



# RESEARCH IN ADDICTION MEDICINE SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2021-2023 Scholars

## Scholars



### Jessica Calihan, MD, MS

**Addiction Medicine**  
**Boston Children's Hospital**

NAC Mentor: Kathleen Brady, MD, PhD

Dr. Calihan is an Adolescent Medicine Fellow at Boston Children's Hospital and completed a Pediatric Addiction Medicine Fellowship with the Adolescent Substance Use and Addiction Program 2021-2022. Her RAMS research project analyzed how parent beliefs and behaviors are associated with alcohol use by youth with chronic medical conditions. Broadly she is interested in developing comprehensive care programs for families affected by substance use to prevent adolescent substance use.



### Paul Christine, MD, PhD, MPH

**Addiction Medicine**  
**Boston Medical Center**

NAC Mentor: Patrick O'Connor, MD, MPH

Dr. Christine is an Addiction Medicine Fellow at Boston Medical Center. He is interested in the effects of health and social policies on the availability and quality of care for individuals with substance use disorders. He is particularly passionate about researching and promoting equitable policies that improve outcomes for individuals in safety net settings. His current work focuses on Medicaid policies related to the availability of medications for opioid use disorder.



### Norris Curl, MD

**Addiction Medicine**  
**Howard University College of Medicine**

NAC Mentor: Roger Weiss, MD

Dr. Curl is currently an Addiction Medicine Fellow at Howard University. He has an interest in developing evidence-based treatments that improve the quality of life for people with addiction. He wants to make it easier for physicians to treat addiction. His current research focus explores barriers and facilitators of treatment for opioid use disorders in Washington D.C.

## Mentors



### Elissa Weitzman, ScD, MSc

**Harvard Medical School**

Dr. Weitzman is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and Associate Scientist in the Adolescent/Young Adult Medicine and Computational Health Informatics Programs at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH). With over twenty years of research experience about adolescent substance abuse and the efficacy of novel preventative interventions, she currently leads a multidisciplinary research program centered on adolescent substance use and directs research training for the Pediatric Addiction medicine fellowship program within BCH.



### Marc Laroche, MD, MPH

**Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine**

Dr. Laroche is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine with interests in primary care and addiction medicine. He is also the Associate Director of the BUSM Primary Care Fellowship. His research interests include the safety of opioid prescribing and the treatment of opioid use disorders. He aims to leverage insights from large data sources and translate the findings into interventions that improve the quality and value of health care delivered.



### Richard Schottenfeld, MD

**Howard University College of Medicine**

Dr. Schottenfeld is a Professor and the Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Howard University College of Medicine. He is focused on improving the efficacy, accessibility and availability of addiction treatment in the United States and internationally – in Malaysia, Iran, and China. He has also developed new programs that integrate addictions treatment and general medical services and has evaluated the pharmacological and behavioral components of different treatments for opioid dependence and other addictive disorders.



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### Leah Habersham, MD, MBA, MLIS

**Addiction Medicine**  
**Icahn School of  
Medicine at Mount  
Sinai**

NAC Mentor: Gail D'Onofrio, MD, MS

Dr. Leah Habersham is an Addiction Medicine Specialist and Obstetrician & Gynecologist, with clinical experience as a General OBGYN in both rural and urban settings. As an OBGYN-Addiction Specialist and Clinical Researcher, her primary mission is to serve as a bridge between the two specialties, providing evidence-based care for marginalized women living with addiction in the NYC area. Dr. Habersham is leading an integrated OBGYN-Addiction treatment program within the Mount Sinai Health System, and she is providing Addiction treatment at a female only outpatient treatment program.



### Olaniyi 'Niyi' Olayinka, MD, MPH

**Addiction Psychiatry**  
**Yale School of  
Medicine**

NAC Mentor: Michael Stein, MD

Dr. Olayinka is Assistant Professor in the Faillace Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences at McGovern Medical School, and a board-certified psychiatrist at UTHealth Houston Harris County Psychiatric Center since July 2022. He recently completed his addiction psychiatry fellowship at Yale School of Medicine. He has broad clinical, teaching and research experience, having worked in different settings in various countries. He trained with the CDC as an Applied Epidemiology post-doc, is a member of both the APA and CPDD, and is currently working on Sex Differences Among Individuals With Chronic Pain and Opioid Use Disorder Entering Methadone Maintenance Treatment.



### Victor Tang, MD, MSc, FRCPC

**Addiction Psychiatry**  
**Centre for Addiction  
and Mental Health**  
**University of Toronto**

NAC Mentor: Jeffrey Samet, MD, MA, MPH

Dr. Tang is an addiction psychiatrist and clinician scientist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto conducting translational clinical research and clinical trials. His research focus is on the development of novel, non-invasive neurostimulation treatments for substance use disorders. His current projects are focused on pilot randomized controlled trials of repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation for patients with addictions and comorbid mood disorders.

## Mentors

### Annie Levesque, MD, MSc

Dr. Levesque is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She is also the Medical Director of the Opioid Treatment Program and Associate Director of the Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program at Mount Sinai West Hospital. Her past research work focused on the impact of psychiatric disorders on risk behaviors for the transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C. She is currently co-investigator of a NIH funded clinical trial aiming to evaluate the effectiveness of cannabidiol to reduce craving for opioid in patients with opioid use disorder.

**Icahn School of  
Medicine at  
Mount Sinai**



### Declan Barry, PhD

Dr. Barry is a licensed clinical psychologist and an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and the Child Study Center at Yale School of Medicine. He is the Founding Director of the APT Foundation Pain Treatment Services. His research is aimed at developing and evaluating treatments for co-occurring opioid use disorder and chronic pain, and examining the role of sociocultural, psychological, and biological factors in the occurrence and treatment of pain and addictions. Dr. Barry has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles, is a multiple principal investigator on two NIH funded studies, and Associate Editor of the *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health* and is Co-Editor of the Substance Use Disorder Section at *Pain Medicine*.

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Medicine**



### Bernard Le Foll, MD, PhD, MCFP

Dr. Le Foll is a Professor in the Departments of Family Medicine, Pharmacology and Toxicology, and Psychiatry and nominated Endowed Chair of Addiction Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. He is Clinical Research Innovation Lead within the Addiction Division and Head of the Alcohol Research and Treatment Clinic at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. With dedication to improving treatment of drug addiction and extensive research expertise in addiction, clinical trials, and comorbidity, he has published over 230 peer-reviewed manuscripts.

**Centre for Addiction  
and Mental Health**

**University of Toronto**



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