

Sex, Gender, and Race: Intentional Inclusion of Representative Populations in Medical Research

Annual Research Showcase of the Mary Horrigan Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology
Co-Sponsored by the Brigham and Women's Hospital Center for Diversity & Inclusion

Monday, December 6, 2021
3:00 – 5:00pm, virtual

- 3:00 – 3:10pm Introductory Remarks
HADINE JOFFE, MD MSc
*Executive Director, Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology
Paula A. Johnson Professor of Psychiatry in the Field of Women's Health
Executive Vice Chair for Academic and Faculty Affairs, Department of Psychiatry
Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School*
- GALEN HENDERSON, MD FNCS**
*Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer
Director of Neurocritical Care and Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit
Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School*
- 3:10 – 3:30pm Keynote Address: "Lupus disproportionately affects women and marginalized racial and ethnic groups in the US: Why, and what can we do about it?"
KAREN COSTENBADER, MD MPH
*Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Michael E. Weinblatt, MD Distinguished Chair in Rheumatology
Division of Rheumatology, Inflammation and Immunity
Lupus Program Director, Brigham and Women's Hospital*
- 3:30 – 3:40pm Q&A with Dr. Costenbader
Moderator: **CINDY LIU, PHD**
- 3:40 – 3:48pm "Unrecognized barriers to inclusion within research – next steps for addressing disparities"
CINDY LIU, PHD
*Director of Psychosocial Stress, Diversity, and Health, Connors Center
Mary Ann Tynan Faculty Research Fellow, Connors Center
Director, Developmental Risk and Cultural Resilience Program
Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatric Newborn Medicine and Psychiatry
Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School*
- 3:48 – 4:03pm "Clinical trial participant representation across the US and within Mass General Brigham"
ALEXANDRA SOSINSKY, MSc
*Research Trainee, Connors Center
Senior Epidemiologist, Epidemiology and Drug Safety, IQVIA*
&
ALETA WILEY, MPH MSc
Director of Research Program Management, Connors Center

- 4:03 – 4:08pm Q&A with Ms. Sosinsky and Ms. Wiley
Moderator: **CINDY LIU, PHD**
- 4:08 – 4:18pm “Sex- and Gender-Informed Medicine: Research, Clinical Practice, and Population Health - Launching a new course at Harvard Medical School”
DEBORAH BARTZ, MD MPH
Director of Education, Connors Center
Associate Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology
Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School
- 4:18 – 4:23pm Q&A with Dr. Bartz
Moderator: **CINDY LIU, PHD**
- 4:23 – 4:28pm Video: First.In.Women Precision Medicine Platform
- 4:28 – 4:50pm Brief Research Presentations
Introduction of all presenters:
PRIMAVERA SPAGNOLO, MD PHD
Scientific Director, First.In.Women Precision Medicine Platform, Connors Center
Mary Ann Tynan Research Scientist, Connors Center
Instructor, Department of Psychiatry, Brigham and Women’s Hospital
- “Drivers and trends of caesarean section usage in sub Saharan Africa”
ISIOMA OKOLO, MBChB, MRCOG, DTMH
Global Women’s Health Fellow, Connors Center
Research Fellow, Program in Global Surgery & Social Change, Harvard Medical School
- “Sex differences in the effect of sleep interruption on metabolic and behavioral biomarkers of weight gain”
SHADAB A. RAHMAN, PHD MPH
Investigator, Connors Center, supported by the Martignetti Award for Women’s Health
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Sleep Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Associate Neuroscientist, Division of Sleep and Circadian Disorders, Brigham and Women’s Hospital
- “Longitudinal associations of psychosocial stressors with menopausal symptoms and well-being among women in midlife”
SABRINA FALESCHINI, PHD
Research Fellow, Connors Center Reproductive Outcomes of Stress and Aging (ROSA) Center, supported by NIH U54 Specialized Center for Research Excellence (SCORE) in Sex Differences
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, Harvard Medical School
- “Cognitive variance in postmenopausal women with major depression: Roles of GABAergic function and brain structure”
PAMELA MAHON, PHD
Co-Investigator, Connors Center IGNITE Award, supported by the Women’s Health Advisory Board and other generous donors
Associate Vice Chair for Research, Department of Psychiatry
Co-Director of Research Training, BWH/HMS Psychiatry Residency
Director, Mood Trajectories and Outcomes Laboratory
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School
- 4:50 – 5:00pm Q&A with Drs. Okolo, Rahman, Faleschini, and Mahon
Moderator: **PRIMAVERA SPAGNOLO, MD PHD**
- 5:00 – 5:05pm Closing Remarks
HADINE JOFFE, MD MSc