Mentorship Spotlight





"I think the collaboration with UVM is really fruitful because of the high-caliber people they have there in pediatrics [and pediatric neurology], in helping promote what we're doing [in Maine]."

Alexa Craig, MD, MSc, MS
Mentee

Background

- Board Certified in Child Neurology & Epilepsy
- Neonatal and Pediatric Neurologist, Maine Medical Partners
- MS in Clinical and Translational Research
- Assistant professor,
 Department of Pediatrics, Tufts
 University School of Medicine

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"Most of my mentoring and training is with medical students, residents and post-docs so it's nice to mentor someone who already has a good understanding of how research is done. I learn as much from Dr. Craig as she learns from me. The interchange of ideas with an accomplished junior colleague also allows me to grow scientifically as well."

Gregory Holmes, MD Mentor

Background

- Board Certified in Child Neurology and Pediatrics – Primary Care
- Physician Leader of Neurology,
 University of Vermont Medical
 Center
- Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurological Sciences, Larner College of Medicine, University of Vermont

NNE-CTR Participation

- Received Round 1 Pilot funding, 2017
- Co-PI for Maine Medical Center on UVM, MMC, and Dartmouth multi-site cross-state Pilot grant funded research project on sleep disturbances in newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome
- Use of Research Design Core for statistical analyses and methods support
- Used Rural Core navigator to connect with UVM researchers interested in neonatology research

Mentee Experience

- Receives guidance and input on grant applications
- Training and mentorship support in use of advanced EEG analytic techniques
- Anticipated co-authoring publications based on joint research

Value of Mentorship

"I think these pilot grants are best done when you have somebody who's helping make sure that you're writing a good grant. [Dr. Holmes] has the experience in this very advanced EEG analysis technique. Because he is incredibly well-published and well-funded, and he's supporting me, I think it gives me more credibility [in publishing my work]"

NNE-CTR Participation

Mentoring for pilot project funded in 2019

Mentor Contributions

- Teaches mentee in use of advanced quantitative EEG analytic techniques
- Mentorship on grantsmanship and feedback on proposal development and research design

"Dr. Craig and I have worked together in the past effectively. When I learned about this project in neonatal EE I was quite anxious to re-engage since Dr. Craig is already an accomplished pediatric neurologist and electroencephalographer who has expertise in neonatal neurology. Adding quantitative EEG to her skillset will allow her to take the next step in her research career. In addition to higher-level assessments of the immature nervous system I can help her with clinical trial design, statistical analysis and interpretation of results for manuscript and grant preparation."

Value of Mentorship

"It's really fun to work with a very bright investigator, and I think Dr. Craig is going to be a superstar. She has already published excellent papers and it's just nice to see her develop. She's going to do well because of her motivation, intellect, knowledge basis and passion to understand and treat neurological disease in children."

Learn more

The NNE-CTR Network leverages and coordinates regional resources to conduct collaborative clinical and translation research and disseminate findings to improve both health and healthcare delivery in our region. To learn more or join the NNE-CTR Network, visit: http://nne-ctr.net/. This work is supported by the NIH CTR grant (NNE-CTR): U54GM115516