



Email Photos to ConStrolls@nurs.utah.edu

May 17, 2021

Awards:

The National Institute of Nursing Research funded **Dr. Andrea Wallace's** R01 Research Project Grant titled *Intensifying Community Referrals for Health: The SINCERE Intervention to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities*. Dr. Wallace was awarded \$2,710,921 for a 4-year period. This real-world efficacy study (NIH stage 3) will determine the benefit of social needs (e.g.,

housing, food, and transportation) screening, community-based service referrals, and telephonic follow-up as a scalable, sustainable strategy for preventing COVID-19 transmission, and for addressing the secondary health effects of the social, behavioral, and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Results of this study will provide much needed information regarding whether social needs screening and community service referrals improve health outcomes of vulnerable and socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, an NIH-designated health disparity population, and whether intensive follow-up and collaborative goal-setting help overcome barriers to community service use by patients who are seen in the emergency department and seek COVID testing at community-based and mobile clinic locations. Co-Investigators include **Drs. Jia-Wen Guo, Bob Wong, Brenda Luther, Angie Fagerlin, and Erin Rothwell**. Research Assistants include **Ernest Grigorian**, and PhD student **Samuel Wang**. In addition, clinical teams at the U Health Emergency Department, Primary Children's Hospital Emergency Department, 211 of Utah, and the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems will contribute to the work. **Hollie Fuhrmann and Dr. Erin Johnson** provided pre-award support.

The Huntsman Cancer Institute's Cancer Control and Population Sciences Program awarded **Dr. Deanna Kepka** a small grant award for her research project titled *PREVENT – Practice-based Approaches to Promote HPV Vaccination in the Era of COVID-19*.

Certification:

Danielle Puri earned certification in infection prevention and control (CIC®). The Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. administers the CIC® credential, which identifies healthcare professionals who have shown a mastery of knowledge in infection prevention and control. Those who have earned their CIC® certification are responsible for developing and implementing infection prevention and control measures, educating healthcare workers and the public on infection prevention, analyzing infection data to assess effectiveness of actions, and pursuing the condition of zero infections in all healthcare settings. The CIC® certification is held by over 8,000 infection prevention and control professionals working in hospitals, long-term care facilities, ambulatory care centers, and other healthcare settings throughout the world.

Publication:

Carlson N, **Ellis J**, Page K, Dunn Amore A, Phillippi J. Review of evidence-based methods for successful labor induction. *J Midwifery Womens Health*. 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jmwh.13238>

Recognition:

Samantha Seaman, Administrative Assistant for the Health Systems and Community Based Care Division, earned a Master of Healthcare Administration degree from the David Eccles School of Business at the University of Utah.

Praise from a student to **Dr. Youjeong Kang**: “Dr. Kang, I just want to email you personally to let you know that I appreciated all the help, support, and time that you spent teaching me and the other students throughout the semester. I am very grateful for your help and the long office hours that you spent coaching and helping me learn the material. I appreciate all of your help and support!!!”

Presentations:

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) invited **Dr. Keanna Kepka** to be a discussant at its Annual Meeting in June 2021. Speaking at the session titled [Virally Induced Cancers: Epidemiology and Biomarker-Guided Care](#), and chaired by Dr. Steven Francis Powell, she will present *Virus Prevention and Early Diagnosis: Making the Case for Reduced Cancer Risk?*

Kaila Christini, **Dr. Deanna Kepka**, A Goldsmith, Kathryn Szczotka, J Duncan, Jacob Lipscomb, J Webb, Hannah Mclaughlin, and K Harris presented a poster titled *Geographic Disparities among Gynecological Oncology Patients* at the Sex, Gender and Women’s Health Across the Lifespan 2021 Virtual Symposium. The Center of Excellence in Women’s Health and the Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library at the University of Utah sponsored the symposium.

Kaila Christini, A Chai, Anne Kirchhoff, A Waters, S Mann, Jacob Lipscomb, Mia Hashibe, and **Dr. Deanna Kepka** presented a data blitz oral poster presentation titled *COVID-19 Vaccination Intent Relates to HPV Vaccination Receipt* at the Sex, Gender and Women’s Health Across the Lifespan 2021 Virtual Symposium.