Kate Collins, PhD, joined NKI’s clinical research group in January as a research scientist. Kate received her MSW from NYU in 2006 and her Neuroscience PhD in 2014 from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She has expertise in the conduct of mood and anxiety disorder clinical trials and the application of functional magnetic resonance imaging as a tool to identify the substrates of psychiatric illness. Kate is especially interested in studies designed to interrogate novel therapies and improve treatment algorithms. At NKI, she will work closely with Drs. Dan Iosifescu, Emily Stern, Matt Hoptman, and Pam Butler.

Stuart Linder also recently joined NKI, as Project Manager. While new to NKI, Stu has many years of administrative experience, which he describes briefly here:

Over the past forty years I have been responsible for progressively more complex issues related to the administrative aspects of large health care facilities and university-affiliated research institutes. My work experience includes time as Deputy Director, Administration at several NYS OMH facilities such as Rockland Children’s Psychiatric Center; Kirby Forensic PC; Manhattan PC, and most recently NYS Psychiatric Institute.
My various responsibilities included oversight of multi-million-dollar budgets, facility support services such as Security/Safety; Maintenance; Environmental Services; Nutrition Services, and various oversight of administrative departments, including Human Resources and Business Office operations. Additional responsibilities included leadership roles in compliance-related activities such as Joint Commission, CMS, and AAALAC accreditation.

I am very excited about my new opportunity at NKI, where I will be working closely with Tom O’Hara in my capacity as Project Manager. I am hopeful that my years of experience can be an asset to the exceptional staff and culture here at NKI.

**KUDOS**

The National Council for Behavioral Health has recognized NYS OMH’s **Lloyd Sederer, MD**, for excellence in behavioral health, with its 2019 **Doc of the Year Award**. This award recognizes a psychiatrist or physician who has gone above and beyond the call of duty, empowering patients to define their own goals and providing the encouragement and support to help them achieve their dreams.

Dr. Sederer recently stepped down from his role as Chief Medical Officer of OMH, a position he held for nearly 12 years. He remains with OMH in an advisory capacity.

**Efrat Levy, PhD** (Center for Dementia Research) has been promoted to the rank of Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Biochemistry & Molecular Pharmacology at the New York University School of Medicine. **Dr. Levy’s laboratory** studies the factors that initiate and propagate pathology in neurodegenerative disorders. She is currently the principal or co-principal investigator on five active NIH grants.

**Paul O’Connor** of the Information Sciences Division (ISD) was recently recognized by the International Consortium to Predict PTSD (ICPP) at the 34th Annual Symposium of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS) for his assistance with data management, editing and quality assurance in a study funded by Public Health Service Research Grant MH101227, entitled “Predicting Acute PTSD from Peritraumatic Experience: Results from the International Consortium to Predict PTSD”.

Traumatic injury is common in the general population and can be a significant antecedent of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). An early assessment of PTSD risk following traumatic injury is paramount to preventing the disorder. Ideally,
such an assessment should be implemented upon survivors’ acute care admission.

Previous work by the ICPP revealed that incremental severity scores of the Clinician Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS) accurately predict the likelihood of chronic PTSD. The CAPS can only be reliably administered two to four weeks after acute care admission. Its administration is burdensome, requiring clinical expertise. Obtainable during acute care admission, peritraumatic reactions inconsistently predict chronic PTSD, but might efficiently predict early CAPS symptoms, thereby offering a stepwise prediction of chronic PTSD. This work used the Peritraumatic Dissociative Experiences Questionnaire (PDEQ) to examine the feasibility of predicting early CAPS scores (CAPS > 40) that infer high likelihood of chronic PTSD.

Participants were 647 longitudinally evaluated traumatic injury survivors from five studies conducted by members of the ICPP. Participants had PDEQ assessments within 30 days of trauma exposure and CAPS assessments 30-60 days after trauma exposure. A CAPS score of 40, indicative of moderate PTSD, was used as the predicted outcome of the PDEQ score. Logistic regression was used to derive the probability of a CAPS score > 40 given the PDEQ total score.

PDEQ severity scores significantly predicted having CAPS score > 40. Age, gender, type of trauma and data source produced negligible improvements in prediction accuracy. Incremental PDEQ severity scores reliably estimated the likelihood of early CAPS scores predicting chronic PTSD and requiring clinical attention. Responses to traumatic events, exemplified by the PDEQ, can be used as a screener in a stepwise PTSD prediction strategy. This proof of concept finding may be extended to other measures of peritraumatic responses.

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**COMPLIANCE CORNER**

**IT Governance, Risk Management and Compliance**

*By Kathryn Cook, M.S., MCSE, MCSA, CCA IT Project Manager*

Since the record-breaking bankruptcy of Enron and WorldCom in the early 2000's, compliance has gained growing importance tied to business processes. As data and information sharing increased due to more reliance on technology and consumer expectations, businesses found themselves guilty of information failures because of inadequate infrastructure and weak or non-existent compliance measures. As a result, most of today's industries—both public sector and private sector—grapple with the pressures, policies, and procedural upheavals of increased regulation.

When it comes to compliance management, the ability to maintain and protect information, remediate problems, and provide adequate compliance reports are essential. Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) refers to a strategy for management and compliance with required regulations. In other words, GRC represents a structured approach to aligning IT with business objectives, while effectively managing risk and meeting compliance requirements. With increasing automation of all core business processes, IT keeps gaining in importance and serves as a driver of business processes.

[Click here](#) to continue reading about GRC and application at NKI. The complete document can be found on myNKI under Administration → Institute Manuals and Policies → Information Technology.
Yoga and exercise groups are now meeting regularly in the NKI library at 4:30 on Tuesdays (yoga) and Thursdays (exercise). Beginners are welcome! Please arrive 5 minutes early and bring your own yoga mat. If you have any questions, please email Catia Teixeira or Lindsay Laughlin.

*Please note that these activities are an informal get-together on personal time (not work time). Also, neither the person guiding the exercises nor NKI bear any liability related to the activities.*

Leading the yoga group is Lindsay Laughlin, a research assistant in Dr. Christopher Cain’s lab (Emotional Brain Institute), which she joined after interning with Dr. Catia Teixeira during pre-medical studies at NYU, where she majored in Biology with a minor in Psychology. Although she is not a certified yoga instructor, Lindsay has been practicing yoga for a number of years and has found that it has greatly improved her mood, focus, and ability to balance stress. She says, “It's an honor to do a service for the NKI community which has given me so much personally and professionally.”

Need more incentive to try it out? Check out “*Increased well-being: Another reason to try yoga*”.

Esketamine nasal spray was recently approved by the US FDA for treatment-resistant depression. In an interview with *MD Magazine*, Clinical Research Director Dan Iosifescu, MD, offered some insight about what to expect from this new drug. You can see the video or read the transcript [here](#).

The week of April 21-27 is [National Medical Laboratory Week](#). It’s a great time to thank the health professionals who work in the laboratory – Clinical Laboratory Scientists, also known as Medical Technologists. Clinical laboratory professionals are responsible for performing laboratory tests that provide over 70% of the information for medical decision making. Laboratorians work tirelessly for patient health and do so with little recognition, but the impact of their work is significant.
NKI Director Donald Goff contributed this Editorial to *JAMA Psychiatry*. The piece comments on two articles that will be published in the same monthly issue.


**Neurology**

Anna MacKay-Brandt (Outpatient Research) coauthored this recent article in *Neurology*.


**Psychiatry Research**

Robert Smith (Neurochemistry) is a corresponding author of this large study of cognitive function in a wide spectrum of patients at risk for schizophrenia, prodromal patients, and those with acute and chronic schizophrenia.


**Molecular Neurodegeneration**

Ricardo Osorio (Clinical Research) is a corresponding author of this article in the open access journal *Molecular Neurodegeneration*.


**Sleep**

Dr. Osorio is also a corresponding author of this paper published online in *Sleep*, on the relationship between obstructive sleep apnea and Alzheimer’s disease biomarkers.

Maya Opendak and Regina Sullivan (Emotional Brain Institute) are coauthors of this paper in the 2019 Annual Review of Clinical Psychology.


Drs. Opendak and Sullivan, with others from the Emotional Brain Institute, also published recently in Neuropsychopharmacology. Another new article appearing online in this journal was coauthored by Dan Iosifescu (Clinical Research).


Hippocampus

Two new papers by NKI investigators appear in Hippocampus. The first is by Lila Davachi (Biomedical Imaging & Neuromodulation) and colleagues. The second is by Helen Scharfman and members of her lab (Dementia Research).


Jain S, LaFrancois JJ, Botterill JJ, Alcantara-Gonzalez D, Scharfman HE. Adult neurogenesis in the mouse dentate gyrus protects the hippocampus from neuronal injury following severe seizures. Hippocampus. 2019 Jan 23. PMID: 30672046.

These two new publications in Nature Communications include NKI coauthors Michael Milham (Biomedical Imaging and Neuromodulation) and Donald Wilson (Emotional Brain Institute), respectively.


Mariko Saito (Neurochemistry) and Mitsuo Saito (Analytical Psychopharmacology) coauthored this paper published in the *International Journal of Developmental Neuroscience*.


In this Letter to the Editor, Nunzio Pomara (Geriatric Psychiatry) and colleague Davide Bruno suggest novel approaches to overcome the current therapeutic limitations of amyloid beta-lowering-based treatments in AD and related disorders.


Jean Pierre Lindenmayer (Manhattan Psychiatric Center) is one of nine experts in the field who published these consensus recommendations for the diagnosis and clinical management of treatment-resistant schizophrenia.


INFO UPDATE

The new third edition of the *Textbook of Traumatic Brain Injury* has been added to the PsychiatryOnline Premium Package, available online at NKI. This package includes journals published by the American Psychiatric Association, the *DSM-V*, and over a dozen textbooks covering various areas of psychiatry.

The National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) continuously works to improve PubMed. *PubMed Labs* is a test site where new features and tools can be assessed. Eventually, these new elements may be incorporated into PubMed. Some of the current experimental features, such as enhanced search results and responsive design, are described in “An Updated PubMed Is on Its Way”. At PubMed Labs, you can try out the new features and offer feedback.

Also coming soon is a new version of My Bibliography. As with PubMed, you can preview the new look and feel using the NCBI Labs site, and provide feedback if you wish. You can safely try out this new version without affecting anything in your existing My Bibliography.
DEPARTMENT OF WONDER

A Psychiatric History Lesson

The original Rockland State Hospital dates back to about 1930, and the Rockland campus was once very different from the way it is today. In a two-part Psychiatric News article titled “The Rise and Demise of America’s Psychiatric Hospitals: a Tale of Dollars Trumping Decency”, Jeffrey Geller, MD, MPH (incoming president of the American Psychiatric Association) briefly recounts the history of psychiatric hospitals in this country. The first part covers the 19th century, and the second part covers the 20th century. Among other sobering facts, he notes that “In 1955, 50 percent of all hospital beds in the United States were psychiatric beds”. Rockland even gets a passing mention.

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 myNIK. 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.

A recent segment on the WNYC show The Takeaway discussed Right to Fail, a new documentary about the housing of mentally ill patients, and the balance between care and protection on one hand, and freedom and independence on the other. You can listen to the segment and find a link to the documentary here: “A Court Said New York’s Mentally Ill Should Be Able to Live on Their Own. But Can They?”

We like to complain when weather forecasters get it wrong, but the fact is that forecasts up to about 10 days are currently very accurate. The “butterfly effect”, however, may limit the extent of future progress on this front. That’s according to “A 2-week weather forecast may be as good as it gets” in Science.
**EVENTS AND SEMINARS**

**9th Annual Translational and Molecular Imaging Institute Symposium**
Friday, April 26th
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

[Click here](#) for details.

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**First-ever Columbia Magnetic Resonance Research Center Symposium**
Tuesday, May 28th

All faculty, students, and staff are welcome to attend this day-long event featuring talks by leading Columbia MR researchers, networking opportunities, poster sessions, and an evening reception.

Question about this event can be sent to Kathleen Durkin, MR Research Administrator, at [kd2649@columbia.edu](mailto:kd2649@columbia.edu).

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**RPC Grand Rounds**

**Ricardo Osorio, MD**
Clinical Research, NKI
NYU Department of Psychiatry

**Sleep Disorders**
Thursday, April 25th at 11 am
Building 57, 8th floor north conference room

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**Center for Dementia Research Seminar Series**

*Held on Thursdays at 10 am*

**Michael Strong, MD**
Western University, Ontario

**Pathological tau protein metabolism in ALS**
May 2nd

**Virgil Muresan, PhD**
Rutgers

**New Aspects of APP Biology: Relevance to Alzheimer's Disease and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis**
May 23rd

**Neil MacLusky, PhD**
University of Guelph

**Neuroprotective Effects of Androgen Metabolites – are they the basis for sex differences in the incidence of Alzheimer's disease?**
May 30th

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

*Held on Mondays at 11 am unless otherwise noted*

**Amy Margolis, PhD**
Columbia University Irving Medical Center

**Nonverbal Learning Disability: Phenomenology, Frequency and Neurobiology**
April 8th
Daniel Margulies, PhD  
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)  
**Large-Scale Gradients in Cortical Organization**  
April 8th at 2 pm

Alessandro Gozzi, PhD  
Instituto Italiano di Tecnologia  
**Mapping the Neuro-Connectional Landscape in Autism with Cross-Species fMRI**  
WEDNESDAY, April 10th

Conor Liston, MD, PhD  
Weill Cornell Medicine  
**Sexually Dimorphic Functional Connectivity Biomarkers Predict Distinct Symptom Clusters in Depression**  
April 15th

Gary Kennedy, MD  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
**He’s at the office: How the neuroscientific basis of affect regulation explains the benefits of behavioral interventions for neurocognitive disorders**  
April 22nd

Zarrar Shehzad, PhD  
Yale University  
**TBA**  
May 6th

Stewart H. Mostofsky, PhD  
Kennedy Krieger Institute  
Johns Hopkins University  
**Movement in ADHD: Through Space and Time**  
May 13th

Jacek Dmochowski, PhD  
City College of New York  
**Increased Blood Flow and Oxidative Metabolism in the Human Brain by Transcranial Laser Stimulation**  
June 3rd

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**Statewide Grand Rounds**

**Managing Emotional Dysregulation & Minimizing Violence**

Merrill Rotter, MD  
Senior Forensic Advisor to the Commissioner, NYS OMH

Michal Kunz, MD  
Clinical Director, Kirby Psychiatric Center

Joseph DiPrisco, RN  
PMCS Coach, Pilgrim Psychiatric Center

Wednesday, April 17th  
1:00 – 2:30 pm  
*Broadcast in the Director’s conference room*

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.
Below is a list of references that have been added to the NKI publications database since the previous update. The full database contains over 6,000 items dating back to 1995, and can be searched from the myNKI website.


Jain S, LaFrancois JJ, Botterill JJ, Alcantara-Gonzalez D, Scharfman HE. Adult neurogenesis in the mouse dentate gyrus protects the hippocampus from neuronal injury following severe seizures. Hippocampus. 2019 Jan 23. PMID: 30672046.


Medalia A, Saperstein AM, Qian M, Javitt DC. Impact of baseline early auditory processing on response to cognitive remediation for schizophrenia. Schizophr Res. 2019 Jan 18. PMID: 30665714.


