



Research Weekly Newsletter : Feb/19/2026

From Medical Student Research <Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu>

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Weekly Newsletter

Feb 19, 2026

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



Dartmouth
GEISEL SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

**Office of
MEDICAL STUDENT
RESEARCH**



Upcoming event

Co-curricular interdisciplinary seminars : Grant Writing

When: Mar 4th, 2026 | 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM at Chilcott Auditorium

Topic – How to Write a Grant by Dr. Tim Gardner

M4 Geisel Medical Student Research Paper Competition & Award Event (2026)

When : May 7th, 2026 | 5:00–7:00 PM at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (Auditorium A–H)

Summer Medical Student Research Projects



Summer research projects for 2026 (M1)

Geisel and DH Summer Projects

Explore the **2026 Geisel/DHMC Summer Research Project Opportunities** here:

Updates: More projects have been added to the summer list.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/2026-geisel-dhmc-summer-research-project-opportunities/>

2026 Richard W. Dow Student Research Scholarship in Surgery (For M1)

The Dow Student Scholar Program provides Geisel students with the opportunity to engage in mentored research with a surgery faculty member during the break between **Year 1 and Year 2**.

Interested students should first contact a surgery faculty mentor to discuss a project, then submit a formal application by **February 27, 2026** to

DOSResearch@hitchcock.org.

Further details, including program information and available projects, can be found at the link below.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/2026-richard-w-dow-student-research-scholarship-in-surgery/>

Study on curricular threads : Looking for Participants

Dr. Lyons and the research team invite Class of 2027 and 2028 Geisel medical students to participate in a 15-minute virtual interview exploring student experiences with curricular threads, with a focus on **Anatomy & Embryology**. Participation is voluntary, confidential, requires no preparation, and includes entry into a gift card raffle.

Questions? Contact Daniela Armella Tangarife

daniela.armella.tangarife.med@dartmouth.edu

Ian R. Beals

Ian.R.Beals.MED@dartmouth.edu

Research Opportunity: Senior Centers & Community Impact

This project examines how different organizational and facility models of senior centers across New England influence programming, community engagement, and overall community impact. The study will explore factors associated with stronger impact and challenges across different models. Findings will be published and shared with stakeholders working with older adults to help inform best practices.

Timeline: Now through June/July (flexible commitment)

If you are interested, please contact **Frida Velcani** at

frida.velcani.med@dartmouth.edu

Geisel Medical Student Research Award 2026 M4 Student Research Award Event

Eligibility & Submission Requirements

Open to M4 students only

- Research must be conducted at Geisel School of Medicine or Dartmouth Health (DH)
- Each student may submit one full manuscript (published or unpublished) in PDF format by email to Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu
- Submission Deadline: **March 15, 2026**
- Manuscripts will be reviewed by the Office of Medical Student Research Team and faculty reviewers, and selected finalists will be notified by email
- The top 3 papers will be selected to present at the Medical Student Research Award Dinner, and the final winners will be chosen by audience vote.

Awards

- 🥇 1st Prize: \$2,000
- 🥈 2nd Prize: \$1,000
- 🥉 3rd Prize: \$500

Semi-Finalist Award:

15 semi-finalists will be selected

Each semi-finalist who attends the award dinner will receive \$100

Date: May 7, 2026

Time: 5:00–7:00 PM

Location: DHMC (Auditorium A- H)

For additional information, please contact:

Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu



Dartmouth Radiology Summer Research Internship

Radiology Summer Research Internship

The deadline for the Radiology Summer Research Internship is now extended to: **February 28, 2026**.

Successful applications will be notified by: **March 31, 2026**.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/radiology/wp-content/uploads/sites/47/2025/10/Summer-Radiology-Research-Call-2026-1.pdf>



Harvard Medical School Visiting Clerkship Scholars Program

Sponsored by the Office for Culture and Community Engagement (OCCE) at Harvard Medical School (HMS), the Visiting Clerkship Scholars Program (VCSP) provides an immersive experience for fourth-year and qualified third-year medical students who have demonstrated leadership, a commitment to service, and a passion for advancing equity in health care. Through immersive clinical experiences, mentorship, and programming focused on leadership development, community engagement, and career advancement, scholars will gain insights, needed tools and networks to help them thrive in academic medicine and become future leaders with a focus on health equity.

Benefits

- ◆ **Over 200 clerkship options** across the specialties, along with combined programs that provide students with experience at more than one Harvard-affiliate hospital during a single rotation
- ◆ **Mentorship and Networking** with faculty and residents across the Harvard-affiliate hospitals, including dinner with faculty, trainees and other VCSP scholars
- ◆ **Stipend** to support travel and housing
- ◆ **Lectures** focused on leadership skills, community engagement, careers in academic medicine, and advancing health equity.
- ◆ **Learning opportunities** about pursuing careers in academic medicine, research, advocacy and policy

Eligibility

- ◆ U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- ◆ Full-time third- or fourth-year medical student in good standing at an LCME- or COCA- accredited medical school.
- ◆ Have completed all core clinical clerkships.
- ◆ Have passed USMLE Step 1 and either scheduled for or passed USMLE Step 2.
- ◆ Demonstrate a strong commitment to health equity, leadership, and service.

Application

- ◆ Complete the online VCSP application: bit.ly/3NpDzpi
- ◆ Upload your personal statement and CV
- ◆ Secure a letter of recommendation from a faculty member who can speak to your skills in a clinical setting, and your commitments to community and health equity
- ◆ Apply to your preferred clerkship through the VSLO application service. Elective courses are posted on the [HMS Registrar's Exchange Clerkship page](#) at bit.ly/3aGb83t
- ◆ **SUBMIT your completed application no later than March 15, 2026**

Important Notes

- ◆ While rotations are available year-round, the Visiting Clerkship Scholars Program is only offered June through October
- ◆ **Carefully review the deadlines and notification dates for VSLO application.** With the exception of candidates applying for the month of June, it will be the case that your application for the Scholars program will be due **before** the clerkship options for July – October are posted. If you are interested in the Scholars program, submit your application by the March 15 deadline and just note your clerkship area of interest. If selected as a Scholar, we will hold a place for you in the program until you find out if you have received a clerkship placement.
- ◆ Spots within the VCSP are limited and some applicants may be placed in a clerkship by the HMS registrar but not be accepted into the VCSP. In those cases, the applicant may still participate in their clerkship, but will not be able to participate in the VCSP program.

Participating Hospitals

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ◆ Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center | ◆ Dana Farber Cancer Institute | ◆ McLean Hospital |
| ◆ Boston Children's Hospital | ◆ Joslin Diabetes Center | ◆ Mt. Auburn Hospital |
| ◆ Brigham and Women's Hospital | ◆ Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary | ◆ Spaulding Rehab Hospital |
| ◆ Cambridge Health Alliance | ◆ Massachusetts General Hospital | ◆ VA Medical Center |

2026 Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship Award

With host institutions matching Urology Care Foundation funds, the awardee will receive a \$20,000 stipend for a 12-month research project. Applications are due via ProposalCentral. **The deadline to apply is March 2, 2026!**

Application : <https://www.auanet.org/research-and-data/research-awards/research-grant-opportunities/boston-scientific-medical-student-innovation-fellowship>

2026 Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship Award

*Urology
Care*
FOUNDATION*

Powered by trusted experts of the
 American
Urological
Association

Made possible through support from
**Boston
Scientific**
Advancing science for life™

APPLY TODAY

2026 Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship Award

A World-Class Mentorship Opportunity for Medical Students

Established in 2022, the Boston Scientific Medical Student Innovation Fellowship supports current or matriculating medical students interested in translating urology research into innovation by engaging them in a fellowship mentored by world-class urologic scientists.

With host institutions matching Urology Care Foundation funds, the awardee will receive a \$20,000 stipend for a 12-month research project. Applications are due via ProposalCentral. **The deadline to apply is March 2, 2026!**

Apply Now

AAOS 2026 Medical Student Program



Your Guide to Orthopaedic Surgery as a Career Choice

Tuesday, March 3
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Morial Convention Center
New Orleans, LA

Discover how your unique leadership skills can benefit your career in orthopaedic surgery.

The registration fee for the entire AAOS Annual Meeting is only \$75 for AAOS Medical Student Members*!

1

Apply for
Medical Student
Membership.

2

Register for the
Annual Meeting.

3

Add the Medical
Student Program
to your registration
(first-come, first-
served).

*Must be a Medical Student Member to register for the AAOS 2026 Annual Meeting. It is free to join. Visit aaos.org/membership to learn more and join.

2026

AAP / ASCI / APSA

JOINT
MEETING



APRIL 17–19 / SWISSOTEL / CHICAGO, IL

SAVE THE DATE



2026 American Heart Association Institutional Award for Undergraduate Student Training

This is an institutional award, made to qualified institutions that can offer a meaningful research experience that supports the mission of the American Heart Association to undergraduate college students.

Supporting Research in Sudden Cardiac Arrest

The AHA is committed to supporting new research projects on Sudden Cardiac Arrest across all scientific disciplines (basic, clinical, and population) within any current AHA programs. No additional pre-proposal or proposal materials are necessary outside of individual AHA program criteria; awardees will be designated from the existing applicant pool within each program.

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/aha-funding-opportunities/tips-for-new-research-proposals>



NEW ENGLAND STUDENT UROLOGY SYMPOSIUM

At The UConn School of Medicine

MARCH 7 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Join us for a unique opportunity for medical students interested in urology to connect with peers and faculty, explore the specialty, and showcase their research. The day will feature state-of-the-art lectures, interactive faculty panels, hands-on urology surgical skills fair, and both poster and oral presentations.

REGISTER:

Due Feb 16 at 11 pm



<https://medicine.uconn.edu/urology-symposium/>

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT:

Due Feb 6 at 11 pm



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

Dartmouth Cancer Center



Dartmouth
Health



Dartmouth
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MEDICINE

Annual Scientific Retreat

February 17, 2026

The Geisel School of Medicine Events Calendar

Students are encouraged to check the Events Calendar to stay updated on upcoming research talks and Grand Rounds sessions.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/calendar/index.php?y=2026&m=1&v=m>

Student Spotlight



Peggy-ita Obeng-Nyarkoh , MD Class of 2027

Peggy-ita Obeng-Nyarkoh is a third-year medical student at the Geisel School of Medicine. She earned dual bachelor's degrees in Molecular and Cellular Biology and Africana Studies from Johns Hopkins University, where she conducted genetics research and completed an honors thesis on Black women's community health responses to infectious diseases. She later received an MS in Epidemiology (Infectious Disease) from Georgetown University, where her thesis on kidney function estimation in adults living with HIV was selected for presentation at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.

Peggy-ita has contributed to research in HIV care, oncology, environmental health, and population science, authored peer-reviewed manuscripts, presented nationally, and was selected for the Geisel MD Research Scholars Program. She is currently working on initiatives to improve care for immigrant and refugee patients in Ryan White-funded HIV clinics and supporting a pilot study focused on innovative breast cancer care. She is committed to advancing community-driven research addressing health disparities and aspires to a career as a physician-scientist.

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.

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ScienceDirect

Contents lists available at sciencedirect.com
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jval

Comparative-Effectiveness Research/HTA

Evaluation of Diversity of Clinical Trials Informing Health Technology Assessments in the United States: A 5-Year Analysis of Institute for Clinical and Economic Review Assessments

Foluso Agboola, MBBs, MPH, Abigail C. Wright, PhD, MSc, Serina Herron-Smith, BA, Diya Mathur, BA, David Rind, MD, MSc

ABSTRACT

Objectives: This study aimed to evaluate the diversity of clinical trials informing assessments conducted by the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional study of pivotal trials included in completed Institute for Clinical and Economic Review assessments over 5 years (2017–2021). Representation of racial/ethnic minority groups, females, and older adults was compared with the disease-specific and US population, using a relative representation cutoff of 0.8 for adequate representation.

Results: A total of 208 trials, evaluating 112 interventions for 31 unique conditions, were examined. Race/ethnicity data were inconsistently reported. The median participant-to-disease representative ratio (PDOR) for Blacks/African Americans (0.43 [interquartile range (IQR) 0.24–0.75]), American Indians/Alaska Natives (0.37 [IQR 0.09–0.77]), and Hispanics/Latinos (0.79 [IQR 0.30–1.22]) were below the adequate representation cutoff. In contrast, Whites (1.06 [IQR 0.92–1.2]), Asians (1.71 [IQR 0.50–3.75]), and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders (1.81 [IQR 0.77–2.81]) were adequately represented. Findings were similar when compared with the US Census, except for Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders, which was substantially worse. Relative to all trials, a higher proportion of US-based trials adequately represented Blacks/African Americans (61% vs 23%, $P < .0001$) and Hispanics/Latinos (68% vs 50%; $P = .047$), but a lower proportion adequately represented Asians (15% vs 67%, $P < .0001$). Females were adequately represented in 74% of trials (PDOR: 1.02 [IQR 0.79–1.14]). Nevertheless, older adults were adequately represented in only 20% of trials (PDOR: 0.30 [IQR 0.13–0.64]).

Conclusions: The representation of racial/ethnic minorities and older adults was inadequate. Efforts are needed to enhance the diversity of clinical trials. Standardized and transparent evaluation of trial diversity should be part of the health technology assessment process.

Keywords: clinical trials, diversity, ethnicity, health technology assessment, older adults, race, sex.

VALUE HEALTH. 2023; 26(9):1345–1352

Introduction

There are concerns about the lack of diversity in clinical trial populations, which has implications for both generalizability and fairness, particularly because new therapies are regularly being introduced in the United States. In 1986, the National Institutes of Health established a policy encouraging researchers to include women and minorities in clinical research, and the US Congress made what had formerly been a policy into public law through a section in the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993, as part of an effort to enhance the diversity of clinical trial populations. Similarly, over the last 3 decades, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has created various guidelines for clinical trial sponsors to encourage diverse demographic enrollment.^{1,2} Nevertheless, evaluations of clinical trials that support drug and vaccine approvals over the last decade have found that

racial/ethnic minorities and women continue to be inadequately represented in clinical trials.^{3–10} Other research have also noted that specific demographic information, particularly race and ethnicity, are not adequately captured in clinical trials,¹¹ further masking the lack of diversity.¹²

As a health technology assessment (HTA) organization that provides evidence-based information on new therapies to help inform pricing, coverage decisions, and patient-centered policies, Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER) focuses on many of the most important therapies coming into the market, often representing the newest technologies with the greatest benefits. Unlike the FDA, which has regulatory authority on the approval of new therapies, ICER's work is intended to help inform pricing, coverage decisions, and patient-centered policies on the use of these therapies. We believed that evaluating the representativeness in a sample of ICER reviews would inform the discussion on

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GMSJ

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.

We look forward to reviewing your work and celebrating your contributions to scholarship at Dartmouth!

Read GMSJ's first editorial publication :

Designing and Launching a Student-Led Medical Journal: Structure and Early Implementation of the Graduate Medical Scholars Journal (GMSJ)

<https://gmscholars.com/index.php/gmsj/article/view/inauguralissueNo1>

The Geisel Medical Student Journal (GMSJ) is pleased to announce the publication of **Vol. 1, No. S1 (2025): Special Issue — 2025 Geisel Research**

Poster Night.

This special issue highlights outstanding student research presented at 2025 year's Poster Night, showcasing innovative projects, scholarly excellence, and the depth of scientific inquiry within our community.

https://gmscholars.com/index.php/gmsj/issue/view/1-s1_geisel-research-night-2025

 **Learn more and explore the journal:**

<https://gmscholars.com/index.php/gmsj/index>



Datasets for Research

Multiple datasets are available for use to perform clinical and population-based research. These datasets can be used by researchers to answer specific questions related to population.

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

Grant Funding for Research

GrantForward is a search engine that the Dartmouth College grants office has had a contract with for years.

Atom Grants is a grants database but uses DeepAI to auto-match grant opportunities to student/researcher interests and background.



DH Academic Scholar Year Opportunities

Some Geisel students choose to take an additional year to engage in scholarly work within a department or section at Dartmouth-Hitchcock (DH) or The Dartmouth Institute (TDI).

More information:

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/hospital-specialty-specific-research-opportunities/>



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