

## The Need for Physician Researchers

The participation of well trained physician researchers is critical to translating basic research findings into clinical interventions that can improve addictions and mental health treatments.

In recent years, however, the number of physicians engaged in research careers has declined significantly.

Physicians with in-depth experience and formal training in research design, development, implementation, statistical analysis, and interpretation of scientific information may be becoming a "rare species" according to the National Institutes of Health.

In response to this, the MUSC Psychiatry Residency Program offers a NIDA-sponsored Research Track for PGY3 and PGY4 residents committed to pursuing research careers.



MEDICAL UNIVERSITY  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
RESIDENT RESEARCH  
TRAINING PROGRAM

For more information, please visit our website:  
<http://www.musc.edu/psychiatry/research/cns/training.htm>

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## Resident Research Training Program

*Funded by NIDA*

*National Institute on Drug Abuse*

Clinical Neurosciences Division  
Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences  
Resident Research Training Program

**DART**  
Drug Abuse Research Training Grant  
Resident Research Training Program

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# How is Research Training Designed?

Selected individuals participate as PGY3 and PGY4 residents, half-time, in a well-coordinated curriculum that includes intensive mentored research and formal didactic training in the skills typically necessary for a successful research career.

Training focuses on the seven research components outlined in the center Table.

Selected residents complete an initial assessment of their research knowledge and skills, which is then used to tailor the curriculum to those needs. This assessment ensures that deficiencies in training, which would serve as an impediment to a successful independent research career, will be targeted in training.



Resident Research Training Commencement - Fall 2008

Domain	Objectives	Program Component
Research Design & Methods	Critically evaluate research literature; Formulate hypotheses and variables; Design, assessments, operational definitions; Sampling techniques, sample size, power; Rating scales, questionnaire / survey design.	Mentored Clinical Research; Research Coordination Course; Research Journal Club; Research Seminar Series; Other Coursework
Human Subjects Protection & Research Ethics	Learn principles of Good Research Practice; Understand ethical considerations in conduct of clinical research.	CITI Training Program; Responsible Conduct of Research; Research Coordination Course; Research Seminar Series
Data Collection, Management & Analysis	Construct plan for data collection and entry; Construct data file management plan; Understand statistical significance and commonly used statistical tests and software; Interpret statistical output.	Mentored Clinical Research; Pilot Project Funds; Research Resource Unit; Research Journal Club; Research Seminar Series; Other Coursework.
Disseminating Research Findings	Display outcomes data for scientific presentations; Prepare/submit conference abstracts; Prepare/submit journal manuscripts; Integrate findings into existing literature; Offer caution in interpreting results.	Mentored Clinical Research; Pilot Project Funds; Research Seminar Series; Research Resource Unit; GCRC Rotation.
Research Administration	Secure and maintain IRB approval; Develop and revise study timelines; Prepare and manage budgets; Supervise research staff; Liaison with clinical personnel.	CITI Training Program; Research Coordination Course; Mentored Clinical Research; Responsible Conduct of Research Seminar; Grant-Writing Workshop.
Grant Writing	Learn about funding sources, mechanisms, forms, cycles, and review procedures; learn about grantsmanship.	Grant-Writing Workshop; Research Seminar Series; Mentored Clinical Research; Research Resource Unit.
Professional Development	Discuss career phases and academic expectations; Collaborators, consultants, networking; Time management.	Mentored Clinical Research; Research Resource Unit.



The Psychiatry Residency Program at MUSC offers a Research Track for PGY3 and PGY4 residents committed to pursuing research careers (qualified individuals are identified from PGY1 and PGY2 residents in the general psychiatry program). The primary goal of the program is to increase the number of physicians with the skills to conduct patient-oriented research as independently funded investigators.

Directed by Drs. Kathleen Brady, Al Santos, and Sudie Back, the program accomplishes its objectives within the same four-year time period required for clinical training and board certification in psychiatry. In addition, the training format qualifies residents for the very popular *NIH Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program*.

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