital
• Laura V. Milko, PhD, and Jonathan S. Berg, MD, PhD - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
• Timothy Yu, MD, PhD - Boston Children's Hospital
• Aaron Goldenberg, PhD - Case Western Reserve University
• Natasha Bonhomme - Genetic Alliance

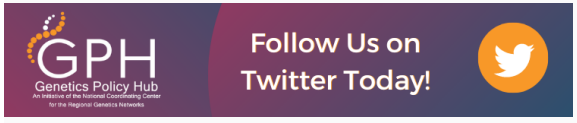
Sign up for this free event to learn about the latest newborn screening research, expand your research network, and support newborn screening programs.

New Episodes: NBSTRN's Newborn Screening SPOTlight Podcast

NBSTRN is happy to announce the launch of two new episodes of its *Newborn Screening SPOTlight* podcast. Episode four is titled "Getting on the "List" – Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP)" and focuses on pilot studies and RUSP nominations. This episode's primary speaker and the co-host of the podcast is Dr. Amy Brower. She was an inaugural member of a Federal Advisory Committee created during the administration of President George W. Bush. In 2004, the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children was established under the Public Health Service Act. The committee was charged with advising the Secretary of Health and Human Services about newborn and childhood screening aspects. Their charter includes recommending improvements in the national newborn and childhood screening programs. This includes making systematic evidence-based and peer-reviewed recommendations on which disorders should be included in newborn screening. During Dr. Brower's tenure on the Committee, they developed a system of nomination and review that was open to all stakeholders. The idea was to encourage researchers and clinicians to nominate a condition and parents, patients, families, and advocacy groups. Dr. Brower highlights the history (RUSP, the nomination process on getting a condition added to the RUSP list, and how NBSTRN helps with NBS pilot studies in advancing newborn screening research.

Read More

Genetics Policy Hub Twitter is Now Live!



The National Coordinating Center for the Regional Genetics Networks (NCC), a cooperative agreement between ACMG and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), has a mission to improve access to genetic services for underserved populations. One way we accomplish this mission is through the dissemination of genetics policy information to help better inform providers and patients of proposed legislation and regulation at both the state and federal level.

In addition to our existing legislation/regulation tracking system that is freely available on the NCC website, NCC is excited to announce the

launch of the new Genetics Policy Hub Twitter account. The purpose of this educational account is to provide policy information to those interested in the genetic service delivery system. Follow the account today to learn when a bill or regulation is introduced at the state or federal level or receive an update on a proposed bill or regulation as it moves through the legislative process. Each tweet includes bill information, a short summary of the proposed policy, and a link to our tracking system which provides more detail on what the next steps are for that particular policy.

Read more

45,X ACMG NIPS ACT Sheet Now Available

The National Coordinating Center for the Regional Genetics Networks (NCC), in partnership with ACMG, is excited to announce the publication of the latest ACMG ACT Sheet: 45, X. Each ACMG ACT Sheet includes etiologies of positive screen, clinical considerations, screening considerations, action steps, diagnostic evaluation, and provider and patient resources.

NCC sincerely thanks the NCC ACT Sheet Advisory Group, chaired by Dr. Dieter Matern, the NCC Medical Consultant; Dr. Nancy Rose; and the experts on the NCC NIPS ACT Sheet Small Group for their efforts in developing this ACT Sheet.

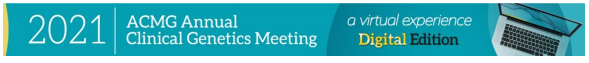
Explore all the other ACMG ACT Sheets and Algorithms on the ACMG website. If you have any questions about the ACMG ACT Sheets, please contact Megan Lyon, NCC Senior Program Manager.

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under Cooperative Agreement #UH9MC30770 from 6/2020-5/2024 for $800,000 per award year.

This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

ACMG Genetics Academy
acmgeducation.net

The 2021 ACMG Digital Edition is Available for Purchase and Viewing: CMEs Available



The **2021 ACMG Digital Edition** is available for purchase in the ACMG Genetics Academy with content available to view immediately after purchase. The Digital Edition includes access to videos of course presentations, slides, and the ability to claim CME, P.A.C.E.®, and NSGC credits.

If you purchased the extended access when registering for the April virtual meeting, you should have received instructions by email from education@acmg.net on July 16th to access the content. If you did not receive the instructions, please email education@acmg.net.

Purchase the 2021 ACMG Short Courses Digital Edition

• A Clinician's Perspective on Obesity: Syndromic and Non-Syndromic Causes, Treatment and Challenges: Purchase Now

• Integration of Functional Genomics to Improve Variant Interpretation and Diagnosis: Purchase Now

Now Available (Free)

Abstracts and Poster Gallery

2021 Satellite Symposia Digital Edition

2021 ACMG Student Challenge - Now Available!

ACMG invites all medical genetic students, residents, and genetic counseling trainees to participate in our 2021 Student Challenge. Each month, we will release a student challenge question, starting July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022. These questions are great opportunities to learn more about clinical genetics and gain knowledge about clinical genetics and inborn errors of metabolism.

To sign up for the challenge, log in and register here.

New Part IV CCP Modules

Evaluation of the Individual with Suspected Marfan Syndrome (version 2021): For clinical geneticists who are involved in the diagnosis and counseling of patients with suspected Marfan syndrome.

Purchase Now

Neurofibromatosis-Type 1 (NF1) (version 2021): For geneticists who are involved in the initial and ongoing care of patients with Neurofibromatosis type 1. This does NOT include the evaluation of patients for possible Neurofibromatosis but the ongoing care of diagnosed patients.

Purchase Now

BRCA1 and BRCA2-Associated Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer: This module evaluates clinical practice in the care of patients who are either affected and/or have a family history of breast and ovarian cancer.

Purchase Now

Chromosome and FISH Analyses of Patients with Suspicion of Turner Syndrome: This module is an overview of recommendations for metaphase chromosome analysis of patients with suspicion of Turner syndrome. Chromosome analysis, with adjunct fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) and/or chromosomal microarray, can diagnose Turner syndrome and identify the multiple different abnormal karyotypes

that may be present. The aim of this module is to encourage appropriate work-up that will detect mosaicism and other karyotypic variations that may impact clinical outcome.

Purchase Now

ABMGG Longitudinal Assessment Program CertLink

ABMGG CertLink meets ACCME requirements for continuing medical education with assessment. Through our partnership with ABMGG, ACMG will award 10 *AMA PRA Category* 1 Credits™ each year (5 credits/period) to diplomates participating in ABMGG CertLink.

For more information visit: CertLink Pilot Program | ABMGG.

Save the Dates for the 2022 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting – Attend in Nashville or Participate Online

The 2022 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting will be held March 22-26, 2022 in hybrid format, offering the opportunity to meet in Nashville for those who are ready to travel again. Attendees who wish to participate remotely can join in-person attendees for the livestreamed content, connect with peers through the platform, and view recorded sessions on demand.

Meeting features will include:

- Recorded content available to all attendees
- Attendees participate together in livestreamed sessions
- Networking with peers and professional associates – both online and in-person
- Health and safety protocols and measures will be employed

Detailed information, including registration, housing and abstract submission will be available on the Meeting website in October. Be sure to register early to take advantage of the Early Bird rates and to secure your hotel accommodations in your preferred hotel.

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