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what's inside

- classes of 2022 and 2023 thesis research
- alumni & faculty research & publications from 1/2020-12/2021, hyperlinked when available
Congrats to the class of 2022!

If you would like to support student research efforts of the UTGCP through our Research & Education Fund, please Click Here

M.S. Thesis Topics

Émile Moura Coelho Da Silva
Experiences of racial and ethnic minority patients with genetic counseling
Advisors: Myla Ashfaq & Brittanie Morris

Emilyn Banfield
Analysis of Huntington disease caregiver quality of life using the Enroll-HD population
Advisor: Leslie Dunnington

Gina Sanchez
Status of abortion curriculum in genetic counseling: Survey of graduate programs and recent graduates in the United States
Advisor: Aarti Ramdaney

Jenna Lea
Non-invasive prenatal screening (NIPS) testing motivations and informed decision making in the low-risk population
Advisor: Meagan Choates

Jenny Do
Parental stress in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex
Advisor: Kate Mowrey

Katie Baudoin
Investigating the attitudes of the d/Deaf community towards genetic counseling and the utilization of genetic services
Advisor: Jennifer Czerwinska & Chelsea Wagner

Mandy Chamberlain
Perceptions and roles of genetic counselors in perinatal palliative care: Where are we now?
Advisors: Callie Diamonstein & Theresa Wittman

Michelle Appel
Prenatal testing decisions and motivations in pregnancies conceived via IVF
Advisors: Aarti Ramdany & Lauren Murphy

Michelle Zelnick
Assessing the impact of Camp PHEver on serum phenylalanine levels
Advisor: Kate Mowrey

Natalie Stoner
Invisible diversities, academic capital, and competitiveness of genetic counseling applicants
Advisor: Claire Singletary
Introducing the Research of the Class of 2023!

M.S. Thesis Topics

Latonya Alexander: Pregnant Black/African Americans and Their Experiences in Prenatal Genetic Counseling.
Advisor: Claire Singletary

Maddi Alpar: The Impact of Clinical Expectations and Psychosocial Concerns on the Diagnostic Odyssey of Hypermobile Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (hEDS) Patients.
Advisor: Katie Leal

Erin Atkinson: Perceived Barriers to Cascade Testing of At-Risk Relatives Located in Latin America.
Advisors: Amanda de Leon and Aranza Gonzalez Cendejas

Yusra Aziz: What topics related to racial and ethnic health disparities (REHD) should be taught in genetic counseling programs?
Advisor: Claire Singletary

Jack Colleran: Perceived Utility of Genetic Carrier Screening in Diverse Patient Populations.
Advisor: Blair Stevens

Emily Daykin: Investigation of Teratogen Concerns in the Covid-19 Era.
Advisor: Myla Ashfaq

Tessa Heller: The Impact of Palynziq on Quality of Life for Individuals with PKU.
Advisor: Kate Mowrey

Cindy Hernandez: Monolingual Spanish Speaking Patient Satisfaction and Comfort when Comparing Spanish Speaking Provider to an Interpreter.
Advisor: Katie Leal

Jasmine Tyson: The Impact of Restrictive Abortion Legislation Tactics on the Trust Reproductive-Aged Individuals Assigned Female at Birth Have in their Healthcare Providers.
Advisors: Aarti Ramdaney and Samantha Montgomery

Advisor: Maureen Mork
UTGCP Alumni & Faculty:
Authorship at National Meetings
Submitted presentations from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed

American Academy of Pediatrics
National Conference & Exhibition 2020
Taylor Beecroft - Outcomes of Branch Pulmonary Artery Stenosis in Williams Syndrome and Non-Williams Supravalvar Aortic Stenosis. Accepted for oral presentation at American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition, October 2020.

American Academy of Pediatrics
National Conference & Exhibition 2021
Taylor Beecroft - Outcomes of Branch Pulmonary Artery Stenosis in Williams Syndrome and Non-Williams Supravalvar Aortic Stenosis. Accepted for poster presentation at American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition, March 2021.

American College of Cardiology
Taylor Beecroft - Vertebral Artery Tortuosity Is A Biomarker For Arterial Events In Children And Young Adults With Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. Accepted for poster presentation at the American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions, March 2020.

American College of Gastroenterology Meeting

American College of Medical Genetics & Genomics
Katie Sagaser & Katie (Rock) Forster - Not just a carrier: hypophosphatasia (HPP) presentations of 12 ALPL heterozygotes identified through routine expanded carrier screening (ECS). Oral presentation; recipient of 2020 Carolyn Mills Lovell Genetic Counselor Award.

Katie Sagaser & Katie (Rock) Forster - A case of apparently non-mosaic trisomy 7: prenatal natural history in the midtrimester. Poster presentation, 2020


American Heart Association
Taylor Beecroft - Cardiovascular outcomes in Williams syndrome and non Williams supravalvar aortic stenosis. Accepted for poster presentation, 2020.

American Society of Clinical Oncology Meeting

Amie Blanco - Streamlining the genetics pipeline to increase testing for patients at risk for hereditary prostate cancer. American Society of Clinical Oncology Meeting, 2020.
American Society of Human Genetics

American Society of Reproductive Medicine Scientific Congress & Expo
Sandra Darilek - When preimplantation genetic testing for aneuploidy (PGT-A) results lead to discovery of an unexpected chromosome abnormality in a patient. Poster presentation, 2021.

Annual Meeting of the Collaborative Group of the Americas on Hereditary Gastrointestinal Cancer 2020


Annual Meeting of the Collaborative Group of the Americas on Hereditary Gastrointestinal Cancer 2021


Amie Blanco - Carriers Of Cystic Fibrosis From A Diverse Background Are At An Increased Risk Of Pancreatic Cancer. 2021 Nov 13-15.

Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses Annual Convention


CHOP Pediatric Cardiology Sessions

Taylor Beecroft - Cardiovascular Characteristics in Children with Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. Accepted for poster presentation, January 2021

Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Colorectal Cancer


International Society for Prenatal Diagnosis 2020

Katie Sagaser & Katie (Rock) Forster – Follow your nose: the impact of repeat nasal bone evaluation on Down syndrome risk assessment by first trimester screening. Poster, 2020 (meeting cancelled).

Katie Sagaser & Katie (Rock Forster) - More than just a carrier: ALPL heterozygotes identified through routine expanded carrier screening (ECS) display signs and symptoms of hypophosphatasia (HPP). Poster, 2020 (meeting cancelled).

Katie Sagaser - Genetic etiologies for early pregnancy renal anhydramnios: Updates from the Renal Anhydramnios Fetal Therapy (RAFT) trial. Poster, 2020 (meeting cancelled).

International Society for Prenatal Diagnosis 2021


UTGCP Alumni & Faculty: Authorship at National Meetings

Submitted presentations from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed

**Michigan Association of Genetic Counselors**


**Multidisciplinary Management of Cancers Conference**


**National Association of Neonatal Nurses**

Katie Shields, Jen Czerwinski, Syed Hashmi, Kate Mowrey, & Katie Gunther - Genetics in the NICU: Nurses’ Perceived Knowledge and Desired Education. 2021 Sept 13.

**National Society of Genetic Counselors, 2020**

Amie Blanco – Adapting Genetic Testing Results Disclosures to Patient Preferences at the Prostate Cancer Genetic Testing Station. (Virtual), Nov 18-22 2020.

Amie Blanco - Streamlining the genetics pipeline to increase testing for patients at risk for hereditary prostate cancer: the UCSF Prostate Cancer Genetic Testing Station. (Virtual), 2020 Nov 18-22.


**National Society of Genetic Counselors, 2020, cont’d**


Laura Hendon – Genome Sequencing and the Challenges of the Rare Diagnosis in the NICU Setting. Poster, Virtual Conference November 2020.


UTGCP Alumni & Faculty: Authorship at National Meetings

Submitted presentations from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed

National Society of Genetic Counselors, 2020, cont’d


Katie Sagaser & Katie (Rock) Forster - Omphalocele and monosomy X: expanding the phenotype of 45,X through first trimester ultrasound. Poster, Virtual, November 2020.

National Society of Genetic Counselors, 2021


Sandra Darilek & Salma Nassef - Prenatal genetic counselors’ practices and confidence when counseling on inconclusive NIPT results. Poster, September 2021.

Laura Hendon - Whole genome sequencing and the identification of dual genetic diagnoses in complex phenotypes in the NICU. Poster, September 2021.

Erica Bednar, Aarti Ramdaney, & Jessie (Ross) Corredor - Factors Impacting Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Patients’ Decision to Purse Genetic Counseling and Testing. Poster, September 2021.


National Society of Genetic Counselors, 2021, cont’d

Katie Huang, Meagan Choates, Grace Tran, Chelsea Wagner, & Claire Singletary - Barriers Experienced by Underrepresented Minorities in Becoming a Competitive Genetic Counseling Applicant. Platform presentation, Virtual, September 2021.


Philadelphia Prenatal Diagnosis: Prenatal Genetics & Ultrasound, Obstetrics/MFM Conference

Katie Sagaser - Expanded carrier screening for hypophosphatasia and skeletal dysplasias. Oral presentation; Virtual meeting (2020).

Project Baby Deer Case Review Conference

Jessie Omark O’Shea - Case Review: ASXL3 and PURA-related disorders. February 2021
UTGCP Alumni & Faculty: Authorship at National Meetings

Submitted presentations from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed.

San Antonio Breast Cancer Virtual Symposium


Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, 2021


Katie Sagaser – Chromosome analysis at the time of fetoscopic laser surgery yields significant abnormalities in monochorionic (MC) twin pregnancies with twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome (TTTS). Poster presentation, virtual meeting (2021).


Texas Society of Genetic Counselors


University of Michigan & Wayne State University Supervisors Workshop 2021


United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation Meeting

American Journal of Human Genetics


American Journal of Medical Genetics Part A


American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology

American Journal of Perinatology

Annals of Surgical Oncology

Birth Defects Research

Breast Cancer Research
Amie Blanco - The WISDOM study: a new approach to screening can and should be tested. Breast Cancer Research and Treatment. 2021 Oct;189(3):593–598.
UTGCP Alumni & Faculty: Scientific Publications

Submitted publications from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed

Cancer Journal

Clinical Case Reports
Katie Gunther, Kate Mowrey, & Lara Farach - Two new reported cases of 16q22.3q23.3 duplication syndrome highlight intrafamilial variability and potential sex expression differences within a rare duplication syndrome. Clin Case Rep. 2021 Jan 27;9(3):1629-1633.

Clinical Genetics

eLife

Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology

Genetic Counseling Practice Advanced Concepts and Skills

Genetics in Medicine


UTGCP Alumni & Faculty: Scientific Publications
Submitted publications from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed

Handbook of Clinical Adult Genetics & Genomics: A Practice-Based Approach
Sandra Darilek & Sarah (Mayes) Huguenard - Preconception and prenatal care; pp 71-81; In Handbook of Clinical Adult Genetics and Genomics: A Practice-Based Approach; Academic Press; San Diego, CA; 2020; Dhar SU, Nagamani SCS, Eble TN, ed.; 1st edition.

Hereditary Cancer Clinical Practice

Human Genetics and Genomics Advances

Human Molecular Genetics
Haley Streff - Mutations of the Histone Linker H1-3 in Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Functional Characterization of Neurons Expressing C-terminus Frameshift Mutant H1.4. Human Molecular Genetics. 2022 May 4;3(9):1430-1442

JAMA Open Network

Journal of Clinical Oncology


Journal of Extracellular Vesicles

Journal of Genetic Counseling


UTGCP Alumni & Faculty: Scientific Publications

Submitted publications from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed

Journal of Genetic Counseling (cont’d)


Journal of Human Genetics


Journal of Maternal–Fetal and Neonatal Medicine


Journal of Personal Medicine


Journal of Perinatology


Mitochondrion


Molecular Genetics & Genomic Medicine


Kate Mowrey, Shannon Mulligan, Hope Northrup - Two different genetic etiologies for tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) in a single family. 2020 Jul;8(7):e1296.

Nature Communications


Nature Medicine

UTGCP Alumni & Faculty: Scientific Publications

Submitted publications from 2020-2021; only UT affiliated authors listed

Nature Genetics


Prenatal Diagnosis (cont’d)


npj Genomic Medicine

Amanda Gerard - De novo variants in H3-3A and H3-3B are associated with neurodevelopmental delay, dysmorphic features, and structural brain abnormalities. NPJ Genom Med. 2021 Dec 7;6(1):104.


Scientific Data


Scientific Reports

Haley Streff - Molecular characterisation of rare loss-of-function NPAS3 and NPAS4 variants identified in individuals with neurodevelopmental disorders. 2021 Mar 23;11(1):6602

Supportive Care in Cancer

Erica Bednar, Aarti Ramdaney, & Jessie (Ross) Corredor - Factors Impacting Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Patients’ Decision to Pursue Genetic Counseling and Testing. Epub 2022 Mar 19.

Texas Children's Hospital Handbook of Congenital Heart Disease

Taylor Beecroft - Connective Tissue Disorders. In: Texas Children’s Hospital Handbook of Congenital Heart Disease, edited by Mery CM, Bastero P, Hall AGCSR. Texas Children’s Hospital; 2020; p368–375. ISBN 1734272112, 9781734272116.

The Oncologist


Prenatal Diagnosis


Peyton Nunley, Syed Hashmi, Lara Farach, Claire Singletary, & Blair Stevens - Exploring the predicted yield of prenatal testing by evaluating a postnatal population with structural abnormalities using a novel mathematical model. Prenat Diagn. Epub 2021 Nov 18

Scientific Reports

Haley Streff - Molecular characterisation of rare loss-of-function NPAS3 and NPAS4 variants identified in individuals with neurodevelopmental disorders. 2021 Mar 23;11(1):6602
want to join the UTGCP?

contact us

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If you didn't see your research in this issue, we hope to include you next year.

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