NIH News
Joshua A. Gordon, M.D., Ph.D., named director of the National Institute of Mental Health

• Dr. Gordon joins NIH in September to lead NIMH’s research agenda to improve mental health and treatment for mental illnesses.

• Previously associate professor of psychiatry at Columbia University Medical Center, research psychiatrist at the New York State Psychiatric Institute, and associate director of the Adult Psychiatry Residency Program.

• Research work is on neural activity in mice carrying mutations of relevance to schizophrenia, anxiety disorders and depression.

“Josh is a visionary psychiatrist and neuroscientist with deep experience in mental health research and practice...We’re thrilled to have him join the NIH leadership team.” – Dr. Francis S. Collins, NIH Director
Diana W. Bianchi, M.D., named director of the
Eunice Kennedy Shriver
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Dr. Bianchi will join NIH October 30 to oversee research on pediatric health and development, maternal health, medical rehabilitation, population dynamics, reproductive health, and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Founding executive director of the Mother Infant Research Institute and vice chair for pediatric research at the Floating Hospital for Children and Tufts Medical Center. She is Professor of Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology at Tufts University School of Medicine.

Her research has focused on prenatal genomics to advance noninvasive prenatal DNA screening and diagnosis for new prenatal treatments for genetic disorders.

“Diana’s accomplishments as a prenatal geneticist, along with her leadership, clinical and research experience in both pediatrics and obstetrics, make her ideally suited to lead NICHD.” – Dr. Francis S. Collins, NIH Director
All awardees were convened to present and discuss the overall PMI Cohort Program consortium goals, aims, and integration among the components.

A key output of this meeting was the implementation plan outlining the path toward a nationwide launch.

NIH collaborated with HRSA to select six FQHCs which are community-based Health Provider Organizations (HPOs) that reach underserved areas and populations.

This award supports a pilot program to determine infrastructure needs that will enable a wide variety of FQHCs to participate as HPOs.

Special Attendees at the meeting: In addition to Dr. Francis Collins, NIH Director, and awardees – Sylvia Mathews Burwell, U.S. Secretary of Health & Human Services, provided remarks.
Federally Qualified Health Centers Attend PMI Cohort Program Kickoff Meeting, July 6-8, 2016

Cherokee Health Systems, Knoxville, Tennessee
Community Health Center, Inc. Middletown, Connecticut
Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center, Columbia, South Carolina
Hudson River Health Care (HRHCare), Peekskill, New York
Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center, Jackson, MS
San Ysidro Health Center, San Ysidro, California
Enrolling >10,000 healthy children and following them from ages 9-10 through their teens and into early adulthood. About 50% are expected to be from race/ethnic minorities. School-based sampling plus twin registries

Designed to increase our understanding of environmental, social, and genetic factors relevant to brain and cognitive development, in order to inform mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment and other public health strategies

NIDA, NIAAA, NCI, NICHD, NIMHD, NIMH, NINDS, OBSSR, CDC
ABCD Study Hill Briefing
September 19, 2016

Brain Development and Our Kids’ Future
the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study

A Congressional Briefing Sponsored by
The Friends of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and
the Friends of the National Institute on Drug Abuse

In cooperation with
The Addiction, Treatment, and Recovery Caucus

Monday, September 19, 2016, 12:00 – 1:30 PM (lunch will be available)
Rayburn House Office Building, Gold Room (2168)

Adolescence is a time of extraordinary physical, emotional, and intellectual growth. It is also a period of increased vulnerability when risky behaviors, such as use of alcohol, nicotine, marijuana and other drugs, emerge as youth attempt to navigate an increasingly complex world. Yet, there is much we do not understand about how individual childhood experiences (e.g., exercise and sports, videogames, unhealthy sleep patterns, substance exposure, etc.) influence development and either promote or interfere with long-term cognitive, behavioral and physical health outcomes. The

Speakers:
Sandra Brown, PhD, UCSD, Co-Director ABCD Study Coordinating Center
Thomas Brock, PhD, Commissioner of the National Center for Education Research at the Institute of Education Sciences
Sharon Levy, MD, MPH, Director, Adolescent Substance Use Disorders Program, Boston Children’s Hospital
Kevin Gray, MD, Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina
NIDA Director Nora Volkow, MD, and NIAAA Director George Koob, PhD, are discussants.

Representatives of other NIH Institutes and Centers will be available to participate in Q & A that results from the presentations. Regina James, MD, will represent NIMHD to share views on the importance of a diverse cohort.
Sponsors: Departments of Health and Human Services, Justice, Housing and Urban Development, Homeland Security and Transportation

Purpose: To help ensure that recipients of federal financial assistance do not discriminate against individuals and communities on the basis of race, color or national origin when providing emergency preparedness, response and recovery services.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in federally funded programs or activities. Discrimination in a recipient’s emergency planning, response and recovery activities violates Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
Gender, Race/Ethnicity, and National Institutes of Health R01 Research Awards: Is There Evidence of a Double Bind for Women of Color?

“...bias and racial stereotypes may affect application review outcomes for investigators of color.”

“Policies to encourage women to submit revised and additional grant proposals would likely increase the number of women of color receiving NIH funding.”

Published in Academic Medicine, August 2016 – Volume 91 – Issue 8 – 1098-1107.
PMID: [27306969](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27306969)
Other NIH Issues

- Cancer Moonshot Recommendations
- Established Sexual Gender Minority Office
- Tribal Affairs Office
- DHHS signed agreement with Cuba’s Ministry of Health on research collaboration
- Clinical Genetics Summit – Cuban scientist
- Definitions of Minority Health, Health Disparities, Inclusion, Diversity
NIMHD News
Legislative and Budget Updates
On September 8, 2016, Dr. Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable participated in the University of Maryland's (UMD) Research on the Hill “Achieving Health Equity: From Disparities Research to Action,” which was co-sponsored by Congressman John Sarbanes (D-MD).

Panel discussion with Nadine Gracia, MD (OMH), Julia Huggins, president, Cigna Healthcare Mid-Atlantic, Dr. Margo Edmunds, vice president, AcademyHealth, Dr. Kola Okuyemi, director, Program in Health Disparities Research, Univ. Minnesota., Dr. Patrick O’Shea, vice president for research, UMD, and Dr. Stephen B. Thomas, director, Center for Health Equity School of Public Health, UMD) with Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD),
Appropriations Update

• On July 14, 2016, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education reported out the FY2017 Labor, HHS, Appropriation bill.
  - The U.S. House proposed budget for NIMHD in FY 17 is $286,446,000, which is $5.8 million or 2% over the FY16 enacted level.

• On June 9, 2016, the Senate Appropriations Committee marked up and reported out the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2017. The bill would give NIH a $2 billion boost over FY2016, from $32.084 billion to $34.084 billion.
  - The Senate’s proposed budget for NIMHD in FY17 is $292,323,000, an increase of more than $11 million over the FY16 level and the President’s budget request.

• Continuing Resolution for 3 or 6 months being discussed
On June 14, 2016, Representative Robin Kelly (D-IL) introduced H.R. 5475, The Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2016. If enacted, the bill would:

• Direct NIH to pursue research into various areas of minority health and health disparities, including lung cancer mortality, SIDS/SUID, prostate cancer, viral hepatitis and liver cancer, bone marrow failure diseases, oral health, HIV, diabetes, asthma education and prevention, and sleep and circadian rhythm disorders.

• The bill also includes reporting provisions related to NIMHD’s expanded planning, coordinating, review, and evaluation authority, as well as an annual report on NIMHD activities.
FY 2016 Funding Distribution by Percent of Budget ($280 M)

- Transdisciplinary Collaborative Ctr. 13%
- Ctrs. Of Excellence 16%
- Endowments 4%
- Intramural Research Program 2%
- Loan Repayment Program 3%
- Operations 10%
- Other Programs 9%
- RCMI 20%
- Research Program Grants 23%
- Intramural Research Program 2%

Other Programs include: MHIRT, Training, SBIR/STTR, Co-op Agreements, Science Education, MEPI, DREAM, Ctrs. for AIDS R&D and Developmental Ctrs. for AIDS Res. Also, Taps: Assessments to support the NIH infrastructure ($6M).
FY 2016 Funding Distribution by Dollars ($280M)

- Ctrs. Of Excellence: $45,994,960
- Endowments: $10,900,000
- Intramural Research Program: $6,777,000
- Loan Repayment Program: $6,827,594
- Operations: $28,847,903
- Other Programs: $24,586,024
- Research Program Grants: $63,739,417
- Transdisciplinary Collaborative Ctr.: $35,861,358
- RCMI: $56,758,601
- Other Programs include: MHIRT, Training, SBIR/STTR, Co-op Agreements, Science Education, MEPI, DREAM, Ctrs. for AIDS R&D and Developmental Ctrs. for AIDS Res. Also, Taps: Assessments to support the NIH infrastructure ($6M).
New Precision Medicine Research to Focus on Health Disparities

Funded Institutions

- Vanderbilt University, TN
- Stanford University, CA
- Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston
- Yale University, CT
- Northwestern University, IL

“Ultimately, the Precision Medicine Transdisciplinary Collaborative Centers will generate new knowledge about precision medicine that resonates from the community level to the national population level.”

–Dr. Eliseo Pérez-Stable, NIMHD director
New Transdisciplinary Collaborative Research on Health Disparities of Chronic Diseases

Funded Institutions

• ' Washington State University, Pullman

• ' Michigan State University, East Lansing/Flint

“Invoking different stakeholders and ensuring community engagement, the new TCC program will create synergized methods to build a healthy community for health disparity populations.”

– Dr. Xinzhi Zhang, NIMHD scientific program officer
Grantee Noteworthy
Dr. Marjorie Mau First Native Hawaiian Recognized “Master” Physician by the American College of Physicians

Marjorie K. Mau, MD, MS, MACP
Principal Investigator and Director, Center for Native and Pacific Health Disparities Research
Myron P. Thompson Endowed Chair for Native Hawaiian Health Professor, Department of Native Hawaiian Health, John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii
NIMHD Events
Scholars at the NIMHD Health Disparities Research Institute 2016

**HDRI 2016 Cohort (Home States)**

- CA: 14%
- GA: 8%
- TX: 6%
- OH: 4%
- MD: 6%
- NC: 4%
- PA: 6%
- IL: 2%
- WI: 2%
- SC: 2%
- IN: 2%
- MN: 2%
- OR: 2%
- PR: 2%
- NE: 2%
- AK: 2%
- NY: 18%
- FL: 2%
- DC: 2%
- AZ: 2%
- AL: 2%
- AK: 2%

**HDRI 2016 Cohort (Degrees)**

- PhD only: 37%
- PhD + Masters: 21%
- MD +...: 12%
- MD, PhD, MPH: 6%
- MD onlyMPH: 6%
- PhD, RN, PharmD: 12%
“I’m really excited to be giving this course this year, I think we have an amazing group of scholars. We need traction at the level of disparities and these are the people that can take the baton and move us forward.” – Margarita Alegria, Ph.D. (Faculty)

“The presentation today [by Dr. Michele Evans] was reassuring because it’s going beyond just the basic research science, but relates to clinical relevance, specifically for minority and African American women. I see this commonly in my patients and it’ll help me care better for them.” – Renaisa Anthony, M.D., MPH (Scholar)
The National Native American Youth Initiative visits NIH
July 7-8, 2016

A two-day, trans-NIH conference held for the National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) in Biomedical Research

“Biomedical research careers can serve as a contributor to advancing the elimination of health disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations and communities.

The observations and compelling reasons for pursuing biomedical research careers that were shared during the NIH visit will resonate with students as they prepare for college and future professional pursuits.” – Dr. DeLoris Hunter, senior program manager and NIMHD-NNAYI Program Chair/Coordinator
Promoting NIMHD Vision and Agenda

- FDA lecture at Office Minority Health
- AAMC Mid-Career Faculty Development
- Academy Health Annual Meeting Plenary
- Fogarty Scholars/Fellows at NIH
- NHLBI Workshop on Personalized Medicine in Hispanic Health
- Latino Cancer Summit — SF
- NIA Workshop on functional impairment
NIMHD Staff News
New Appointments
NIMHD Division of Intramural Research
Adjunct Investigators

• **Michele Evans, MD, oncology**, Deputy Scientific Director, Senior Investigator and Chief, Disparities Research Section, Laboratory of Epidemiology and Population Sciences, National Institute on Aging.
  
  Research interests include investigating the role of oxidative stress in populations at risk for health disparities, with particular interest in studying “damage-associated molecular pattern” (DAMPS).

• **Anne Sumner, MD, endocrinology**, Senior Investigator, and Chief, Section on Ethnicity and Health, Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Obesity Branch, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.
  
  Research interests include design of screening tests and early interventions to decrease the impact of the diabetes and heart disease epidemic that is now occurring in populations of African descent worldwide.
New Appointments
NIMHD Division of Intramural Research
Adjunct Investigators

• **Dr. Tiffany Powell-Wiley**, Assistant Clinical Investigator, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Branch, in the Division of Intramural Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.
  • Research interests include delineating mechanisms by which neighborhood environment influences the development of obesity, diabetes, and other markers of cardiometabolic risk.

• **Dr. Chandra Jackson** is an Earl Stadtman Investigator, jointly supported by NIMHD and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.
  • Research interests are dietary lifestyle factors (e.g., sleep) as major, modifiable contributors to racial/ethnic and socioeconomic health disparities in chronic diseases related to the cardiovascular system.
New Appointments
NIMHD Division of Intramural Research
Adjunct Investigator/Postdoctoral IRTA Fellow

- Dr. Fasil Tekola Ayele is an Earl Stadtman Investigator, jointly supported by NIMHD and the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Division of Intramural Population Health Research.
- Research interests are in the area of genetic and chronic disease (i.e., diabetes and cardiovascular) epidemiology and the early origins of health disparity and population health.
NIMHD Postbac IRTA Fellows participate in NIH Postbac Poster Day. The event, organized by the NIH Office of Intramural Training and Education, is an opportunity for NIH Postbacs to display the research they have been conducting at the NIH and also develop their communication and networking skills. Posters are reviewed by teams composed of graduate students, postdocs, and other NIH scientific staff.
Training Next Generation of Biomedical Scientists

NIMHD Summer Interns

Kelvin Choi, PhD, MPH, Earl Stadtman Investigator, NIMHD IRP, provided training opportunities for two summer interns: Sarah Krosnick (r) who presented persuasive techniques used in anti-smoking advertisements and Jonna Rautsola (l) who presented behavior change techniques for smoking cessation promoted in anti-smoking advertisements at the NIH Summer Intern Poster Days.
Presenting NIMHD Intramural Research

2016 Epidemiology Congress of the Americas
June 21-24, 2016

- Sharon Jackson, MD, senior staff scientist, presented her research on inflammation and diabetes occurrence.

- Kelvin Choi, PhD, MPH presented his research on trends in tobacco product use patterns among U.S. youth, and the association between young adult smoking and social outcomes at mid-life.

Chemical and Engineering News (C&EN) webinar
March 22, 2016

- Lauren Amable, PhD, staff scientist, presented “Quantification of Metal Content in Individual Cells using Single Cell Analysis by ICP-MS: An Insight into Cancer Treatment”. Webinar participants included more 700 attendees representing 74 countries.
NIMHD Welcomes International Clinical Research Fellow

• Dr. Jean Nepo Utumatwishima, a public health physician and surgeon from Rwanda, will work with Dr. Anne Sumner, NIMHD adjunct investigator, for one year.

• Research will focus on the detection and prevention of diabetes in Africa. Learn how to conduct clinical studies, analyze data and contribute to public policy from the data gained.

• Co-sponsored through NIDDK, NIMHD and the Rwanda Ministry of Health.

• He will return to a university and public health position in Rwanda in July 2017.

“The salary support and leadership of NIMHD has made this first-of-its-kind program at NIH possible and we hope the collaboration will have proven success and continuous support.” -Dr. Anne Sumner
Noteworthy Publications
Recent Staff Publications


Recent Staff Publications

• Duong M, Bingham B, Aldana P, Chung T, Sumner AE, Variation in the Calculation of Allostatic Load Score: 21 Examples from NHANES. J Racial Ethn Health Disparities 2016 June 28. PMID 27352114

Noteworthy
Staff Achievements
**Noteworthy**

**Dr. Lauren Amable**, a staff scientist in the Division of Intramural Research, was accepted into the Society of Toxicology in June 2016.

She has been recognized for her research in metallomics, where she has been expanding the methodology and new approaches to measure all metals in patient samples as well as other biological samples.

**Dr. Xinzhi Zhang**, a program official in the Division of Extramural Scientific Programs, was recently promoted from Lieutenant (O-3) to Lieutenant Commander (O-4) in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps effective October 1, 2016.
Noteworthy
Staff receive the NIH Director’s Award on July 19, 2016

• 'Dr. Jessica Escobedo, a Health Science Policy Analyst in the Office of Science Policy, Planning, Analysis, and Reporting, received the 2016 NIH Director’s Award (group) for significant contributions toward developing an NIH-wide Strategic Plan.

• 'Ligia Artiles, a Program Analyst in the Division of Extramural Scientific Programs, received the 2016 Harvey J. Bullock, Jr. Award for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion by the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in recognition of exceptional vision, dedication, and sustained leadership in initiating, planning, and implementing the NIMHD Equity, Diversity, and Respect Initiative, which has led to an improved work environment at NIMHD.
Grant Awards
## NIMHD Competitive Awards Since June 2016 Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RFA/PA Title</th>
<th>No. of Awards</th>
<th>Total Award $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA-13-302, Research Project Grant (Parent R01)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$3,809,662</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA-13-363, Research on the Health Determinants and Consequences of Violence</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$472,418</td>
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<tr>
<td>and its Prevention, Particularly Firearm Violence (R01)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PA-13-303, NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (Parent</td>
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<td>R21)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>RFA-MD-15-013, NIMHD Transdisciplinary Collaborative Centers for Health</td>
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<td>$1,948,732</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disparities Research Focused on Precision Medicine (U54)</td>
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<td>RFA-MD-15-014, NIMHD Transdisciplinary Collaborative Centers for Health</td>
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<td>$4,307,634</td>
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<td>Disparities Research on Chronic Disease Prevention (U54)</td>
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<td>PA-13-347, NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (Parent R13/</td>
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<td>U13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFA/PA Title</td>
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<td>PA-14-147, Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (Parent F31)</td>
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<td>RFA-MD-15-008, Technologies for Improving Population Health and Eliminating Health Disparities (R41/R42)</td>
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<td>$224,998</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAR-14-088, Direct Phase II SBIR Grants to Support Biomedical Technology Development (R44)</td>
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<td>$798,187</td>
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<td>PA-15-270, PHS 2015-02 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH for Small Business Technology Transfer Grant Applications (Parent STTR [R41/R42])</td>
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<td>$802,553</td>
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<td>PA-15-269, PHS 2015-02 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH, CDC, FDA and ACF for Small Business Innovation Research Grant Applications (Parent SBIR [R43/R44])</td>
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Funding Opportunity Announcements
# Recent Funding Opportunities and Notices

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<tr>
<th>Funding Opportunities</th>
<th>Funding Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Engaging Youth and Young Adults from Health Disparity Populations &amp; in the HIV Treatment Cascade (R01)</td>
<td>RFA-MD-16-003</td>
<td>09-7-16</td>
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<td>Surgical Disparities Research</td>
<td>PAR-16-391</td>
<td>08-05-16</td>
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<td>NIH Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) Enhancing Diversity in Biomedical Data Science (R25)</td>
<td>RFA-MD-16-002</td>
<td>08-05-16</td>
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<td>Clinical Research Education and Career Development (CRECD) Program (R25)</td>
<td>PAR-16-350</td>
<td>08-01-16</td>
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<td>Social Epigenomics Research Focused on Minority Health and Health Disparities</td>
<td>PAR-16-355</td>
<td>07-07-16</td>
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NIMHD Funded Science Advances
Neck Circumference May Be a Better Alternative Measure for Risk of Diabetes


This study showed that neck circumference has higher associations with prediabetes and lower associations for low level of high-sensitivity C-reactive protein (marker of inflammation) compared to traditional anthropometric measures, such as BMI and skin-fold tests, as well as connections with other metabolic factors that are generally similar to waist circumference.

• Neck circumference can be an important measure to consider for routine assessment in primary care clinics and other health care settings, as well as for research studies when the use of expensive and sophisticated machines is neither easy nor justifiable.

• It may be especially useful among populations such as pregnant women where traditional measures may be challenging or not meaningful.
Reducing Barriers to HIV Prevention Research for SGM Youth


This study supports the premise that SGMY are prepared to provide informed and voluntary self-consent to studies involving HIV prevention when information is provided in an age-appropriate and youth-friendly format.

• Youth demonstrated understanding of health-related benefits, side effects and limitations of PrEP for preventing HIV and STIs.

• Youth demonstrated understanding of research benefits, medical side effects, confidentiality risks, and random assignment and felt comfortable asking questions and declining participation.

• Youth responses highlighted guardian permission as a significant barrier to research participation, especially for those who are not “out” to families.
Stigma and High Risk Sexual Behavior among HIV+ African American Men


This study examined relationships of internalized and social network HIV stigma and condom less sex in a sample of 125 African American HIV-positive men in Los Angeles.

- Greater internalized HIV stigma and the perception that close members of the individual’s social network endorsed HIV stigma independently predicted higher levels of condom less sex.

- Greater density of the social network predicted lower levels of condom less sex, but this protective effect was dissipated if the individual believed members of the social network endorsed HIV stigma beliefs.

- Results highlight the importance of stigma reduction efforts to facilitate reduction of HIV risk behavior for individuals and their social networks.
HIV and Violence Risk Reduction in Latinas


This study tested whether a culturally tailored group HIV-risk reduction intervention for Latinas (n=548) that reduced high-risk HIV behaviors also impacted levels of intimate partner violence.

- Women receiving the intervention reported greater HIV risk-related communication with their partner and lower levels of alcohol intoxication and intimate partner violence (IPV) than women in the control condition.
- Partner communication about HIV mediated the reduction of male-to-female IPV, which in turn reduced female-to-male IPV; alcohol intoxication was not a mediator of these relationships.
- Findings show the importance of enhancing women’s communication with their partners as a means of reducing IPV, even in interventions not focused directly on IPV.
Council Discussion and Questions