Congratulations to our 2016 Graduates!

The following MPHS students will receive diplomas this year:

- Anchal Bansal — Medical Student
- David Brauer, MD — General Surgery Resident
- Natalia Brito Rivera — Medical Student
- Scott Douglas — Medical Student
- Daniel Scott Feng — Medical Student
- Jesse Keller, MD — Clinical Fellow in Internal Medicine
- Sophia Mengting Li — Medical Student
- Timothy Nywening, MD — General Surgery Resident
- Charlene Ong, MD — Neurology Resident
- Rajiv Parikh, MD — Plastic Surgery Resident
- Carlos Santos, MD — Assistant Professor of Medicine, Rush University Medical Center
- Shawgi Silver — Medical Student
- Emily Walling, MD — Clinical Fellow in Pediatrics

RESEARCH UPDATE

Evidence strong enough to change standard skin-prep practices for the procedure

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis research offers strong guidance on the best way to reduce infection risk. Rather than prepping patients with iodine-alcohol — a common antiseptic combination in C-sections — the research indicates that chlorhexidine-alcohol is significantly more effective. The researchers argue that the evidence is strong enough to change standard skin-prep practices for C-sections.

The study appeared online Feb. 4 in The New England Journal of Medicine. MPHS professors Methodius Tuuli, MD, MPH, Esther Lu, PhD, & Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH, were involved with the study.

MPHS Leadership
Dr. Graham Colditz, Program Director
Drs. Adetunji Toriola and Anke Winter, Deputy Directors
Dr. Allison King, Associate Director for Medical Students
www.mphs.wustl.edu
MPHS ALUMNI PROFILE

Dominic Sanford, MD, MPHS
MPHS Class of 2014, General Surgery Resident

Dominic Sanford, MD, MPHS, was drawn into the medical field with a purpose. Not only is science intriguing to him, it also allows him to work with people and help solve their problems. Choosing to become a surgery specialist was an easy decision for him. Dr. Sanford likes to fix things with his hands, so becoming a surgeon was the perfect specialty for him. Now, Dr. Sanford hopes to specialize as a hepatobiliary surgeon.

Working with patients who have been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer can be difficult. This type of cancer oftentimes has high morbidity rates and can be difficult for patients and physicians alike to understand. Unfortunately there are not many clinical outcomes studies with this specific population, so continuing to research and understand pancreatic cancer is vital to improving patient care now and in the future.

The lack of knowledge surrounding pancreatic cancer helped Dr. Sanford in his decision to pursue his master of population health sciences (MPHS) degree. With an understanding of population health sciences and the ability to conduct clinical research, he felt this degree could help him further both his career and patient care ability. “I saw the MPHS degree as an opportunity to become a leader in surgery because I could become an expert on how to answer the questions that we [physicians] ask ourselves on a daily basis. The MPHS has provided me with a highly sought after skill set that I will use throughout the rest of my career. I can now ask my own questions based on what I observe at the hospital, find my own answers, and publish the results,” said Dr. Sanford. “Completing the MPHS program was one of the best career decisions I have ever made.”

Prior to the MPHS program Dr. Sanford completed little clinical research, and recognized that as an area of weakness in his professional knowledge. Now, after numerous presentations at national and international meetings, winning awards for his research, and having multiple manuscripts published, Dr. Sanford is an advocate for the MPHS program. “I would highly recommend it. If you are even considering the MPHS program, you should do it. I have yet to meet someone who regretted going through the MPHS program, but I know many people who regretted not doing it. The MPHS program is a perfect way to begin the path towards becoming a leader in your field.”

Why Choose the Master of Population Health Sciences Degree Program?

The MPHS degree program accelerates clinical research expertise and gives physicians, residents, fellows and medical students the foundation to excel in leading, designing, conducting and moving research to applications in clinical settings. The curriculum emphasizes the role of clinical epidemiology and biostatistics in clinical effectiveness and outcomes research. Population health sciences training brings together passion for patient care and uses research to improve health outcomes for patient populations.

The MPHS program gives you the opportunity to learn at a top-ranked medical institution, Washington University School of Medicine, known for patient care and population health excellence, in classes customized for clinicians and medical students. Applications for Fall 2016 are still being considered.
FOCUS ON FACULTY .......................... Allison King, MD, MPH, PhD

Teaches M19-500
“Current Topics in Public Health for Clinicians”
Next offered: Fall 2016 · Tuesdays 12 to 1 p.m.

Dr. Allison King is the Associate Director for Medical Students in the MPHS program. Dr. King was promoted in Winter 2016 to an Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy and Pediatrics. She also holds appointments in the Division of Public Health Sciences and the Division of Hematology and Oncology.

Dr. King’s research focuses on factors that impact a child’s opportunity to learn. From a biological standpoint, she studies how chronic diseases, such as sickle cell disease or brain tumors, alter cognition. In addition, Dr. King studies the environment’s influence on children’s development and participation. The goal of her work is to determine targets for intervention that will have the greatest impact on development and education. Her methods include psychological and performance-based assessment, environmental assessments via home or public health measures, and epidemiological tools to incorporate medical and social science measures. Dr. King’s collaborators are from occupational therapy, pediatrics, public health, education, social work, neurology, psychology, and radiology.

“Population research is the cornerstone of evidence-based medicine. We’re training clinician-researchers who will change the lives of their patient populations.”
- Graham Colditz, MD, DrPH
MPHS Program Director

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Questions?
Joyce Linn, program coordinator
email: linnj@wustl.edu
phone: (314) 362-5501

Interested in the MPHS program?
Applications for Fall 2016 are still being considered on a rolling basis.
A Guide to the MPHS Concentration Tracks

MPHS students take these seven core courses, plus five electives in a chosen concentration track.

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<tr>
<th>Concentration Description</th>
<th>Required Courses</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Epidemiology</strong></td>
<td>• Randomized Controlled Trials</td>
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<td>Provides physicians with strong methodologic skills in study design and epidemiology focusing on clinical problems. Training focuses on: rigorous clinical research study designs; the role of epidemiology in disease prevention and clinical health outcomes including analysis of prevention and screening programs; evaluation of treatment and disease management programs; and the application of prediction rules.</td>
<td>• Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Plus nine additional electives</td>
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| **Health Services** | • Comparative Effectiveness Research |
| Provides the advanced methods training needed to evaluate and identify the most appropriate and effective approaches to clinical care, including prevention, early detection and disease management. Areas of research interest for the concentration include: cost-effectiveness analysis; decision analysis; health services research; and quality improvement. | • Patient Safety, Quality Management & Improvement |
| • Decision Analysis and Economic Analysis |
| • Plus six additional electives |

| **Psychiatric and Behavioral Health Sciences** | • Epidemiology of Psychiatric Behaviors Across the Lifespan |
| Provides clinician- and post-graduate researchers with strong conceptual and methodological skills required for the design, advanced analysis, and interpretation of epidemiological and treatment-effectiveness studies for psychiatric and addiction-related phenotypes. Emphasizes a clinical approach to psychiatric and addiction health research. | • Addiction & Addictive Behaviors |
| • Global Burden of Disease |
| • Plus six additional electives |