



VERITY Newsletter

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

FEBRUARY 2021

VERITY Updates

- **VERITY announces a new mini course in Methodology to be held in early March 2021.** More details below.

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

VERITY 2021 Methodology Core Course on Causal Inference and Mediation Analysis in Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases

After the wonderful success of the 2020 all-virtual VERITY/Brigham Course in Rheumatology Clinical Research, we have decided to host the VERITY 2021 Methodology Core Course on Causal Inference and Mediation Analysis in Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases. The course will be two 2-hour sessions that will be held virtually via Zoom. The course will consist of lectures and discussions with faculty including Rishi Desai, Rana Hinman, Seoyoung Kim, and Daniel Solomon. They will be led by course directors Elena Losina and Jeffrey Katz. The course is aimed towards junior faculty and fellows interested in pursuing a career in academic medicine in adult/pediatric rheumatology or other musculoskeletal diseases. Other faculty, residents, medical students, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students are also welcome to attend. The total cost of the course is \$100 for both sessions. The cost cannot be separated between sessions. Registration for the course is now open. For additional information on the course, the course schedule, and access to the registration, please go to <https://www.verityresearch.org/>.

VERITY Publications

Barton LB, Arant KR, Blucher JA, Sarno DL, Redmond KJ, Balboni TA, Colman M, Goodwin CR, Laufer I, Placide R, Shin JH, Sciubba DM, Losina E, Katz JN, Schoenfeld AJ. Clinician Experiences in Treatment Decision-Making for Patients with Spinal Metastases: A Qualitative Study. *J Bone Joint Surg Am.* 2021 Jan 6;103(1):e1.

Sparks JA, Malspeis S, Hahn J, Wang J, Roberts AL, Kubzansky LD, Costenbader KH. Depression and Subsequent Risk for Incident Rheumatoid Arthritis Among Women. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken).* 2021 Jan;73(1):78-89.

Huang S, Huang J, Cai T, Dahal KP, Cagan A, He Z, Stratton J, Gorelik I, Hong C, Cai T, Liao KP. Impact of ICD10 and secular changes on electronic medical record rheumatoid arthritis algorithms. *Rheumatology (Oxford).* 2020 Dec 1;59(12):3759-3766.

Lenhard NK, Sullivan JK, Ross EL, Song S, Edwards RR, Hunter DJ, Neogi T, Katz JN, Losina E. Does screening for depressive symptoms help optimize duloxetine use in knee OA patients with moderate pain? A cost-effectiveness analysis. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken).* 2020 Nov 30.

Reyes AM, Katz JN, Schoenfeld AJ, Kang JD, Losina E, Chang Y. National utilization and inpatient safety measures of lumbar spinal fusion methods by race/ethnicity. *Spine J.* 2020 Nov 20:S1529-9430(20)31218-3.

Sullivan JK, Huizinga J, Edwards RR, Hunter DJ, Neogi T, Yelin E, Katz JN, Losina E. Cost-effectiveness of duloxetine for knee OA subjects: the role of pain severity. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage.* 2021 Jan;29(1):28-38.

Upcoming VERITY Seminars

February 10, 2021 9-10AM ET

VERITY/SCS SEMINAR SERIES:

Presentation on Grant Aims

Elena Losina, PhD

Brigham and Women's Hospital

February 10, 2021 9-10AM ET

VERITY/SCS SEMINAR SERIES:

Presentation on Current Projects

Seoyoung Kim, MD, ScD, MSCE

Brigham and Women's Hospital

***Please visit <http://www.verityresearch.org/> to learn more about the meetings and our live-streaming through Zoom.

VERITY Member Spotlight: Jessica Bloom

Jessica Bloom, MD is a third-year pediatric rheumatology fellow at the University of Colorado. She received her MD from the University of Michigan Medical School and completed her Pediatrics Residency at the University of Colorado. She attended the virtual VERITY/Brigham Course in Rheumatology Clinical Research in 2020. Dr. Bloom will complete both her Masters in Clinical Science and two-year Surgical/Subspecialists Clinical Outcomes Research fellowship program at the University of Colorado this summer.

Dr. Bloom's primary clinical and research interests center around anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody-associated vasculitis (AAV) in children with the goal of improving the characterization and outcomes of pediatric disease. She has a particular interest in Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis in children, recently publishing three pediatric cases managed with benralizumab. Dr. Bloom is exploring collaborative mechanisms of research for these rare diseases through VERITY, the Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance (CARRA), and PEDSnet. She currently serves as the Co-Chair of the CARRA Fellows Committee and as a member of the CARRA Steering Committee and AAV Work Group. Dr. Bloom is currently supported by a "Research Training in Rheumatology" NIH T32 through the Division of Rheumatology at the University of Colorado to investigate immune-mediated causes of diffuse alveolar hemorrhage in children with Trisomy 21. She has characterized these patients within her own institution and is currently expanding her cohort using the Pediatric Health Information System.

Dr. Bloom's primary mentorship team includes Dr. Robert Fuhlbrigge and Dr. Michael Wechsler as well as experts in health outcomes research at the University of Colorado Adult and Child Consortium for Health Outcomes Research and Delivery Science. As she embarks on her academic career, she aims to become an independently funded, collaborative investigator and decrease ambiguities in pediatric vasculitis through prospective comparative effectiveness and clinical trials.



***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.