Message from the Director

Over the last month, work and collaborative efforts of our investigators have flourished. In this edition of In Translation, we profile a journal publishing by Dr. Alicia Dugan; a collaborative research project on diabetes stress management amongst Hartford’s Latino population lead by Dr. Julie Wagner involving the Hispanic Health Council and Yale School of Public Health; the new IRB electronic submission system, IRIS; and the new offering of services by CICATS’ resource core, the Clinical Research Center. I look forward to more achievements of research and collaboration as well as growth of services offered by CICATS.
- Cato T. Laurencin, M.D., Ph.D. ♦

Alicia Dugan, Ph.D.
Journal Publishing

Dr. Alicia Dugan, Ph.D., an industrial and organizational psychology research scientist in UConn’s Center for Health, Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) and CICATS boundary spanner, recently co-authored an article entitled “Measuring factors affecting implementation of health innovations: A systematic review of structural, organizational, provider, patient, and innovation level measures” in the journal, Implementation Science. The article is the 2nd most accessed article on the Implementation Science website, even well over a month after publication.

To read the entire article on the Implementation Science website, visit here. Congratulations Dr. Dugan and well done! ♦

Collaborative Research Spotlight

Julie Wagner, Ph.D., an Associate Professor in the division of Behavioral Sciences and Community Health at UCHC, is the Principal Investigator on a study titled “Stress Management Among Latinos With Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.” The aim of the study is tailored towards diabetes stress management interventions delivered by community health workers serving Hartford’s Latino population. Primarily in this study, Dr. Wagner is investigating the efficacy of stress management intervention on glycemic control (HbA1c). Her secondary aim is to investigate the efficacy of stress management intervention on stress hormones, psychosocial functioning, stress-glucose reactivity, and heart rate variability.

Dr. Wagner is collaborating with Hartford Hospital and the Hispanic Health Council in this study. The coPI is Professor Rafael Perez-Escamilla from the Yale School of Public Health and they have RO1 funding. We look forward to highlighting the results of this study and its contribution towards further understanding the impact of stress in the diabetic patient. ♦

In This Issue
• Dr. Alicia Dugan—Journal Article
• Dr. Julie Wagner’s Study
• K12 Scholar Seminar Series
• IRIS System
• CTR Core Lab Assays
CICATS K12 Scholar Seminar Series

Date: Thursday, May 30, 2013
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: UCHC, Henry B.C. Low, M.D. Learning Center
Presenter: Katie Martin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Residence Department of Allied Health Sciences, K12 Scholar
Topic: “From Food Pantries to Food Policy”

Despite a national network of 200 food banks and over 33,000 food pantries, almost 15% of all U.S. households are food insecure. Chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, obesity, depression and anxiety are often linked to food insecurity. Freshplace is a novel food pantry model located at 255 Homestead Avenue, Hartford, CT whose goals are to foster food security and self-sufficiency. UConn researchers conducted a randomized control trial to evaluate the impact of Freshplace over 18 months. The goal is to create a replicable model for other local pantries and to influence policies related to food assistance programs.

For more information about this program, see http://foodandhealthequity.blogspot.com/.

Please R.S.V.P. to Cheryl Steciak at 860-679-7039 or csteciak@uchc.edu.

CT Core Lab Offers Assays

The CTR Core Lab, part of the CICATS Clinical Research Center, is now offering all UCHC and CICATS investigators access to reliable and validated assays of biological macromolecules for both human and animal derived specimens on a fee-for-service basis.

The CTR Core Lab, located in L-1098, is fully-equipped with facilities for:
- Performance of radio-immunoassays and enzyme-linked immunoassays;
- Performance of multiplex bead assays using the Luminex 200 instrumentation;
- Isolation of DNA and RNA from blood and tissue samples;
- SNP genotyping using PCR methods;
- RT-PCR analysis of specific mRNAs using quantitative TaqMan PCR methods;
- Establishment of cell lines; and
- Storage of specimens in alarmed -80 freezer (limited availability).
The CRC Core Lab is licensed by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and has held the CLIA certification of compliance since November 1998. For more information, please contact Pamela Fall at 860-679-3681 or via email at fall@nso.uchc.edu.

*For more information about CICATS sponsored events or if you are interested in being added to our Listserv, please contact Yvonne Barber at ybarber@uchc.edu.

Stay up-to-date on what is happening in CICATS by visiting our Events & Media page.