



**IN THIS ISSUE:** NORCH ANNOUNCEMENTS - 1 • FEATURED PUBLICATIONS - 2 • NUTRITION AND OBESITY EVENTS - 2

## Seeking nominations: Mentoring for Inclusion and Diversity Award

We are now accepting nominations for the [NORCH Mentoring for Inclusion and Diversity Award](#), which recognizes a faculty member who has provided meaningful, sustained membership to young investigators from underrepresented in medicine (URM) backgrounds in the fields of nutrition, obesity, and metabolism.

[Click here](#) to nominate eligible mentors. All researchers who identify themselves as underrepresented in academia are eligible to nominate their research mentor(s). Nominations must be received by 5pm on Friday, October 8th, 2021.

## Save the Date: NORCH Annual P&F Symposium

Each year, the NORCH hosts a Pilot and Feasibility Symposium to provide the NORCH community with an opportunity to hear from the [investigators funded by our P&F awards](#). This year's event is scheduled to take place in Simches 3.120 at MGH on November 18, from 1:30pm to 4pm.

We will be joined by Dr. Alessio Fasano, Chair of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition at MGHfC and Director of the [NORCH Genomics and Cell Biology Core](#), who will give a keynote talk. The full schedule of speakers will be announced closer to the event date.

## New Lipid and Metabolism Clinic at MGH

The [MGH Metabolism Unit](#) recently launched a new Lipid and Metabolism Clinic, which provides consultation in the management of patients with complex lipid and metabolic issues including lipodystrophy, rare monogenic forms of obesity, hypertriglyceridemia, and severe insulin resistance. Providers within the Mass General Brigham system can make referrals to MGH Endocrinology through Epic by selecting "Lipid and Metabolism."

Interesting cases may be discussed at our multi-disciplinary Metabolic Disorders Conference, which is held virtually each month. Please email Lindsay Fourman, MD at [LFourman@partners.org](mailto:LFourman@partners.org) and Janet Lo, MD at [JLO@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:JLO@mgh.harvard.edu) with referrals to the Lipid and Metabolism Clinic and/or interest in being added to our conference listserv.

## Recent Publication Highlights from NORCH Investigators

**Merino J**, Joshi AD, Nguyen LH, Leeming ER, Mazidi M, Drew DA, Gibson R, Graham MS, Lo CH, Capdevila J, Murray B, Hu C, Selvachandran S, Hammers A, Bhupathiraju SN, Sharma SV, Sudre C, Astley CM, Chavarro JE, Kwon S, Ma W, Menni C, **Willett WC**, Ourselin S, Steves CJ, Wolf J, Franks PW, Spector TD, Berry S, **Chan AT**. Diet quality and risk and severity of COVID-19: a prospective cohort study. *Gut*. 2021 Sep 6;gutjnl-2021-325353. PMID: [34489306](#)

**Fiechtner L**, Perkins M, Biggs V, Langhans N, Sharifi M, Price S, Luo M, Locascio JJ, Hohman KH, Hodge H, Gortmaker S, Torres S, **Taveras EM**. Comparative Effectiveness of Clinical and Community-Based Approaches to Healthy Weight. *Pediatrics*. 2021 Sep 1:e2021050405. PMID: [34470816](#)

Kim MH, Salloum S, Wang JY, Wong LP, Regan J, Lefteri K, Manickas-Hill Z, Gao C, Li JZ, **Sadreyev RI**, Yu XG, **Chung RT**; MGH COVID-19 Collection & Processing Team. Type I, II, and III Interferon Signatures Correspond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 Severity. *J Infect Dis*. 2021 Sep 1;224(5):777-782. PMID: [34467988](#)

**Srinivasa S**, Garcia-Martin R, **Torriani M**, Fitch KV, Carlson AR, **Kahn CR**, **Grinspoon SK**. Altered pattern of circulating miRNAs in HIV lipodystrophy perturb key adipose differentiation and inflammation pathways. *JCI Insight*. 2021 Aug 12;150399. PMID: [34383714](#)

Strážar M, Temba GS, Vlamakis H, Kullaya VI, Lyamuya F, Mmbaga BT, Joosten LAB, van der Ven AJAM, Netea MG, de Mast Q, **Xavier RJ**. Gut microbiome-mediated metabolism effects on immunity in rural and urban African populations. *Nat Commun*. 2021 Aug 11;12(1):4845. PMID: [34381036](#)

## Local Events

### Monday Nutrition Seminar Series

Dept of Nutrition, Harvard Chan School of Public Health  
Monday, Sept 20, 2021, 1pm, Virtual

“Food policies to improve diet and advance health equity”  
Anna H Grummon, PhD, Research Fellow in Nutrition, HCSPH  
This series occurs weekly. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Adipose Seminar Series

Boston Nutrition Obesity Research Center (BNORC)  
Tuesday, Sept 28, 2021, 10am, Virtual

“Old and new adipocyte signaling pathways that modulate systemic metabolic function”  
Jacqueline Stephens, Ph.D., Pennington Biomedical Research Center, LSU

Registration will be required to join the seminar virtually.  
[Click here](#) to register.

### NORCH Annual Pilot & Feasibility Project Symposium

Nutrition Obesity Research Center at Harvard  
Thursday, Nov 18, 2021, 1:30pm-4pm EST, Simches 3.120

NORCH P&F awardees will share exciting new research they are conducting in the fields of nutrition, obesity, and metabolism. A Keynote will be given by Dr. Alessio Fasano, Chair of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition at MGHfC.

Registration for this event is not required.

## National NORC Events

### Virtual Annual Symposium - Precision Nutrition

Boston Nutrition Obesity Research Center  
Friday, Dec 10, 2021, 9am-12:15pm EST, Virtual

“A diet personalised to your metabolism” Dr. Sarah Berry, King’s College London

“Personalized nutrition based on gut microbiome and clinical data” Professor Eran Segal, Weizmann Institute, Israel

José M. Ordovás, PhD, Tufts University

[Click here](#) to register.

## Contact Us

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Cite the grant! P30 DK040561

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