



VERITY Newsletter

A newsletter brought to you by VERITY at Brigham & Women's Hospital

MARCH 2020

VERITY Updates

- **VERITY announces the release** of the VERITY 2020 Pilot & Feasibility Research Award. More information can be found below.
- **VERITY has selected 18 applicants** to attend the 2020 VERITY course in May.

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

VERITY/Brigham 2020 Course in Rheumatology Clinical Research

Recently, VERITY has confirmed the attendance of 18 attendees from across North America. These attendees will arrive in Boston on May 12 to refine a specific aims page or research proposal of an ongoing project. They will work with our outstanding VERITY faculty including: Brian Feldman, MD, MSc, FRCPC of Toronto Sick Kids; Marian Hannan, DSc, MPH, of the Hinda and Arthur Marcus Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife, Harvard Medical School and Editor-In-Chief of Arthritis Care & Research; and Ellen Gravallese, MD, current president of the American College of Rheumatology and chief of the Division of Rheumatology, Inflammation, and Immunity at Brigham and Women's Hospital. VERITY looks forward to welcoming these attendees and assisting them in advancing their clinical research careers in rheumatology and other musculoskeletal disorders. For more information on the VERITY/Brigham course, please go to <http://www.verityresearch.org/>.

Attendees of the 2020 VERITY/Brigham Course

- Nicole Bitencourt, MD
UT Southwestern Medical Center
- Jessica Bloom, MD
University of Colorado/
Children's Hospital Colorado
- John Bridges, MD, MS
Children's of Alabama/
University of Alabama Birmingham
- Siobhan Case, MD, MHS
Brigham and Women's Hospital/
Boston Children's Hospital
- Amy Cunningham-Bussel, MD, PhD
Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Vanessa Kronzer, MD, MSCI
Mayo Clinic
- Alexandra Legge, MD, MSc
Dalhousie University
- Lily Li, MD
Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Sarah Lieber, MD, MSc
Hospital for Special Surgery
- Rebecca Overbury MD, MS
University of Utah
- Jordan Roberts, MD
Boston Children's Hospital
- Tamar Rubinstein, MD, MS
Albert Einstein College of Medicine/
Children's Hospital at Montefiore
- Sebastian Sattui, MD
Hospital for Special Surgery
- Namrata Singh, MD, MSCI, FACP
University of Washington
- Patricia Vega-Fernandez, MD, MSc, RhMSUS
Cincinnati Children's Hospital
Medical Center
- Daniel Whibley, PhD
University of Michigan
- Leanna Wise, MD
University of Southern California
- Katherine Wysham, MD
University of Washington/
VA Puget Sound Health Care System

VERITY Publications

Bansback N, Curtis JR, Huang J, He Z, Evans M, Johansson T, Michaud K, Schmajuk G, **Liao KP**. Patterns of Tumor Necrosis Factor Inhibitor (TNFi) Biosimilar Use Across United States Rheumatology Practices. *ACR Open Rheumatol*. 2020 Feb;2(2):79-83.

Katz JN, Shrestha S, Losina E, Jones MH, Marx RG, Mandl LA, Levy BA, MacFarlane LA, Spindler KP, Silva GS; METEOR Investigators, Collins JE. Five-Year Outcome of Operative and Nonoperative Management of Meniscal Tear in Persons Older Than Forty-Five Years. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2020 Feb;72(2):273-281.

Smith KC, **Losina E**, Messier SP, Hunter DJ, Chen AT, **Katz JN**, Paltiel AD. Budget Impact of Funding an Intensive Diet and Exercise Program for Overweight and Obese Patients With Knee Osteoarthritis. *ACR Open Rheumatol*. 2020 Jan;2(1):26-36.

VERITY 2020 Pilot & Feasibility Research Award

On March 2, 2020, VERITY released the application for the 2020 VERITY Pilot & Feasibility (P&F) Research Award. The VERITY P&F Research Award is a NIAMS-supported \$20,000 grant that is aimed at providing seed funding for new projects as well as to offer an opportunity to the VERITY Research Community to develop skills in proposal preparation.

All applicants must be a member of the VERITY Research Community and the selection committee will favor VERITY young investigators (rank of Assistant Professor or below) who have not been awarded an R01 grant or equivalent.

The 2020 award application is due

Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 5:00PM ET

Any applications submitted after that time will not be accepted. For additional information on the VERITY P&F Research Award, please visit <http://verityresearch.org/>.

VERITY Member Spotlight: Jiha Lee, MD



Jiha Lee, MD, MHS is an adult rheumatologist and an Assistant Professor in Medicine at the School of Medicine at University of Michigan (U-M) Ann Arbor. Her clinical and research interest lies in the design, implementation, and evaluation of care models to improve quality of care in patients with rheumatic diseases. Dr. Lee's previous work performed under the guidance of Dr. Lisa Suter and Dr. Liana Fraenkel included evaluation of persistently frequent ED use and opioid dispensation among patients with SLE to identify opportunities to improve quality of care. Since joining the faculty at U-M, Dr. Lee shifted her research focus towards the evaluation of care received by older adults with rheumatic diseases and the exploration of population level variation in treatments with high-cost and high-risk medications in common use today. Dr. Lee is a research scholar of the U-M Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center and is currently working to understand provider and beneficiary panel characteristics associated with variation in propensity to prescribe biologic DMARDs using Medicare claims data.

***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.

