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i3C Meeting at CCHMC September 26

The [International Childhood Cardiovascular Cohort \(i3C\) Consortium](#) is comprised of the 7 major longitudinal cohorts from the U.S., Finland and Australia that collected cardiovascular risk factor data in over 40,000 children and adolescents starting in the 1970s and early 1980s, and followed a large subset of these participants into adulthood. Two of these cohorts are based in Cincinnati and have been followed for 30-40 years.

As part of their annual meeting, consortium investigators will be presenting an overview of the cohorts and current research that is open to the AHC community on Thursday September 26 from 11 AM to 2 PM in Cincinnati Children's Sabin Education Center, Fifth Third Auditorium. Keynote speaker is **Gerald S. Berenson, MD**, PI of The Bogalusa Heart Study in Louisiana since 1973, who will receive the Paavo Nurmi Foundation Award at this event. Director of the Tulane Center for Cardiovascular Health, Dr. Berenson has authored over 1,000 peer-reviewed publications on the epidemiology of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. He will present *"What has the Bogalusa Heart Study taught us in the last 40 years?"*

Following lunch (provided), i3C investigators will present updates on the cohorts and discuss new research plans to evaluate the effects of childhood levels of CV risk factors on adult heart and metabolic health as well as cancer. To register, please email [Melinda Andrews](#) by September 18. Co-sponsored by the CCTST.



Gerald Berenson, MD

CReFF Pilot Grants Available for Junior Faculty

The CCTST is now accepting applications from junior faculty for the next round of [Clinical Research Feasibility Fund \(CReFF\)](#) pilot grants. Instructors or assistant professors based at UC, CCHMC or Cincinnati VAMC utilizing the resources of the [Clinical Translational Research Center](#) (CTRC) are generally eligible; funding restrictions apply. Fellows anticipating a faculty appointment during the grant period may also be eligible. Applicants must be CCTST members. [Join free of charge.](#)

Applicants must already have an active CTRC-approved protocol or submit one for review with their proposal. The CReFF provides one-year start-up funding of up to \$20,000 for pilot studies, potentially renewable for one additional year. One or two grants are anticipated this cycle.

A letter of intent is not required. However, **potential applicants are strongly advised to contact the program director, Dr. Mark Mitsnefes, prior to submitting an application, and to submit their protocol to the CTRC Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at least one month before the CReFF review meeting to facilitate resolving scientific or other issues.** The approval process for the protocol must be completed before it can be considered for a CReFF award.

Applications (electronic and hard copies) must be submitted by 12 noon Friday, November 1, 2013. For the complete Request for Applications (RFA), [click here](#), call 513-636-4273 or email [Amy Hartkemeyer](#).

Meet the Methodologist: Mekibib Altaye, PhD

Dr. Altaye received his PhD in biostatistics from the University of Western Ontario, Canada, in 1998. He came to CCHMC as an assistant professor in the division of biostatistics and epidemiology, where he is currently a research associate professor and serves as director of the biostatistics consulting unit.

Dr. Altaye is interested in the design and analysis of correlated data. This includes developing inference procedures for intraclass correlation and kappa statistics for binary and polynomial outcomes. Recent research interests include modeling issues associated with high dimensional data that arise from fMRI, MRI and microbiome studies.

In addition to serving as a CCTST consultant and providing support to researchers across multiple divisions of CCHMC, Dr. Altaye has been a co-investigator, collaborator or biostatistician for more than 20 NIH-funded projects and serves as a mentor for junior faculty, fellows, staff and students.

"Meet the Methodologist" is a regular NewsBrief feature of faculty affiliated with the CCTST Biostatistics, Epidemiology & Research Design (BERD) core. Past profiles, an archive of presentations and more are [available here](#).

Recording of CCTST Regulatory Forum Available

The July 30 CCTST Regulatory Forum **Suppression of Negative Results: Impact, Outcomes and Ethics** is available for online viewing.

The Forum discussed how the ethical mandate to ensure that research contributes to generalizable knowledge conflicts with the failure to make negative results public. Panelists considered the ethical implications of this failure to publish on the risks and benefits of research and the consequences for future research programs. Strategies for overcoming difficulties in publishing negative results were also discussed.

More information and a link to the video are [available here](#).

New Patient Services Collaborative Grant Program

The Patient Services Collaborative Grant (PSCG) program is designed to stimulate collaborative, interdisciplinary, patient-focused research that will lead to improved outcomes for children and their families. Applications should be led by a principal investigator who is a faculty member with a primary affiliation in a research division of the Department of Patient Services at CCHMC, and at least one collaborator from other divisions, departments or institutes at CCHMC, or other research institutions.

The Department of Patient Services will contribute up to \$50,000 of support per year for direct costs per project. Collaborating CCHMC departments and institutes and external participating research institutions must contribute matching funds for each dollar from CCHMC, with a minimum of \$10,000 from each research partner. The maximum allowable budget (direct costs) is \$100,000, dependent on the number and support of collaborating entities. The number of awards will be determined by the quality of the proposals, the total funds requested by meritorious proposals, and available funding.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a continuing basis. However a letter of intent should precede the full application by 30 days. See the [complete RFA](#) for details. Questions? Contact [Rita Pickler, PhD](#) or [Stephany Clevenger](#).

NIH Transformative Research Awards Offered

The goal of the NIH Transformative Research Awards initiative is to provide support for collaborative investigative teams or individual scientists who propose transformative research projects which, if successful, would have a major impact in a broad area of biomedical or behavioral research.

To be considered transformative, projects must have the potential to create or overturn fundamental scientific paradigms through the use of novel approaches, to transform the way research is conducted through the development of novel tools or technologies, or to lead to major improvements in health through the development of highly innovative therapies, diagnostic tools, or preventive strategies.

Consistent with this focus, applications supported under the initiative will reflect ideas substantially different from mainstream concepts. Projects in any area of NIH interest, including basic, clinical, translational and behavioral studies, are encouraged and will be considered responsive to this funding opportunity announcement (FOA). Deadline for Letters of Intent is **Wednesday, September 4**. For more information, [see the FOA](#).

Need assistance with your clinical/translational research project? [CCTST membership](#) (free of charge) is required for service. We now have over **2,075** members (and counting!).

Already a member? Please [log in from our home page](#) and click "Request Assistance with Your Research Project." The CCTST provides up to 10 hours of support per investigator per grant year (April 1-March 31), funded by the CTSA grant; 1 Research Central hour equals 1 hour of doctoral-level methodologic support or 2 hours of master's-level support. Additional hours, if needed, are billed at established rates.

What does the CCTST do?

Established in 2005, the CCTST provides guidance, information, support, resources and training to researchers across and beyond the Academic Health Center, with the support of an NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). Whether you're at UC, Cincinnati Children's, the Cincinnati VA Medical Center, UC Medical Center, or in the Greater Cincinnati community, we're here to help.

Can't find what you're looking for? [Contact us](#) or [visit our website](#).

More Events

[click links for details](#)

Aug. 23, 2-4 PM: [Cincinnati Center for Clinical Effectiveness and Patient-Centered Care seminar: Cardiac Troponins as a Marker for Managing the Critically Ill Patient: Progress and Goals for the Future.](#) Florence Rothenberg, MD. Stetson Bldg, 4th floor conference room.

Aug. 26, 9 AM: [Center for Technology Commercialization seminar: Biotech Patents in the Supreme Court: Analysis of Recent Cases and a Discussion of their Impact Going Forward.](#) Dale Hunt, PhD. CCHMC Location D, Room 2.22.

Aug. 27, 2:30-4:00 PM: [Autism Research Roundtable](#), CCHMC Location S, Room 5.125.

Sept. 5, 11:30-12:30 PM: [REDCap User Group meeting](#), CCHMC Location S, Room 5.125.

Sept. 5-6: [Discourses on Health, Medicine and Society: Emerging Roles and Evolving Practices](#) symposium. UC Marriott Kingsgate Conference Center.

Sept. 10, 3:00-4:45 PM: [BERD Monthly Seminar Series: Percentile Specific Higher Resolution Quantile Regression Analysis of Age Related Lung Function Decline in Cystic Fibrosis Patients.](#) Mi-Ok Kim, PhD. CCHMC Location S, Room 5.125.

Sept. 18: [Imaging & Cytometry Research Day](#), sponsored by the Ohio River Valley Cytometry Association. CCHMC Location S, Rooms 1.203-204.

Sept. 19-20: [11th annual Midwest Blood Club Symposium](#) at CCHMC. Keynote speakers: **Patricia Ernst, PhD**, Dartmouth College and **Tim Graubert, MD**, Washington University.

Sept. 20: [15th annual Human Subject Protection Conference: We Can Work It Out](#). N. Ky. Convention Center. Sponsored by Schulman Associates IRB, UC, CCHMC & UK. **Register by August 30.**

Sept. 20, 11 AM-1 PM: [CCTST Grand Rounds](#), 4051 UC Medical Sciences Building (MSB).

Sept. 26: **i3C annual meeting.** Keynote speaker: **Gerald Berenson, MD**. See article above left.

Oct. 24, 8:30 AM-1 PM: **CCHMC Shared Facilities Day**, 1.203-04 Location S. Contact [Mary Beth Nuss](#) for details.

Questions or comments? [Contact us](#).

Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training
University of Cincinnati Academic Health Center
CCHMC Location S, Suite 10.300, ML 11028
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229
<http://cctst.uc.edu>

