



Dartmouth
GEISEL SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

Office of
MEDICAL STUDENT
RESEARCH

Weekly Newsletter

Aug 28, 2025

The Student Research Office is actively supporting medical students throughout their research journey, serving as a central resource to help navigate onboarding requirements and connect with opportunities across departments. The office regularly shares active research projects and offers guidance on how to get involved.

Students are strongly encouraged to visit the office at **Remsen 230** for any research-related information and to begin their research journey.

Contact: Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu



Recent News

A Warm Welcome for Geisel's MD Class of 2029 :

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/news/2025/a-warm-welcome-for-geisels-md-class-of-2029/>

Geisel Launches Learning Collaboratives for Flourishing in Medical Education

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/news/2025/geisel-launches-learning-collaboratives-for-flourishing-in-medical-education/>

Geisel Medical Student Awarded National Fellowship for AI Tool Advancing Brain Tumor Research

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/news/2025/geisel-medical-student-awarded-national-fellowship-for-ai-tool-advancing-brain-tumor-research/>



DARTMOUTH HITCHCOCK MEDICAL CENTER

Medical Student Research Fair 2025

Join us for the 1st Annual Medical Student Research Fair, featuring representatives from departments across Geisel, including both foundational and clinical sciences.

DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025
TIME: 5 PM - 7 PM
LOCATION: DHMC (AUDITORIUM G AND THE CHILCOTT ATRIUM)

Refreshments and foods will be provided.

Featured Opportunities



Community and Family Medicine

Faculty: Milan Satcher, MD



Quantitative Biomedical Sciences

Programming / Neurocognitive Lab Projects , Dr. Chris Niemczak, PhD

Dr. Satcher is a family physician-researcher at DH and TDI, focusing on improving care transitions and healthcare utilization for populations affected by the criminal legal system and substance use disorders.

- Linkage to primary care, substance use treatment, and social services during reentry to rural communities
- Rapid scoping review of self-management interventions for adults experiencing incarceration and reentry

Auditory and Neurocognitive Function in MCI – NIH- and Hitchcock Foundation–funded study investigating behavioral and electrophysiological auditory assessments in mild cognitive impairment, with links to Alzheimer’s disease pathophysiology. Involves coding (preferably MATLAB) and offers authorship and collaboration opportunities with Dartmouth and McGill Neurological Institute researchers.



Emergency Medicine : Community-Engaged Descriptive Study – Ski Patrol Response Times

Evadne Marcolini, MD (Evadne.G.Marcolini@Hitchcock.org)

Medical students can participate in a study examining trends in ski-patrol transport and patient extrication times at ski resorts in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. The study considers both environmental factors (weather, snow quality) and human factors (dispatch delays, staffing, training) to identify ways to reduce extrication time and improve patient outcomes.

Students interested in these research opportunities are encouraged to contact Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu for more information and guidance.

The NIH Medical Research Scholars Program (MRSP) is a comprehensive, year-long research enrichment opportunity for creative, research-focused medical, dental, and veterinary students. The program takes place at the NIH intramural campus in Bethesda, MD.

Applications open on **September 1st, 2024**, and the deadline to apply is **December 2nd, 2024**. This is an externally reviewed program.

For more information and to apply, please visit the NIH MRSP website.

More information can be found at: [NIH Medical Research Scholars Program \[cc.nih.gov\]](https://cc.nih.gov).

National Institutes of Health
Medical Research Scholars Program
The premier pre-doctoral training program, shaping the future of health by inspiring careers in biomedical research as clinician-scientists

World Class Research
Access to the technical and clinical resources of over 300 NIH laboratories

Mentorship
Close supervision of research project by senior NIH investigator

Networking
Connect with leading national experts across varied career fields

Career Development
Curriculum of lectures, rounds, journal clubs, and leadership forums

Eligibility
For U.S. citizens and permanent residents currently enrolled in an LCME accredited medical, AOA accredited osteopathic, CODA accredited dental, or AVMA accredited veterinary programs, and in their 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year. Interested students should have strong interest in conducting basic, clinical, or translational research.

Application Opens September 1st
Application Deadline is December 1, 2025

NIH Office of Clinical Research Training and Medical Education
Contact: MRSP@mail.nih.gov

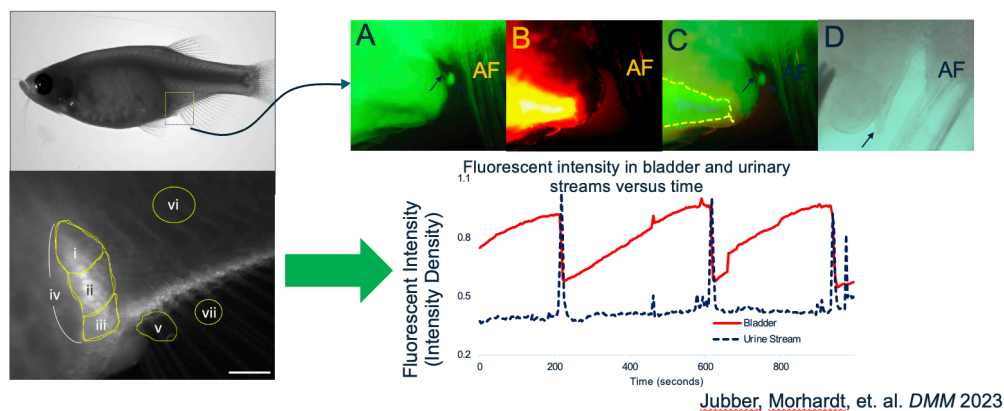
Follow us! @NIHClinicalCntr

Research Opportunity Highlight: Pediatric Urology

Pediatric Urology Lab Faculty Mentor: Duncan Morhardt, MD, PhD Department: Pediatric Urology Project Title: Immunohistochemical Analysis of Zebrafish Bladder Dr. Morhardt focuses on understanding the development of bladder function and urinary continence using zebrafish as a model system. Zebrafish offer unique advantages for studying innervation, protein expression, and pharmacology because they are transparent during development and allow higher throughput investigations. These studies provide insight into rare but clinically significant events, such as the effects of environmental chemicals and rare diseases. The findings have broad clinical implications, ranging from genital malformation to bladder dysfunction in both children and adults.

Zebrafish urinary bladders are anatomically and functionally analogous to mammals

Pericardial injections of fluorescent dextran reveals separate urinary tract (above) and functional urinary bladder in zebrafish (below). **This sets the stage for using the transparent zebrafish to investigate numerous urologic diseases that cannot be examined in mammals**, informing emerging clinical and surgical management strategies.



Jubber, Morhardt, et. al. *DMM* 2023



Angelo Volandes, MD, MPH
Anna Gundlach Huber
Professor of Medicine
Geisel School of Medicine at
Dartmouth
Vice Chair for Research
Department of Medicine

Medicine Grand Rounds

Friday, September 12, 2025
8:00 - 9:00 AM
Auditorium H

“Finding the Meaning of Life and Death in Healthcare”

Step into Grand Rounds reimagined. See how cinematic artistry and cutting-edge healthcare research can ignite a sense of purpose. We travel beyond medicine's daily routines and ask deeper questions: What calls you to heal? Where do you find meaning in life and death? Powerful patient stories and breakthrough discoveries will rekindle the ideals that set you on this path—no matter your discipline. Experience how storytelling and shared decision-making empower families and care partners to navigate life's most meaningful choices with clarity and compassion.

This session is more than a lecture. It will be a film festival, research showcase, and philosophical salon all in one. We call on every member of our community to remember: healing is not just a profession—it's a sacred trust. Arrive ready to be moved. Expect to be challenged. Leave renewed.

All Dartmouth faculty, residents, students, and staff are invited to rediscover hope, deepen empathy, and unite around the enduring mission of our healing professions and the humanities that inspire them.

Please note: In-person attendance is strongly recommended given the highly visual nature of the presentation. This lecture will not be recorded.

Join us for the HOPE+ Summit

@ Harvard/MIT & Online

September 19–21, 2025

Global Health at the very best level with world leaders, faculty, students, leaders from industry, health care institutions, faith/community-based organizations, professional societies, government leaders, cancer advocates, athletes, survivors, artists, across disciplines all coming together to learn, network and collaborate for global health and development.

Co-organized/Hosted By:

- Harvard Zhu Family Center for Global Cancer Prevention
 - Center for Global Health Equity at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
 - MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory
 - The Religion and Global Health Forum at Garrett
 - University of Massachusetts Lowell Medical Physics Program.
- Johns Hopkins CaREER program

More Info : <https://www.globalhealthcatalystsummit.org/events-1>

Interested in Global Health?

The **Center for Global Health Equity (CGHE)** is accepting applications for the **2025–26 Co-designed Community-based Internship (CCI)** from **Aug 15–Sept 15, 2025**.

This program offers students the chance to collaborate with international partners on research, education, advocacy, or clinical projects that advance health equity in underserved communities.

Key Details:

Internships: Dec 15, 2025–Jun 15, 2026

Minimum In-Country Time:

- o **Summer break:** At least 6 weeks
- o **M3 or M4 electives:** At least 4 weeks
- o **MPH students:** 4–6 weeks

Funding: \$3,200–\$4,000 (based on duration)

Applications require faculty and host sponsor statements. Only currently enrolled students are eligible.

CCI APPLICATION OPENS AUGUST 15TH - SEPTEMBER 15TH

1

PREVIEW CCI APPLICATION

2

SEE STUDENT CCI BLOGS

3

REVIEW CCI FAQs

4

WATCH CCI VIDEO

5

**IDENTIFY GLOBAL HOST ORG/PARTNER
& GEISEL FACULTY SUPERVISOR**

6

**CO-DESIGN PROJECT WITH HOST &
SUPERVISOR TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS -
WITH CLEAR TIMELINE & DELIVERABLE(S)**

**SUBMIT A BRILLIANT &
FLAWLESS APPLICATION
BY SEPT. 15TH**

Other Research Opportunities Highlight

Pathology research projects open to medical student participation-

- George Zanazzi, MD PhD- novel diagnostics for skeletal muscle and peripheral nerve pathology
- Lou Vaickus, MD PhD- genomics and genome informatics, cytology, machine learning
- Parth Shah, MD- genomics and genome informatics,, hematology oncology, machine learning
- Shrey Sukhadia, PhD- “Combining multiomic and multimodal techniques for early prediction of treatment-outcomes and prevent recurrence in cancer”
- Nidhi Shah, MBBS- pediatrics, genomics

For More : <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/active-medical-student-research-opportunities/>

Looking for something else?

To learn about additional ongoing research projects, **visit our website** or **reach out to our office**. <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research>

We're here to help you find opportunities that match your interests and goals.

Upcoming Events

Research Education Series

Co-curricular interdisciplinary seminars

When: September 4th– | 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Where: Chilcott

Topic - How to Start Clinical Research by Dr. Timothy Gardner

Medical Student Research Fair –

When: Thursday, September 4, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Where: DHMC (Auditorium G and Chilcott Atrium)

Dartmouth Health Biomedical Research Day

When: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 | 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Where: Dartmouth Hitchcock

A full-day event highlighting innovative biomedical research across departments.

Open to all faculty, staff, trainees, and students.

Annual Medical Student Research Poster Night

When: Wed, October 22, 2025 | 5:30 PM –7:30 PM

Where: DHMC , Williamson Levels 3 & 4

Celebrate the research achievements of your peers and share your own work at this key Geisel tradition.

7th Neurology Research Day

Date: Friday, November 21, 2025

Time: 11:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Location: DHMC, Auditorium E & F

Join us for the 7th Annual Neurology Research Day, featuring presentations from medical students, residents, and faculty, highlighting cutting-edge research in neurology and neuroscience.

Upcoming Public Health Webinar with Dr. Peter Hotez

Join us on September 23, 2025, from 4:00–5:00 PM EST on Zoom for an engaging discussion with Dr. Peter Hotez, Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. He also serves as Professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology.

Dr. Hotez is a world-renowned vaccine scientist, biochemist, and pediatrician who has led groundbreaking efforts in developing vaccines for several parasitic infections. This webinar will discuss vaccine development , disease virulence and the current state of public health.

 **Date:** September 23, 2025

 **Time:** 4:00–5:00 PM EST

 **Location:** Zoom (**Meeting ID:** 973 6308 3874 , **Password:** 324173)

Call for Student Poster Presentations – Northern New England MedTech Collaborative Conference

Are you working on an innovative project in medical science or technology? Interested in sharing your work with experts and peers while receiving valuable feedback?

Students are invited to present their research at the **Northern New England MedTech Collaborative Conference** on **November 12, 2025, at the Roux Institute in Portland, ME**. This is a great opportunity to showcase your work, gain feedback from experts, and connect with peers and professionals in medical innovation.

Deadline to submit: October 6, 2025.

Submit here: [Poster Submission Link](#).

Questions? Contact Alessandra.C.Bryan.MED@dartmouth.edu.



Student Spotlight



Abigail (Abby) Dutton , MD/PhD Candidate

Abigail (Abby) Dutton is a 7th year student in the MD/PhD program at Geisel. Raised in rural Vermont (Newport Center, VT; Randolph, VT; and Sharon, VT), Abigail escaped the Green Mountain State to complete her undergraduate training in Connecticut at Yale University. At Yale, she discovered her interest in medicine and research while studying the neurocognitive mechanisms of social inference in children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder. After

graduating, she spent a year as a research technician in Dr. Clifford Woolf's lab at Boston Children's Hospital investigating the role of nociception in coordinated vaccine responses. In Fall, 2018, Abigail began her medical and graduate training at Geisel and joined the lab of Dr. David Leib in the department of Microbiology and Immunology. In February 2025, Abigail successfully defended her PhD thesis titled: *A Virus of the Mind: The Neurological Impact of Neonatal HSV Infection*. Her thesis work established a mouse model for studying the lifelong effects of low-dose neonatal herpes simplex virus (nHSV) infection and further showed that nHSV infection may lead to lasting neurocognitive impairment. Her work was published in PLOS Pathogens in February, 2025, titled *Asymptomatic neonatal herpes simplex virus infection in mice leads to persistent CNS infection and long-term cognitive impairment*.

Scholarly Manuscripts by Geisel Students

Geisel students continue to drive innovation through research, contributing to peer-reviewed publications across clinical medicine, global health, and more. Their scholarly work reflects a deep commitment to scientific inquiry and advancing patient care. Each year, our students co-author numerous manuscripts, showcasing their passion for discovery and academic excellence. <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/research-papers-by-geisel-students/>

Students are requested to submit their published manuscripts to be archived in the Student Manuscript section of the website.

US Cancer Mortality Trends Among Hispanic Populations From 1999 to 2020

Isabella R. Pompa, BA; Anushka Ghosh, BS; Shamik Bhat, BS; Siri Ragala; Anita Nwilo, BS; Nabeel Rasheed; Fumiko Chino, MD; Henning Willers, MD; Saveli Goldberg, PhD; Sophia C. Kamran, MD

[Multimedia](#)
[Supplemental content](#)

IMPORTANCE Advances in cancer research and treatment access have led to decreasing cancer mortality in the US; however, cancer remains the leading cause of death among Hispanic individuals.

OBJECTIVE To evaluate longitudinal cancer mortality trends from 1999 to 2020 among Hispanic individuals by demographic characteristics and to compare age-adjusted cancer death rates between the Hispanic population and other racial and ethnic populations during 2000, 2010, and 2020.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS This cross-sectional study obtained age-adjusted cancer death rates among Hispanic individuals of all ages between January 1999 and December 2020, using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention WONDER database. Cancer death rates in other racial and ethnic populations were extracted for 2000, 2010, and 2020. Data were analyzed from October 2021 to December 2022.

EXPOSURES Age, gender, race, ethnicity, cancer type, and US census region.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES Trends and average annual percent changes (AAPCs) in age-adjusted cancer-specific mortality (CSM) rates among Hispanic individuals were estimated by cancer type, age, gender, and region.

RESULTS From 1999 to 2020, 12 644 869 patients died of cancer in the US, of whom 690 677 (5.5%) were Hispanic; 58 783 (0.5%) were non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native; 305 386 (2.4%), non-Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander; 1439 259 (11.4%), non-Hispanic Black or African American; and 10 124 361 (80.1%), non-Hispanic White. For 26 403 patients (0.2%), no ethnicity was stated. The overall CSM rate among Hispanic individuals decreased by 1.3% (95% CI, 1.2%-1.3%) annually. Overall CSM rate decreased more for Hispanic men (AAPC, -1.6%; 95% CI, -1.7% to -1.5%) compared with women (AAPC, -1.0%; 95% CI, -1.0% to -0.9%). While death rates among Hispanic individuals decreased for most cancer types, mortality rates for liver cancer (AAPC, 1.0%; 95% CI, 0.6%-1.4%) increased among Hispanic men, and rates of liver (AAPC, 1.0%; 95% CI, 0.8%-1.3%), pancreas (AAPC, 0.2%; 95% CI, 0.1%-0.4%), and uterine (AAPC, 1.6%; 95% CI, 1.0%-2.3%) cancers increased among Hispanic women. Overall CSM rates increased for Hispanic men aged 25 to 34 years (AAPC, 0.7%; 95% CI, 0.3%-1.1%). By US region, liver cancer mortality rates increased significantly in the West for both Hispanic men (AAPC, 1.6%; 95% CI, 0.9%-2.2%) and Hispanic women (AAPC, 1.5%; 95% CI, 1.1%-1.9%). There were differential findings in mortality rates when comparing Hispanic individuals with individuals belonging to other racial and ethnic populations.

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE In this cross-sectional study, despite overall CSM decreasing over 2 decades among Hispanic individuals, disaggregation of data demonstrated that rates of liver cancer deaths among Hispanic men and women and pancreas and uterine cancer deaths among Hispanic women increased from 1999 to 2020. There were also disparities in CSM rates among age groups and US regions. The findings suggest that sustainable solutions need to be implemented to reverse these trends among Hispanic populations.

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Author Affiliations: Department of Radiation Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts (Pompa, Ghosh, Willers, Goldberg, Kamran); Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut (Bhat); University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, Kansas City (Ragala, Rasheed); Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee (Nwilo); Department of Radiation Oncology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York (Chino).

Corresponding Author: Sophia C. Kamran, MD, Department of Radiation Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, 55 Fruit St, Boston, MA 02114 (skamran@mgh.harvard.edu).

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GMSJ Coming Soon!

We are excited to share that Graduate Medical Scholars Journal (GMSJ) is pending launch in September, 2025 !

GMSJ is a student-led publication dedicated to showcasing the research, insights, and perspectives of medical students. It offers a hands-on opportunity to gain experience in academic publishing, including research dissemination, peer review, and scholarly writing—valuable skills for future careers in academic medicine.

GMSJ welcomes submissions from all fields of research relevant to medicine and healthcare, including but not limited to:

- Clinical Medicine and Practice
- Public Health and Epidemiology
- Biomedical and Basic Science Research
- Medical Education and Training
- Health Policy and Ethics
- Nutrition and Lifestyle Medicine
- Medical Technology and Device Development



The Office of Medical Student Research provides access to multiple datasets that can be used for population-based research. These resources allow students and researchers to explore specific questions related to public health, health outcomes, and healthcare utilization. Whether you're conducting a retrospective analysis or generating new hypotheses, these datasets offer valuable tools to support your research.

Resource link :

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/datasets-for-research/>

Questions? Reach out to the Medical Student Research Office.



PubMed Basics Workshop

This is an online event. Learn how to effectively search PubMed in this online session hosted by **Dana Biomedical Libraries at Dartmouth.**



September 8, 2025



12:00–12:45 PM (ET)



Presenter: Elaina Vitale



Info [link](#) and [Register Here](#)



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