



Center for Collaborative Research in Health Disparities

CCRHD-RCMI PROGRAM

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ADMINISTRATION

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 Principal Investigator

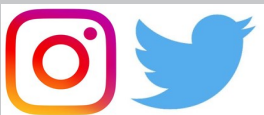
Jordana Ramirez
 Carol Torres
 Carmen Doris Cintrón
 Margarita Díaz

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP

Jorge Duconge, Ph.D.
 Pablo Vivas, Ph.D.
 Cristina Palacios, Ph.D.
 Maribel Campos, M.D.
 Carmen Vélez, Ph.D.
 Edda Santiago, Ph.D.
 Carmen Cadilla, Ph.D.
 Gregory Quirk, Ph.D.
 Loyda Meléndez, Ph.D.
 Mark Miller, Ph.D.
 Adelfa Serrano, Ph.D.
 Abiel Roche-Lima, Ph.D.
 Wilfredo De Jesús, M.D.
 José G. Conde, M.D., M.P.H.

193

Total number of active investigators at the UPR Medical Sciences Campus identified in a survey conducted by the Center for Collaborative Research in Health Disparities during FY 2018-2019.



WEB NEWS

NOVEMBER 2018

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS



Igor Stagljär, Ph.D.
Toward Precision Medicine with Next-generation EGFR Inhibitors in Non-small-cell Lung Cancer
 November 13, 2018



Paul Brookes, Ph.D.
Chemical Regulation of Cellular Homeostasis
 November 14, 2018

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



Dr. Emma Fernandez-Repollet, Professor and Executive Director of the Center for Collaborative Research in Health Disparities at the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, was invited to participate in the panel “Puerto Rico Network Partners” at the Forward Research and Innovation Summit. The panel discussed the technology transfer and commercialization strengths of the academic institutions in Puerto Rico. Other panelists were Dr. Lillian Pintado, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Graduate Studies and Research, University of Turabo and Dr. Kenira Thompson, Vice President for Research, Ponce Health Sciences University.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT

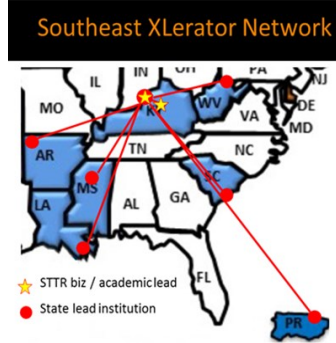


Dr. Maribel Campos, Lead Investigator of the research project *Intervention to promote physical activation and improve sleep and feeding practices in infants for preventing obesity early in life (Baby-Act Trial)*, reported achieving (and possibly surpassing by now) their 100th participant recruitment. The goal of the *Baby-Act Trial* project is to develop and demonstrate the efficacy of a distance learning educational platform to promote adoption of healthy behaviors among Women, Infant, Children (WIC) Program participants with babies from 0 to 12 months of age.

COMMUNITY COALITION TEAM

On Tuesday November 6, 2018 the Community Coalition Team (CCT) of the Community Engagement Core (CEC) met for the first time at the Puerto Rico Science, Technology & Research Trust. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the Community Coalition Team as well as share the proposed activities of the Community Engagement Core for January-June, 2019. The discussion also addressed ways in which investigators can incorporate community perspectives in their research. Members present provided valuable suggestions on how the research activities conducted by the Center for Collaborative Research in Health Disparities could be effectively communicated to the general public and communities of interest. They also expressed enthusiasm for interacting with the investigators in future meetings and look forward to the implementation of the ‘Community Studio Toolkit’. The next meeting will be held in January, 2019.

INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP



Puerto Rico is participating in the Southeast IDEa States Regional Transfer Accelerator Hub, Southeast Xlerate Network, recently funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) at the National Institutes of Health. Services, mentorship, commercialization tools and proven methodologies will be utilized by local specialists and newly formed or expanded accelerator programs in each of the states and Puerto Rico, focusing on specific needs of healthcare innovation and entrepreneurship. Dr. David Gulley, Director of the Technology Transfer Office at the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust will serve as the State Lead. Dr. Emma Fernández-Repollet will represent the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, one of the twenty-four partner institutions.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Staff from the RCM Integrated Informatics Service unit attended the Microsoft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tour held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. During the event participants were able to obtain information regarding the benefits of AI and its potential applications to solve social and health challenges. Among the highlighted applications, Microsoft showed significant advances in the treatment of children with autism spectrum capabilities and the optimization of the enrollment process in educational entities. Attendees from the IIS included Dr. Abiel Roche-Lima, Ms. Brenda Nieves, Mr. Alex Lora and Mr. Roberto Feliú.

