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CHOP SEMINAR in SALZBURG

“Clinical Research Methods”
July 2 – 8, 2017

FACULTY
Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD is the Medical Director of the American Austrian Foundation. He is Associate Dean for International Medicine and Distance Learning, Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Urology and Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Reproductive Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University/New York Presbyterian Hospital. In 2016, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics in the Associated Faculty of the Perelman School of Medicine at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. He is also Associate Prof. of Urology at the Medical University of Innsbruck and Visiting Professor at the Medical University of Vienna.

Amongst others he is a member of the American, German and Austrian Societies of Urology and was awarded the Zuckerkandlpreis of the Austrian Society of Urology in 1989. In 1995 he received the Silver Medal, in 2007 the Golden Medal for Merits to the Republic of Austria and in 2014 the cross of honor of the Land Salzburg.

As Director of the Medical Program of the American Austrian Foundation he has initiated the Open Medical Institute, a scientific and educational collaboration of Weill Cornell and the NewYork Presbyterian Hospital, the Children Hospital of Philadelphia, Duke University, Columbia University, the Cleveland Clinic and leading hospitals in Austria. Dr. Aulitzky earned his medical degree at the University of Innsbruck in 1977, was a research associate at the University of Uppsala, Sweden and the Rockefeller University, New York. He received his training as an urologist at the University of Innsbruck and the General Hospital of Salzburg. He is the author of more than 140 publications on Urology, Andrology and Health Care issues and is co-author of books on basic and clinical urology/andrology.

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Dennis R. Durbin, MD, MSCE is Professor of Pediatrics at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and The University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. He is Associate Vice President and Chief Clinical Research Officer at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute, a member of the Division of Emergency Medicine, and an Associate Scholar at the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the School of Medicine. He has been on the University of Pennsylvania faculty for over 20 years as a clinician and scientist. Dr. Durbin is an internationally recognized injury epidemiologist whose research has focused on the prevention of motor vehicle occupant injuries to children and the prevention of teen driver crashes. He has over two decades of experience with traffic safety research and developing the evidence base for child and adolescent traffic safety interventions and extensive experience translating research findings into policy and practice. He has served on the Committee for Injury, Violence and Poison Prevention of the American Academy of Pediatrics during which time he was the lead author on the Academy’s revised policy statement on child passenger safety. His research has been recognized by a number of organizations with several awards, including the Governor’s Highway Safety Association, the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the University of Pennsylvania. In addition, he has mentored over 30 trainees and junior faculty to become physician-scientists, with many now thriving in independent research careers. For the past 6 years, he has overseen the development and implementation of a research mentor training program at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, including developing new content for the curriculum. Nearly 100 faculty have participated in the training which has been uniformly well-received.

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Allison E. Curry, PhD, MPH is a Senior Scientist and Director of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Her program of research focuses on the epidemiology and prevention of motor vehicle crashes in children and adolescents. She currently leads the New Jersey Traffic Safety Outcomes Program, which aims to advance traffic safety research and associated epidemiologic methods through novel administrative data linkages. She led the first study to evaluate the effects of a Graduated Driver Licensing decal provision on the rate of teen compliance, enforcement, and crash rates, and is the Principal Investigator of a program of research that aims to establish the scientific foundation for driving safety among teens with ADHD and autism. Dr. Curry also serves as faculty in the Masters of Public Health program at the Center for Public Health Initiatives at the University of Pennsylvania, where she serves as an instructor for their culminating Capstone Seminar course.

Dr. Curry graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Northwestern University in 1998 and earned her MPH in Epidemiology from the University of California Los Angeles and her PhD in Epidemiology from Emory University in 2007. An award-winning scientist, Dr. Curry has been honored for her achievements by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, American Women in Science, and the U.S. Department of Defense’s National Security Education program. Her article entitled, “Graduated Driver Licensing Decal Law: Effect on Young Probationary Drivers,” published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, was voted the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Most Influential Research Article of 2012. She also serves on committees at a number of national organizations and is an Associate Editor at Traffic Injury Prevention.

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Cynthia Mollen, MD, MSCE is Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania and attending physician in emergency medicine at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). She completed both residency and fellowship training at CHOP, and also completed a Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology during fellowship. She currently serves as the Director of Research in the Division of Emergency Medicine, and is a founding member of PolicyLab at CHOP, a cross-disciplinary research and policy center focused on improving children’s health. Her academic work focuses on seeking to impact child and adolescent health through addressing provider and patient attitudes around care, as well as seeking to identify and impact change on the policy level. She has both a research and clinical focus in adolescent health, with a particular interest in utilizing the emergency department and non-primary care settings as sites for interventions related to major public health issues affecting adolescents, such as unintended teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.

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Douglas Wiebe, PhD is an epidemiologist who studies topics of trauma, emergency care of injuries and acute illness, and issues of health policy and coordination of health care systems. He grew up in Alberta, Canada and moved to southern California in the United States to pursue graduate studies. He completed his PhD in Social Ecology at the University of California at Irvine and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in injury epidemiology at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Dr. Wiebe is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He has secondary appointments in the Department of Emergency Medicine and in the Division of Trauma in the Department of Surgery. He is Director of the Penn Injury Science Center that is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And he is Director of a program funded by the Fogarty International Center at the National Institutes of Health to build capacity for trauma and injury epidemiology in Botswana.

Dr. Wiebe teaches courses to physicians and nurses on epidemiology and methods to measure exposures and health outcomes. He received the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Basic Science Teaching in the Perelman School of Medicine in 2014.

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Mark R. Zonfrillo, MD, MSCE is a Pediatric Emergency Physician, a Clinical Epidemiologist, and Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics at Hasbro Children’s Hospital and the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He is currently the Director of Postgraduate Academic Career Development at Hasbro Children’s Hospital, and Associate Director of the Master of Science in Population Medicine at Alpert Medical School. He grew up in the state of Rhode Island in the United States, and completed his undergraduate studies and medical school at Brown University. He completed his pediatrics residency at Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital and pediatric emergency medicine fellowship at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Zonfrillo’s research focuses on pediatric injury epidemiology, with emphasis on risk factors for motor vehicle occupant injuries, concussion, and disabling injuries in children. He has received funding from the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Science Foundation, and private industry. Dr. Zonfrillo serves on the Executive Committee of the Council for Injury, Violence and Poison Prevention of the American Academy of Pediatrics, as well as the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and Abbreviated Injury Scale Committee for the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine.

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The Salzburg CHOP Seminar in Clinical Research Methods was held between July 2\textsuperscript{nd} and July 8\textsuperscript{th}, 2017. The 32 fellows from 29 different countries and regions and five faculty members from the United States were a diverse group who enjoyed interacting and exchanging professional information and experiences with each other at the beautiful Schloss Arenberg. The week consisted of 19 stimulating lectures on up-to-date information and findings, as well as six hands-on workshops given by faculty, creating a perfect mix of both theoretical learning and practical experience.

Lectures included titles such as “Analytic Study Designs” by Course Director Dr. Dennis Durbin, “Qualitative Research Methods” by Dr. Cynthia Mollen, and “Novel Methods in Data Collection” by Dr. Douglas Wiebe. The lectures were combined with the presentation of fellows’ research abstracts, in which faculty reviewed and assisted participants with their work. At the end of the week four abstracts were selected to be awarded with the “Excellent Abstract” certificate.

The environment at Schloss Arenberg provided a great opportunity for a combination of both professional learning and social interaction: the faculty and fellows shared their meals together and had many opportunities to explore the city and do different kinds of sightseeing. The week’s faculty trip consisted of a visit to the Eagle’s Nest, as well as riding a luge in the surrounding mountains near the Austro-German border. On Thursday night the group was also treated to an evening of beautiful chamber music by a cellist, pianist, and violinist from the Mozarteum Salzburg.

By the end of the week, both faculty and fellows had exchanged experiences, facts, abstracts, and practices from home with each other. Each participant has received a booklet with the contact information of each person, ensuring that the professional connections and friendships that had been formed throughout the week can continue to benefit the participants long into the future.
SEMINAR DIARY FROM FELLOW
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02.-08.07.2017

The Open Medical Institute (OMI) Seminar on Clinical Research Methods was held in Salzburg, July 2017, which was a part of Salzburg-CHOP (The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia) curriculum.

Sunday, 2 July – Pouring rain, however, there is just enough time go sightseeing around the Salzburg and reflect upon arrival. Then welcome reception in the evening, meeting the Faculty and starting to get acquainted with the fellow colleagues (frankly, quite a challenging task due to not only various countries represented but also our different backgrounds and specialties).

Monday, 3 July – morning starts with pretest to pinpoint where you stand on Clinical Research Methods. The pretest questions definitely contribute to the anticipation that this is really going to be an interesting week! Followed by lectures on the study designs, workshops with abstract presentations and discussions. One of the best aspects was this relaxed atmosphere, which made interaction easier yet more constructive.

Tuesday, 4 July – Lectures, workshops on the basics, introduction to biostatistics. So far, so good. Even if you haven't had any previous formal education in biostatistics, the brilliant lecturers will do the trick so that you can follow and catch up. Last two days already feel like at least 2 weeks in terms of new experience. Also, the sense of coziness has increased exponentially.

Wednesday, 5 July – The day full of useful and practical information. Data management, ethics, presenting the research – topics one would expect to be omitted because of being (seeming to be) self-evident when those are anything but...lots and lots of tips for the future, some light shed on potential pitfalls.

Thursday, 6 July – Perception of time has changed, hours seem shorter and shorter (like a snowball really!). Head is buzzing with new information and implications for practice. +29°C. Hot, hot, hot. Free afternoon with great opportunities for any taste - lakes, mountains, architecture, museums, gastronomical adventures etc. Chamber music concert at Schloss Arenberg in the evening with some extra piano music from the Faculty afterwards!!
**Friday, 7 July** – Final lectures on prognostic decisions, literature review, peer-reviewing process and wrap-up with post seminar test, in which mean (and median) improvement of the scores was “impressive” (according to the Faculty). Farewell reception, graduation dinner. Mixed feelings. Mostly gratitude about the hard work during the week and building knowledge, sadness for this amazing week coming to an end. Seems like the seminar has passed by in a glimpse of an eye.

**Saturday, 8 July** – leaving Salzburg. I must say the seminar provided not only useful theoretical information but also practical skills and deeper understanding of clinical research, which, in fact, is needed as much for writing your own paper, as for interpretation of every publication you read on daily basis. Many thanks to AAF/OMI team, the Faculty, our excellent lecturers (Dr. Dennis Durbin, Dr. Allison Curry, Dr. Cynthia Mollen, Dr. Douglas Wiebe, Dr. Mark Zonfrillo) and the fellow colleagues for this week – just as fantastic as it was!
SEMINAR DIARY FROM FELLOW

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02.-08.07.2017

Clinical Research Methods 2017

This Seminar was held from 2 to 8 July 2016 at Schloss Arenberg, Salzburg, Austria and involved 5 faculty members from: The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute, USA; University of Pennsylvania, USA as well as 32 participants from 29 countries in Europe, Africa, Central America and Asia.

All the lectures were very useful because they gave me a deep understanding of the proper clinical studies to date. We have nothing of the kind at our Medical University. There is not much information on the Internet. Research conducted by our doctors, often simply do not meet modern requirements and have no scientific value.

I listened to the following lectures:

- CME Disclosure Statement
  by D. Durbin, MD
- Descriptive Study Designs
  by C. Mollen, MD
- Analytic Study Designs
  by F. Balamuth, MD
- Qualitative Research Methods
  by C. Mollen, MD
- Clinical Trials
  by D. Wiebe, PhD
- Epidemiologic Measures of Association
  by A. Curry, PhD
- Introduction to Biostatistics
  by D. Wiebe, PhD
- Survey Design
  by M. Zonfrillo, MD
- Introduction to Data Management
  by A. Curry, PhD
- Research Ethics
  by M. Zonfrillo, MD
- Presenting Your Research
  by A. Curry, PhD
- Novel Methods in Data Collection
  by D. Wiebe, PhD
- Quality Improvement Research
  by C. Mollen, MD
- Evaluating Diagnostic Tests
  by C. Mollen, MD
- Making Prognostic Decisions
  by D. Durbin, MD
- How to Conduct a Literature Review
by M. Zonfrillo, MD

There was an assessment of the acquired knowledge upon completion of the course. I received a certificate for academic excellence.

I will use obtained knowledge in my work with students, colleagues and doctors.

Moreover, the seminar allowed us to make contacts with doctors from different countries, to keep in touch with them and exchange information.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the "Open Medical Institute" for the organization of seminars, for my nomination. I also want to thank Anna Kryukov for the practical arrangement of my trip.

Ruslan Kadiev

Stavropol
07.08.2017.