



VERITY Updates

- **VERITY at the ACR 2018** conference on Monday, October 22nd at the Meet the Funders: NIH & Foundation Roundtable Grant Discussion from 8:30am-10:00am.
- **VERITY External Advisory Committee** met on September 21st to discuss the evolution of VERITY over the last few months and potential development ahead.

VERITY (NIH-P30-AR072577) is funded by NIH-NIAMS.

VERITY Internal Advisory Committee

On April 5th, 2018, the VERITY Internal Advisory Committee met for the initial meeting. The Internal Advisory Committee consists of 8 local experts from around Harvard Medical School who have relevant research experience to enhance VERITY (see table below). They came together for their inaugural meeting to learn about the range of services offered by VERITY and to help us consider ways to: a) enhance VERITY core services and b) link with other relevant resources. If VERITY Research Community members would like to connect with these advisors, please let us know. They will meet with VERITY regularly to ensure that our services are cutting-edge and relevant for clinical researchers.

VERITY IAC Members

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| • Isaac Kohane
Biomedical informatics | • Elliott Antman
Cardiovascular medicine & medical education |
| • Candace Feldman
Rheumatic disease clinical research | • Elliot Israel
Pulmonology & pragmatic clinical trials |
| • James Kang
Orthopedic surgery research | • Sebastian Schneeweiss
Pharmacoepidemiology & effectiveness |
| • Julie Buring
Epidemiology | • Paul Ridker
Cardiovascular medicine and trials |

VERITY Publications

Nascimben J, Cubbison C, Lape EC, **Katz JN**. Strategies for managing the costs of chronic illness in the context of limited financial resources: a qualitative study in Dominican persons with arthritis. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2018 Sep 1. doi: 10.1002/acr.23742. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30171806.

Sparks JA, Barbhuiya M, Tedeschi SK, Leatherwood CL, Tabung FK, Speyer CB, Malspeis S, **Costenbader KH**, Karlson EW, **Lu B**. Inflammatory dietary pattern and risk of developing rheumatoid arthritis in women. *Clin Rheumatol*. 2018 Aug 14. doi: 10.1007/s10067-018-4261-5. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30109509.

Luc-Harkey BA, Safran-Norton CE, Mandl LA, **Katz JN**, **Losina E**. Associations among knee muscle strength, structural damage, and pain and mobility in individuals with osteoarthritis and symptomatic meniscal tear. *BMC Musculoskelet Disord*. 2018 Jul 27;19(1):258. doi: 10.1186/s12891-018-2182-8. PubMed PMID: 30049269; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6062861.

Cai T, Lin TC, Bond A, Huang J, Kane-Wanger G, **Cagan A**, Murphy SN, Ananthakrishnan AN, **Liao KP**. The Association Between Arthralgia and Vedolizumab Using Natural Language Processing. *Inflamm Bowel Dis*. 2018 Sep 15;24(10):2242-2246. doi: 10.1093/ibd/izy127. PubMed PMID: 29846617; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6140445.

Qudsi RA, Roberts HJ, Bhashyam AR, **Losina E**, Bae DS, Alexis F, Dyer GS. A Self-Reported Needs Assessment Survey of Pediatric Orthopaedic Education in Haiti. *J Surg Educ*. 2018 Jan - Feb;75(1):140-146. doi: 10.1016/j.jsurg.2017.06.007. Epub 2017 Aug 31. PubMed PMID: 28864264; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6122854.

Lin TC, Yoshida K, Tedeschi SK, de Abreu MM, Hashemi N, **Solomon DH**. Risk of Hepatitis B Virus Re-activation in Patients With Inflammatory Arthritis Receiving Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2018 May;70(5):724-731. doi: 10.1002/acr.23346. Epub 2018 Apr 12. PubMed PMID: 28834412; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5823713.

Yu Z, Lu B, Agosti J, Bitton A, Corrigan C, Fraenkel L, Harrold LR, **Losina E**, **Katz JN**, **Solomon DH**. Implementation of Treat-to-Target for Rheumatoid Arthritis in the US: Analysis of Baseline Data From a Randomized Controlled Trial. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2018 May;70(5):801-806. doi: 10.1002/acr.23343. Epub 2018 Apr 12. PubMed PMID: 28834390; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5823714.

VERITY Bioinformatics Core

The Bioinformatics Resource Core is assisting Dr. Tedeschi with developing an algorithm using electronic medical records to identify pseudogout. Some of the challenges to phenotyping pseudogout include the lack of an agreed upon definition for classification, and the lack of an ICD billing code for the condition. Thus far, the Core has extracted additional information from the notes using natural language processing. Concepts in the narrative notes such as calcium pyrophosphate disease and pseudogout significantly improves the ability to identify pseudogout. The Core will also test machine learning approaches to identify informative features for pseudogout from the codified and NLP data. For more information about the services offered by the VERITY Bioinformatics Core, please visit <http://verityresearch.org/>.

VERITY Member Spotlight - Sara Tedeschi, MD



Sara Tedeschi is a rheumatologist and clinical investigator in the BWH Division of Rheumatology's Section of Clinical Sciences and an Instructor in Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Her current research focuses on pseudogout, an inflammatory crystalline arthritis. She is working with the VERITY Bioinformatics Core to develop and validate an algorithm for identifying pseudogout patients using electronic medical record (EMR) data. She will apply the algorithm to identify a pseudogout cohort within the Partners HealthCare EMR, and will study risk factors for pseudogout and long-term outcomes in patients with this inflammatory arthritis.

***For each issue, the newsletter will feature a VERITY member. For more information, please contact Jackie Stratton (jstratton1@bwh.harvard.edu) or visit verityresearch.org to become a VERITY member.

Please visit verityresearch.org for more information.