PhenX Biosketches

Genomic Medicine Implementation Working Group

Wendy Chung, MD, PhD (Co-chair)
Kennedy Family Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine
Columbia University

Wendy Chung, M.D., Ph.D. is a clinical and molecular geneticist and the Kennedy Family Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine. She received her B.A. in biochemistry and economics from Cornell University, her M.D. from Cornell University Medical College, and her Ph.D. from The Rockefeller University in genetics. Dr. Chung directs NIH funded research programs in human genetics of obesity, breast cancer, pulmonary hypertension, autism, and birth defects including congenital diaphragmatic hernia, esophageal atresia, and congenital heart disease. She is a national leader in the ethical, legal, and social implications of genomics. She leads the Precision Medicine Resource in the Irving Institute At Columbia University. She has authored over 350 peer reviewed papers and 50 reviews and chapters in medical texts. She was the recipient of the Westinghouse Science Talent Search, American Academy of Pediatrics Young Investigator Award, the Medical Achievement Award from Bonei Olam, a career development award from Doris Duke, the NY Academy of Medicine Medal for Distinguished Contributions in Biomedical Science and the Rare Impact Award from the National Organization of Rare Disorders. Dr. Chung is renowned for her teaching and mentoring and received Columbia University's highest teaching award, the Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching. She was the original plaintiff in the Supreme Court case that overturned the ability to patent genes and served on the Institute of Medicine Committee on Genetic Testing. Dr. Chung enjoys the challenges of genetics as a rapidly changing field of medicine and strives to facilitate the integration of genetic medicine into all areas of health care in a medically, scientifically, and ethically sound, accessible, and cost effective manner.

Kyle Brothers, MD, PhD (Co-chair)
Endowed Chair for Pediatric Clinical and Translational Research
University of Louisville School of Medicine

Kyle Brothers, MD, PhD is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and the Endowed Chair for Pediatric Clinical and Translational Research at the University of Louisville. Dr. Brothers is a pediatrician and bioethicist who conducts research on ethical issues in the translation of genomic technologies to clinical practice, and research ethics issues encountered in the development and operation of biorepositories, data collections, and research networks. Dr. Brothers serves as the chair of the ethics committee at Norton Children's Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky.

Angela R. Bradbury, MD
Associate Professor
University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Angela Bradbury is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Hematology-Oncology, at the University of Pennsylvania and has a secondary appointment in the Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy. She is also the founder and Executive Director of the Penn Telegenetics Program, a national program offering remote genetic services to medical practices and patients without access to genetic providers.

Dr. Bradbury's research program focuses on the clinical implementation of genetic medicine to promote the health of individuals and families as well as ethics issues related to the application of genetic medicine. This includes research evaluating novel delivery models to facilitate dissemination and implementation of cancer genetics and evaluation of the psychosocial and behavioral outcomes of genetic testing, studies evaluating outcomes with return of genetic research results and the impact of genetic and familial risk on children, adolescents, and families.

Sirisak Chanprasert, MD
Assistant Professor
University of Washington

Sirisak Chanprasert, M.D., is an attending adult and metabolic geneticist at Division of Medical Genetics, Department of Medicine, University of Washington School of Medicine (UW medicine) in Seattle, WA. He completed medical degree from Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand. He did internal medicine residency training at Bassett Medical Center in Cooperstown, NY, from June 2009 to June 2012. Afterward, he did medical genetics residency and medical biochemical genetics fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, from July 2012 to July 2015. During his medical genetics training, he participated in clinical research for mitochondrial diseases specifically finding the etiology of stroke-like episodes of mitochondrial encephalomyopathy lactic acidosis and stroke-like episodes (MELAS) syndrome. He also worked in several drug company-sponsored clinical trials for children with mitochondrial diseases. From July 2015 to June 2016, after finishing his medical genetics training, he came to Seattle Children's Research Institute to be a research fellow at Center of Developmental Therapeutics whose research focus has been on mitochondrial medicine. After completing training, he accepted the assistant professor position in Division of Medical Genetics at UW medicine. He is now a full-time clinician at adult genetic clinic. Dr. Chanprasert has been a mentor for undergraduate, medical, and post-graduate students who are interested in genetic and genomic science for couple of years especially in the area pertaining to caring of patients with genetic conditions. He looks forward to sharing his love and passion for his students.

Lori A. Orlando, MD
Director Program in Precision Medicine, Center for Applied Genomics and Precision Medicine
Duke University

Dr. Lori A. Orlando, MD MHS MMCI is an Associate Professor of Medicine, health services researcher, and Director of the Precision Medicine Program in the Center for Applied Genomics and Precision Medicine at Duke University. She received her MD from Tulane University in 1998, and MHS from Duke in 2004. She completed her fellowship, specializing in decision modeling and technology assessments, in 2004. Her research expertise is in decision modeling and implementation science as relates to identifying and managing individuals in clinical settings at increased risk for medical conditions. Her current research program focuses upon using technology to overcome barriers to family health history-based risk assessment and using high quality family health histories to guide clinical care.

Ali A. Torkamani, BS, PhD
Director of Genomics and Genome Informatics, Associate Professor
Scripps Research Translational Institute

Dr. Torkamani is the Director of Genomics and Genome Informatics at the Scripps Translational Science Institute and an Associate Professor at The Scripps Research Institute. Dr. Torkamani's research centers on the use of genomic technologies to identify the genetic etiology and underlying mechanisms of human disease in order to define health risks and individualized interventions. Major focus areas include human genome interpretation and genetic dissection of novel rare diseases, prediction of disease risk via combined genetic and clinical factors, and novel sequencing-based assays as biomarkers of disease. He has authored over 100 peer-reviewed publications as well as numerous book chapters and Medscape references, and his research has been highlighted in the popular press. Dr. Torkamani's overall vision is to decipher that code in order to understand and predict interventions that restore diseased individuals to their personal health baseline.

Heather Zierhut, PhD, MS
Assistant Professor, Associate Director of Genetic Counseling Program
University of Minnesota

Dr. Zierhut is the Associate Program Director of the Genetic Counseling Program at the University of Minnesota. She researches the psychosocial and public health implications involved with the provision of genetic counseling services. Heather's current research is focused on familial hypercholesterolemia screening programs, implementations of genetic testing into primary care (e.g. pharmacogenetics), and access to genetic counseling in diverse communities to decrease genetics related healthcare disparities. Heather is an active member in the National Society of Genetic Counseling currently serves on the Board of Directors.