



VERITY Updates

- **VERITY Bioinformatics Resource Core** to discuss servers and databases 101 in an upcoming, stream-able meeting on November 14, 2018. More details below and on <http://www.verityresearch.org/>.

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

VERITY External Advisory Committee

On September 21st, 2018, the VERITY External Advisory Committee met for the first time. The External Advisory Committee membership includes three rheumatologists, a bioinformatician, and a patient that has worked closely with the Arthritis Foundation. Four of the five members were able to attend the meeting in September in Boston. The VERITY team presented a summary of the first year's work and received detailed feedback. The meeting was extremely productive and suggested that VERITY was "on the right track" with our programs and cores. The VERITY team is preparing a response to the External Advisory Committee's comments. This groups plans to meet annually to review the progress of VERITY.

VERITY EAC Members

- William Adams, MD
Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA
- Brian Feldman, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Toronto SickKids, Toronto, Canada
- Gillian Hawker, MD, MSc
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- Michael Katzman
BlueCross BlueShield of MA, Boston, MA
- Timothy McAlindon, MD, MPH
Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA

VERITY at the 2018 ACR Conference in Chicago

This year, the American College of Rheumatology held their annual meeting in Chicago in October. The conference brought together doctors and researchers from across the US. VERITY had the pleasure of being present at the *Meet the Funders: NIH & Foundation Roundtable Grant Discussion* on Monday, October 22nd. At the VERITY table (see below), Dan Solomon, Katherine Liao, Elena Losina, Jeffrey Katz, and Jacklyn Stratton were able to spread the word about VERITY, our Pilot & Feasibility grant and Enrichment programs.



VERITY Publications

Solomon DH, Yu Z, Katz JN, Bitton A, Corrigan C, Fraenkel L, Harrold LR, Smolen JS, Losina E, Lu B. Adverse Events and Resource Use Before and After Treat to Target in Rheumatoid Arthritis: A Post-Hoc Analysis of a Randomized Controlled Trial. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2018 Sep 17. doi: 10.1002/acr.23755. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30221841.

VERITY Bioinformatics Resource Core

On November 14th, 2018, the VERITY Bioinformatics Core will present at the VERITY seminar. The Core's PI, Katherine Liao, MD, MPH, will introduce the Core members, and walk through some of the basics needed to work on large datasets. Topics will include why data storage matters, an intro to servers and databases, and introduce a bioinformatics platform that will be made available to the research community. The talk will be held on **Wednesday, November 14th, 2018 from 9:00AM-10:00AM ET**. To stream this talk, you must be a VERITY member. To learn more about VERITY Membership and access the live-streamed meeting, please go to <http://www.verityresearch.org/>.

VERITY Member Spotlight - Rebecca Trachtman, MD, MS



Rebecca Trachtman, MD, MS, is a pediatric rheumatologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Her research has a clinical and translational focus, and she is interested in outcomes and treatment in juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA), one of the most common rheumatologic diseases in children. Rebecca is currently evaluating the utility of the patient global health assessment for prediction of flare in polyarticular JIA. She is also developing a protocol to use two existing biomarkers for distinction of disease flare and infection in children with established systemic JIA, the childhood correlate of adult onset Still's disease. Dr. Trachtman was an attendee of the 2018 VERITY/Brigham Course in Rheumatology Clinical Research.

***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](http://www.verityresearch.org/) to become a VERITY member.

Please visit [verityresearch.org](http://www.verityresearch.org/) for more information.