Outpatient Research Department Hosts Student Group

On March 6, a group of Rockland County high school students enrolled in a BOCES advanced science program visited NKI. The students are interested in medicine and meet with their instructor for two hours every day, either in the classroom or at local hospitals observing various units.

At NKI, the students were treated to a tour of the Center for Biomedical Imaging and Neuro-modulation, led by Dr. Stan Colcombe, followed by a talk about the brain by Dr. Russ Tobe, and a discussion about the Rockland Sample project led by Dr. Anna MacKay-Brandt. The visit wrapped up with a question and answer session in which Drs. Colcombe, Tobe, and MacKay-Brandt were joined by Kristin Trautman, LCSW, Michael Milham, MD, PhD, and Scott Cicero, PhD.

Clinical Lab Celebrates Medical Laboratory Professionals Week

The Nathan Kline Institute celebrates the service of its clinical laboratory staff during the 2017 Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (April 23-29). Throughout this week, medical technologists, technicians, and other staff members are recognized for their dedication to accuracy and precision when performing tests and collecting data that is critical to patient care. The OMH Clinical Laboratory at NKI is responsible for testing patient samples from over 39 separate psychiatric facilities across New York State. In collaboration with physicians, the laboratory staff has displayed exemplary quality performance, which was demonstrated in their March 24th College of American Pathologists (CAP) inspection. Preparation for the inspection was orchestrated by the newly appointed Quality Assurance Manager, Kim Edmonds; Assistant Quality Analyst, Leicroft Edmond; and newly appointed Assistant Medical Director, Dr. Young-Chi Kim.

(continued next page)
As we celebrate Lab Week and recognize the contribution of the laboratory staff to quality patient care, Medical Director Dr. Timothy Hilbert, Assistant Managers Raj Patel and Bina Patel, along with the rest of the OMH Clinical Laboratory staff would like to offer a special thanks to one person who seldom gets his due recognition. Phil Michaels is the Laboratory Manager of the OMH Clinical Laboratory at NKI. Throughout his 30 year tenure, he has taken the lead in shaping the current laboratory, and organizing laboratory services throughout the Office of Mental Health. In many ways, he is the architect of the consolidation of the various OMH laboratories into one OMH Regional Laboratory located at NKI. With hard work, vision, and a remarkable amount of patience, he has managed and modernized the laboratory. For three decades he has helped us to navigating a complex and sometimes frustrating State bureaucracy to procure necessary resources, but has never lost sight of our primary objective – providing the best possible patient care. During this week of celebration organized by Elizabeth Muenzer, we recognize all of our Medical Laboratory Professionals, and hope to increase awareness of this important field.

Contributed by Elizabeth Muenzer

COMPLIANCE CORNER

By Karya Ottey, PhD
IRB Director

Understanding Good Clinical Practice (GCP)

This is part II in the Good Clinical Practice (GCP) series of Compliance Corner. This issue will focus on the International Council for Harmonization (ICH). ICH establishes several international standards for the development of pharmaceutical products as an attempt to streamline the process for developing and marketing new drugs internationally. This issue will address some of the key guidelines. The NKI IRB typically requires ICH guidelines to be met by all protocols even when the protocol design is not a clinical trial involving a drug. Investigators should also be aware that the NKI IRB has a Statement of Compliance with the ICH guidelines that can be located at the bottom of the IRB Rosters found in IRBNet.

Elements of ICH

The advantage of complying with the ICH guidelines is that studies conducted in accordance with the guidelines meet higher regulatory standards that are looked upon favorably by the FDA, and equivalent government agencies in other countries, making it easier for sponsors to market the results of a trial. The ICH guidelines are not considered laws or regulations in the United States, but they are recommendations that the FDA encourage following. In compliance with the concepts set forth in ICH, the NKI IRB may request that studies comply with the ICH guidance as it is considered part of good clinical practice.

Per ICH guidelines, consent forms should state that monitors, the auditors, the IRB, and the regulatory authorities will be granted direct access to the

KUDOS

An article published by J.P. Lindenmayer, MD (Manhattan Psychiatric Center) and colleagues in the November, 2016 issue of the Journal of Managed Care & Specialty Pharmacy (JMCP) was chosen to receive the 2016 Award for Excellence. See the JMCP Award for Excellence page for more about the award and the criteria on which articles are judged. In addition to ranking the winning article highly on these criteria, the judges felt it was a well-written and thorough piece addressing a unique topic of high relevance to managed care plans.

The JMCP Award for Excellence is presented annually at AMCP’s Annual Meeting. The recipients receive a plaque and expenses for one author to travel to receive the award.
subject's original medical records for verification of clinical trial procedures. Moreover, consents should inform the subject's primary physician about the subject's participation in the trial, if the subject has a primary physician, and if the subject agrees to the primary physician being informed. The consents must be signed and personally dated by the subject, or by the subject's legally acceptable representative, and by the person who conducted the informed consent discussion. Finally, the consent form should have text indicating that the signed consent will be provided to the subject. The subject should receive a copy of the signed consent form.

All protocols should have regulatory binders. Regulatory binders may be electronic or hardcopy. The binders should contain source documents, or information about how to access the source documents. Source data should be attributable, legible, contemporaneous, original, accurate, and complete. Changes to source data should be traceable, should not obscure the original entry, and should be explained if necessary. Sponsors should not have exclusive access to case report forms and the investigators must have continuous access to data reported to a sponsor.

Protocols should have a monitoring process. ICH is more stringent about monitoring than FDA or DHHS. Per ICH guidelines, a system to manage quality throughout all stages of the trial process should be included in the monitoring plan. The quality management system should use a risk-based approach; document the rationale for the monitoring strategy; and have written reports for each monitoring occurrence.

If you have questions, please contact the NKI IRB at NKIIRB@nki.rfmh.org.

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**GRANTS RECEIVED**

**Well Cornell Medical College**

**Clinical & Translational Science Center**

Dr. Matthew Hoptman (Clinical Research) has received a [CTSC Pilot Award](#) from Weill Cornell Medical College for the project entitled “An fMRI Study of Cognitive Training Effects on Cognitive Control and Impulsive Aggression in Schizophrenia.”

**NIH National Institute on Aging**

Dr. Ralph Nixon (Dementia Research) has received a five year P01 grant from the National Institute on Aging entitled “Cell and Molecular Pathobiology of Alzheimer's Disease.”

Dr. Helen Scharfman (Dementia Research) has received a five year R01 grant from the National Institute on Aging entitled “Hyperexcitability in Alzheimer’s Disease.”

**Columbia University in the City of New York**

Dr. Ralph Nixon (Dementia Research) has received a sub-award from Columbia University entitled “Lysosome System Pathobiology and Axonopathy in Parkinson's Disease Research.”

Dr. Elisa Dias (Schizophrenia Research) has received a sub-award from Columbia entitled “tDCS Augmentation of Cognitive Remediation in Schizophrenia.”
Dr. Helen Scharfman (Dementia Research) has received funding from Pyramid Biosciences for a project entitled “TrkB Inhibition in Epilepsy.”

Dr. Michal Kunz (OMH, NYU) has received a grant from the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) Institute for Education and Research for a project entitled “Risk Assessment in Insanity Acquittees.”

FROM AROUND THE INSTITUTE

Brainhack.org

Brainhack is an organization that aims to bridge the data science and neuroscience research communities to advance the progress of brain science research. The group organizes conferences and workshops which bring researchers together to participate in open collaboration. Cameron Craddock, PhD (Biomedical Imaging & Neuromodulation) currently chairs the Brainhack Board. Dr. Craddock is also the editor of a series of Brainhack project reports published in the open science journal Research Ideas and Outcomes (RIO). For more on this collection of reports, see this press release.

CITYLIMITS.ORG

Retired Research Scientist Kim Hopper, PhD, the author of Reckoning with Homelessness, wrote a CityViews opinion column, “The Long View on New York’s Homeless Problem,” for the City Limits website.

Dr. Nunzio Pomara (Geriatric Psychiatry) was quoted in this Scientific American article on brain imaging in depression.

OMH has released its Statewide Comprehensive Five-Year Plan for 2016-2020. The 2016-2020 Comprehensive Plan includes a review of consumers, services and programs, and gross expenditures within the New York State public mental health system. The Plan also reviews several top priorities for OMH policy and planning efforts in the current and upcoming years.

Lloyd Sederer, MD, Chief Medical Officer for OMH, has published Current Controversies in Mental Health and Addictions: An Expert’s Anthology, a compilation of his various writings on these topics. Dr. Sederer is also the mental health editor for The Huffington Post, and he writes a regular column on mental health for US News & World Report.
Donald Wilson, PhD (Emotional Brain Institute) is the lead author of this chapter in a new book on memory consolidation.


Regina Sullivan, PhD and graduate student Adrienne Santiago (Emotional Brain Institute) are coauthors of this Current Opinion piece.


Dr. Migyu Lee and other members of Daniel Javitt’s Schizophrenia Research group at NKI published this paper in Molecular Psychiatry.


Drs. Michael Milham and Xavier Castellanos are coauthors of this study in The Lancet Psychiatry. The paper is accompanied by a Comment ("Collective analytics: advancing the neuroscience of ADHD"), and it was reported by HealthDay ("Imaging Study Confirms Brain Differences in People with ADHD").


Dr. Michael Milham (Biomedical Imaging & Neuromodulation) coauthored this Commentary appearing in Nature Neuroscience.


Joseph LeDoux, PhD (Emotional Brain Institute) coauthored this paper recently published in PNAS.

Cameron Craddock, PhD (Biomedical Imaging & Neuromodulation) is a coauthor of this article in the open access journal *PLoS Computational Biology*.


J.P. Lindenmayer, MD, and NKI colleagues at the Manhattan Psychiatric Center published this study of cognitive remediation in *Schizophrenia Research*.


Crystal Fuller Lewis, PhD (Social Solutions & Services), Adriana Joseph, and Donald Goff coauthored this paper on synthetic cannabinoid use with NYU colleagues.


Drs. Regina Sullivan and Xavier Castellanos, along with other members of NKI’s Emotional Brain Institute and Center for Biomedical Imaging & Neuromodulation, published this paper in the online, open access journal *Translational Psychiatry*.


Maya Opendak, PhD, and Regina Sullivan, PhD (Emotional Brain Institute) are coauthors of this open access article in *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*.


Helen Scharfman, PhD, Áine Duffy, PhD, and Jillian Moretto (Dementia Research) published this paper in *Brain Structure & Function*.

Eva Petkova, PhD (Child & Adolescent Psychiatry) is the first author of this open access article.


Drs. Michael Milham, Cameron Craddock, David O'Connor, and Xavier Castellanos are among the coauthors of this open access data descriptor in Scientific Data.


INFO UPDATE

Recommended

Recommended is a new service from Springer Nature. It is a personalized alerting service that suggests relevant papers to you based on what you've previously read. You can sign up on the site to start receiving email recommendations.

PubMed.gov

Have you ever noticed an error in the PubMed record for one of your papers (e.g., name misspelled, etc.)? There is now a quicker process in place for making corrections. Authors should now contact the publisher of the journal in question to make the necessary changes. Once corrections are made in the new PubMed Data Management System, they should appear in PubMed within 1-2 days. See this NCBI Insights blog post for more details.

PubMed® Online Training

The National Library of Medicine offers numerous online tutorials and other training materials for getting the most out of PubMed. These range from a comprehensive tutorial, to “Quick Tours” of many narrower topics, to targeted video recordings. Go to the PubMed Online Training page to access these resources.
The NKI librarian is always available to assist with literature searching, citation searching (Web of Science, Scopus), bibliographic reference management, and the like. When you have any information needs, or questions about available resources, don’t hesitate to turn to us.

The library offers a comfortable, quiet space for reading, work, and small meetings. To use the library’s Wi-Fi network, ask the library staff for the password.

You can link to the NKI Library’s website from myNKI. The Library site includes quick links to the NYU Health Sciences Library and to the New York State Library, as well as links to NKI’s own library resources (journal finder, online catalog, PsychiatryOnline, etc.). Remote access is available using NKI’s VPN.

**DEPARTMENT OF WONDER**

**NIH Director’s Blog**

This blog post highlights an award-winning video showing the activity of individual neurons in the brains of living animals in real-time. The graduate student who engineered the video has started a magazine, called Interstellate, to provide a platform for sharing amazing images like these with the public. (Volume 1 is online, and volume 2 is in the works.) You can see all of the winners of the 2016 FASEB BioArt contest here.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND SEMINARS**

**NYU Center for Cognitive Neurology**

**Annual Research Day**

Research Day will feature speakers and poster presentations encompassing the entire spectrum of the CCN’s efforts in the basic, translational, clinical and psychosocial disciplines of brain aging research. The event is a great way to come together for collaborations and other interactions, and we hope everyone will make or reuse recent posters to update CCN colleagues and the NYU research community about current research activities.

**Thursday, April 27**

1:00pm-5:00pm

Alumni Hall B and Farkas Breezeway

NYU Langone Medical Center

**Center for Biomedical Imaging and Neuromodulation Seminar Series**

**M. Mercedes Perez-Rodriguez, MD, PhD**

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

**Cognitive and Social Cognition as Therapeutic Targets in the Psychosis Spectrum**

Monday, April 17, 11 am

**Jin Fan, PhD**

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Queens College, CUNY

**The Capacity of Cognitive Control**

Monday, May 8, 11 am

**Iris Groen, PhD**

**Title TBA**

Monday, May 15, 11 am
Center for Dementia Research Seminar Series

Held on Thursdays at 10 am

Peter Nelson, MD, PhD
Professor, University of Kentucky

Alzheimer’s disease mimics: common and under-appreciated causes of dementia
April 20th
Hosted by Dr. Stephen Ginsberg

André Fenton, PhD
Professor of Neural Science
NYU Center for Neural Science

Neural dynamics and the structure of cognition
May 4th
Hosted by Dr. Stephen Ginsberg

Jonathan D. Geiger, PhD
Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor
University of North Dakota

Role of endolysosomes in pathogenesis of HIV-1 associated neurocognitive disorders and Alzheimer’s disease
May 25th
Hosted by Dr. Ralph Nixon

Statewide Grand Rounds

The Spectrum of Dementia in Psychiatry

Presenter: Edward D. Huey, MD
Assistant Professor
Departments of Psychiatry & Neurology
Columbia University Medical Center

Presenter: Ralph A. Nixon, PhD, MD
Director, Center for Dementia Research, NKI

Moderator: Lloyd I. Sederer, MD
Chief Medical Officer, NYS OMH

Wednesday, April 19th
1:00 – 2:30 pm
Director’s Conference Room

NKI PUBLICATIONS UPDATE

Below is a list of references that have been added to the NKI publications database since the previous update. The full database contains over 5,400 items dating back to 1995, and can be searched from the myNKI website.


Feng W, Störmer VS, Martinez A, McDonald JJ, Hilliard SA. Involuntary orienting of attention to a sound desynchronizes the occipital alpha rhythm and improves visual perception. Neuroimage. 2017 Feb 16;150:318-328.

The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) regularly hosts an interactive video broadcast covering the latest research, technology, and treatment implementation in the fields of psychiatry and psychology. These programs are recorded, and the archived Statewide Grand Rounds programs can be viewed on the OMH website.


Krakowski M, Nolan K. Depressive Symptoms Associated With Aggression. Psychiatric Times 2017 February 27;34(2).

Mueller J, Opitz A, Legon W, Paulus W, Tyler W. Effects on EEG dynamics by weak electric fields from sham TMS. Brain Stimulation 10[1], e6-e7. 2017. [Abstract]


