VCU PRIMARY CARE RESIDENCY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Program Overview

The VCU Departments of Family Medicine and Population Health, Pediatrics, and Internal Medicine in collaboration with VCU’s six primary care residency programs are co-sponsoring a one to two-year fellowship in research and faculty development. Fellows work with the VCU research team to address research questions of interest, both participating on existing projects and leading one or more project.

All Fellows will work with our practice based research network, the Virginia Ambulatory Care Outcomes Research Network (ACORN) with support from a multidisciplinary research team. Through participation in all phases of research from study conception to dissemination, fellows will learn needed research skills that include grant writing, study design, practice and community engagement, intervention implementation, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and presentation and publication skills.

Some elements of the Fellowship experience can be tailored to meet each Fellow’s needs. Areas of focus may include practice design, engagement, medical education, health disparities, opioid addiction, community-clinical integration, quality measurement, and health policy.

In support of their work, Fellows will be introduced to various local and national leaders and organizations focused on primary care research, planning, and implementation.

Program Goals

The purpose of the fellowship will be to provide Fellows with a tailored, mentored research experience that will teach best practices for primary care research and evaluation. Fellows will begin to develop a career pathway that facilitates transition to faculty status and academic independence.

Specific goals include:

- To help fellows develop skills and knowledge to become clinical leaders in diverse settings of primary practice.
- To prepare fellows for careers in academic medicine through faculty development activities, advancing clinical skills, and teaching medical students and residents.
- To educate future leaders in the development and promotion of primary care health policy, research, and publications.

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Program Details

Daily Activities

The Fellow’s time will be divided equally between clinical and teaching duties (50%) and protected research time (50%). Clinical and teaching activities will be in one of VCU’s six primary care residency training programs.

Research time will be spent working with the VCU research team and local and national partners. Fellows will be paired with a primary mentor and have access to research infrastructure support (e.g., database manager, informatics assistance, biostatistician, qualitative analysts, professional research associates). Fellows will attend bimonthly team meetings for strategic project planning.

Ideally, the Fellow’s work will result in national presentations, publications, and pilot funding for future work.

Stipend and Benefits

The annual stipend for the fellowship is a PGY4 salary ($60,248) with 15 days of vacation. The Fellow will receive health and malpractice insurance, hospital admitting privileges depending on the clinical setting, and other attending physician benefits. Membership to the primary care research organizations relevant to the Fellow’s focus. Support is also available for attending conferences and travel to further advance skills and present research findings.

Qualifications

- Board-certified/eligible family physician, pediatrician, or general internist
- Strong interest in academic primary care
- Relevant experience

Application Process

To apply, submit a letter of interest, along with a CV and two letters of support to:

Alex Krist, MD, MPH
ahkrist@vcu.edu
Professor of Family Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Potential Research Faculty

- Alex Krist MD MPH
- Andrew Bazemore MD
- Marshal Brooks PhD
- Rebecca Etz PhD
- Anton Kuzel MD MHPE
- Bergen Nelson MD MS
- Roy Sabo PhD
- Elizabeth Wolf MD MPH
- Steven Woolf MD MPH