

Rush University Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program



Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Rush University Medical College

Mission Statement

- Our mission is to provide a comprehensive and personalized model of addiction medicine that optimizes and offers the best health care for the individuals and diverse communities we serve by integrating outstanding patient care, education, research, and community partnership.

Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

The Rush Addiction Medicine Fellowship is Dedicated to Fostering an Equitable, Welcoming Environment within Academic Addiction Medicine.

- Our program is committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment where differences are valued and respected.
- The goal of this program is to train addiction medicine fellows to address racism and to build a diverse workforce to provide practical, community-based addiction treatment.
- Our program encourages fellows to pursue career opportunities in underserved communities.
- The program makes every effort to recruit and retain diverse fellows, faculty, and staff.
- The program fosters an equitable, welcoming environment within academic addiction medicine.

Aims

- The Rush Addiction Medicine Fellowship program provides care that is
 - Safe: avoiding injuries to patients from the care that is intended to help them.
 - Effective: providing services based on scientific knowledge to those who would benefit, and refraining from providing services to those not likely to benefit.
 - Patient-centered: providing care that is respectful of and responsive to individual patient preferences, needs, and values and ensuring the patient values guide all clinical decisions.
 - Equitable: providing care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location, and socioeconomic status.

Program Goals



- Train the next generation of leaders.
- Provide compassionate, culturally-sensitive care that addresses health care disparities in the urban underserved population in the Chicago area.
- Apply evidence-based practices in the biomedical, clinical, epidemiological sciences and social-behavioral sciences to their care of patients.
- Encourage fellows to pursue a career focused on clinical care, research or teaching, health care leadership, and as a scholarly addiction medicine physician.

Program Overview

- One - year ACGME-accredited multispecialty training program
- Focus on the care for persons with unhealthy substance related & addictive disorders
- Diversely trained faculty
- Urban academic and community settings
- Public health approach
- Inter-professional teamwork
- Schedule flexibility based on prior clinical experience and future career interests
- Mentorship in area of interest (Public Health, Advocacy, Research, etc.)
- Career Development

Program Leadership



- Dr. Gail Basch, Program Director



- Dr. Ruchi Fitzgerald, Associate Program Director



- Dr. Nicholas Chien, Assistant Program Director

Core Faculty Team

- *[Gail Basch, MD, FASAM](#) Program Director
- *[Ruchi Fitzgerald, MD, FAAFP](#) Associate Program Director
- *[Nicholas Chien, MD](#) Assistant Program Director
- [Hilton Gordon, MD](#)
- Daniel Ignell, MD
- *[Kathleen McDonough, MD](#)
- [Emily McKernan, LCSW](#)
- [T. Celeste Napier, PhD](#)
- *[Jenna Nikolaides, MD,FACEP](#)
- *[Neeral Sheth, DO](#)
- *[Francesco Tani, DO, AAHIVS](#)

Training Program Overview: Clinics, Services, & Didactics

INPATIENT (IP) SERVICES

- RUSH Substance Use Intervention Team Consultation Service*
- [Addiction Medicine Consult Service at West Suburban Medical Center*](#)
- RUSH Palliative Medicine & Advanced Pain Management Service 2-Week Rotation

OUTPATIENT (OP) CLINICS

- RUSH Addiction Medicine Program Outpatient Clinic for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders Continuity Rotation*
- [Chemical Dependency Clinic at PCC](#)
- RUSH Addiction Medicine Outpatient Clinic

INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT COMBINED

- RUSH Hepatology Department†Service 2-week Rotation

OTP

- [Family Guidance Center, Inc. Opioid Treatment Program 2-Week Rotation](#)

OTHER

- [Lurie Children's Adolescent Addiction Medicine 2-Week Rotation](#)
- [UIC Community Intervention Outreach Project \(COIP\) Van and Clinic 2-Week Community Addiction Medicine Rotation](#)
- RUSH Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program Behavioral Therapy 2-week Rotation

*Continuity experience

2-WEEK ELECTIVES

- Toxicology, Psychiatry Consult Liaison, Psych C-L, Research-Scholarly, Gambling Certification, Addiction Inpatient Consults, Health Policy, Others - Create Your Own

Elective, Research, Education, and Scholarship Longitudinal Learning Experience

- Fellows rotate at multiple sites during a given month - the didactics, conferences, Journal Clubs, grand rounds, and other activities will be entered in medhub under the specific category

SITE KEY:

1. Rush University Medical Center RUMC
2. [PCC Community Wellness Center/West Suburban Medical Center PCC/WSMC](#)
3. [Family Guidance Centers, Inc FGC](#)
4. [Lurie Children's Hospital Outpatient Center LC](#)
5. [UIC Community Intervention Outreach Project \(COIP\) Van and Clinic COIP](#)

Rotation Overview



Site 1 RUSH

- RUSH Substance Use Intervention Team Consultation Service*
- RUSH Addiction Medicine Outpatient Clinic
- RUSH Addiction Medicine Program Outpatient Clinic for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders Continuity Rotation*
- RUSH Behavioral Health 2 Week Rotation
- RUSH Palliative Medicine & Advanced Pain Management Service 2-Week Rotation
- RUMC Hepatology Department's 2 Wk Rotation



Site 2 PCC/ West Suburban Medical Center

- Addiction Medicine Consult Service at West Suburban Medical Center*
- Chemical Dependency Clinic at PCC



Site 3 Family Guidance Center, Inc.

- Family Guidance Center, Inc. Opioid Treatment Program 2-Week Rotation

Rotation Overview



Site 4

- **Lurie Children's Adolescent Addiction Medicine 2-Week Rotation**



Site 5

- **UIC Community Intervention Outreach Project (COIP) Van and Clinic 2-Week Community Addiction Medicine Rotation**

RUSH Substance Use Intervention Team Consultation Service

A [team-based inpatient RUSH consultation service](#) of addiction medicine-trained physicians, an advanced practice nurse, registered nurses, a licensed clinical social worker, a pharmacist, a recovery support specialist, medical residents, and medical students providing care to medical and surgical patients at risk for opioids and other substances.

Rounds are held using a preceptor model. Fellows assess and offer treatment plans to diverse patient populations and cultures.

Fellows may continue patient care on an outpatient basis at either of RUSH's outpatient addiction service locations.

Fellows train in the following:

- Assessment and reassessment, diagnosis, and treatment of patients with substance-related health problems and SUDs, including standardized questionnaires, lab tests, imaging studies, physical examinations, mental status examinations, consultative reports, prescription drug monitoring systems, and collateral information.
- Pharmacotherapy and psychosocial interventions, including intoxication, overdose, and withdrawal management, initiation of high and low-dose buprenorphine, long-acting buprenorphine (sublocade), and methadone for treating OUD.
- Collaboration with social workers and recovery support specialists to assess barriers to treatment and link patients with resources in the community to address social determinants of health concerns.

[Dr. Jenna Nikolaidis](#) (Service Chief and Site Director), [Dr. Nicholas Chien](#), and [Dr. Antonia Nemanich](#) provide direct supervision.

Dr. Nikolaides and Dr. Chien are certified in Addiction Medicine.

RUSH Addiction Medicine Outpatient Clinic

The RUSH Addiction Medicine Clinic, located at 1611 West Harrison Street, Suite 106B Chicago, IL 60612, is an outpatient same-day and continuity clinic for persons with SUD across the adult age spectrum facilitated by the SUIT team.

The SUIT interprofessional team includes advanced practice nurses and social workers.

Clinic sessions are held using a preceptor model. Fellows teach and supervise medical students, residents, and other co-learners allowing for bi-directional learning. Fellows can participate in research and design quality improvement and patient safety initiatives.

During this year-long experience fellows

- Provide culturally sensitive outpatient care to RUSH patients with SUD across the adult age spectrum.
- Conduct comprehensive substance use assessments, and prescribe buprenorphine and other medications for addiction treatment.
- Enhance their motivational interviewing skills.
- Develop an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of healthcare, including the social determinants of health, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources to provide optimal healthcare to diverse patient populations.

Dr. Jenna Nikolaidis (Service Chief and Site Director), Dr. Nicholas Chien, Dr. Antonia Nemanich, and Emily McKernan, LCSW provide direct supervision. Dr. Nikolaidis and Dr. Chien are certified in Addiction Medicine.

RUSH Addiction Medicine Program Outpatient Clinic for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders Continuity Rotation

RAMP is an outpatient continuity clinic providing ongoing care and support to persons with SUDs and serious mental illnesses (SMI) across the adult age spectrum; it is located at Rush Behavioral Medicine Outpatient West Campus, 2150 West Harrison St, Chicago, IL 60612.

Clinic sessions are held using a preceptor model. Fellows work within an interprofessional team of attendings, other fellows, social workers, residents, specialists, and medical students to provide comprehensive, holistic care for persons over eighteen. Fellows can participate in research and design quality improvement and patient safety initiatives. The RAMP experience includes telemedicine.

RAMP offers fellows a year-long longitudinal training experience in

- Assessing and treating persons with SMI who also use substances and have substance-related health conditions, behavioral addictions, chronic or acute pain, and comorbid substance use.
- Caring for a diverse patient population, including hospital employees, health care professionals, persons with psychosocial and medicolegal implications, women of reproductive age, pregnant women, older adults, military personnel and dependents, patients with physical or mental trauma or other injuries, sexual and gender minorities, persons with varied socioeconomic status, and persons with limited language proficiency or literacy.
- Understanding the epidemiology of substance-related and addictive disorders, including identifying risk, protective factors, and genetic and environmental influences.
- Utilizing pharmacotherapies and other modalities used to treat common psychoactive substances (alcohol, tobacco and nicotine, stimulants, sedative-hypnotics, depressants, opioids, inhalants, hallucinogens, cannabinoids, and synthetic drugs) and common behavioral addictions
- Developing an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of healthcare, including the social determinants of health, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources to provide optimal healthcare to diverse patient populations.

RUSH Behavioral Health 2 - Week Rotation

Fellows enhance their knowledge of the basic principles of evidence-based behavioral interventions to treat SUD and the role of peer support in the recovery process. Teaching methods will include didactics and real-time coaching and feedback regarding implementing motivational interviewing in patient interactions.

Fellows:

- Learn the basic principles of various behavioral therapies, including cognitive behavioral therapy, relapse prevention therapy, and acceptance and commitment therapy.
- Observe and practice implementing behavioral therapies by co-facilitating psychotherapy sessions with an LCSW.
- Enhance knowledge of integrating harm reduction and trauma-informed care into their practice.
- Attend peer support meetings, including 12 Steps, Smart Recovery, and Refuge Recovery, to develop an understanding of the principles and philosophies of such programs and how they support individuals in recovery.
- Become proficient in the basic principles of motivational interviewing and acquire a knowledge of the spirit, micro principles and strategies of the model.
- Implement motivational interviewing in patient interactions to resolve ambivalence and support patients in various stages of change.

Emily McKernan, LCSW, provides direct supervision.

RUSH Hepatology Department Service 2-Week Rotation

Fellows rotate through the RUMC Hepatology Department for two weeks.

- The immersive experience allows inpatient and outpatient experiences and integrates the fellow with an interdisciplinary team. This enhances the fellow's knowledge of advanced liver disease related to alcohol use disorder and viral hepatitis.
- This rotation includes extensive didactic (both self-directed and with the Section Chief of Hepatology) on gaining confidence in treating Hepatitis C, as many addiction medicine clinicians choose to address viral hepatitis in their future clinical practice.
- Fellows participate with the liver transplantation care team, actively bolstering the continuity of care for patients with advanced alcohol use disorders.

Nancy Reau, MD., Chair of RUSH Hepatology; Associate Director Of Organ Transplantation; Professor, RUSH Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, provides direct supervision.

RUSH Palliative Medicine & Advanced Pain Management Service 2-Week Rotation

RUSH Palliative Medicine offers a multidisciplinary approach. The inpatient consultation service consists of an attending, nurse practitioners, palliative social workers, chaplains, rotating palliative care and geriatrics fellows, residents, and students.

- Fellows assist in the evaluation and management of: pain and symptom management for patients facing serious, life-limiting illnesses and provide clarification of goals of care, transitions in care to comfort-focused therapies, intensive comfort care for patients being withdrawn from life-sustaining treatments and pain management in patients with complex chronic pain histories.
- Fellows assess patients with chronic pain from substance use, addictive disorders, substance-related health problems, and co-occurring psychiatric illness.
- Fellows may taper prescription opioids to safer doses, prescribe naloxone, initiate buprenorphine-naloxone, or refer to a community methadone/buprenorphine clinic, as appropriate.

Sean O'Mahony, MD, BCh, BAO, is the Director of the Section of Palliative Medicine and Associate Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine. Palliative Care attendings directly supervise the fellows.

Addiction Medicine Consult Service at West Suburban Medical Center*

West Suburban Medical Center is a safety net hospital serving the Austin neighborhood of Chicago, connected with a Federally Qualified Health Center on the West side of Chicago serving the Austin neighborhood.

Fellows see patients in every medical unit, from the ED to Labor and Delivery. Rounds are held using a preceptor model and alongside a perinatal child health fellow, offering bidirectional learning opportunities for both fellows. Interprofessional team members include peer support specialists and social workers.

Fellows can participate in research and design quality improvement and patient safety initiatives.

Fellows train:

- Active management of post-overdose patients in the Emergency Department
- Initiation of buprenorphine, including
- Rapid initiation of buprenorphine
- High and low dose buprenorphine
- Hospital initiation of long-acting buprenorphine (sublocade)
- Hospital initiation of methadone
- Management of pregnant patients affected by OUD/SUD
- Management of Neonatal Withdrawal Syndrome
- Management of Alcohol Withdrawal

Dr. Ruchi Fitzgerald (Service Chief of Inpatient Addiction Medicine), Dr. Francesco Tani (Assistant Service Chief), Dr. Kathleen McDonough (Site Director), and Dr. Tomayo Kawai directly supervise the fellows. Drs Fitzgerald, Tani, McDonough, and Kawai are board-certified in Addiction Medicine.

Chemical Dependency Clinic at PCC

PCC Community Wellness Center (PCC) is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that provides care for underserved patients at eleven sites on Chicago's west and northwest sides and the near west suburbs. PCC provides safe treatment for adults with addictions through PCC's Chemical Dependency Clinic, located inside West Suburban Medical Center on the 1st floor at 1 Erie Court, Suite 1300, Oak Park, IL 60302.

Clinic sessions are held using a preceptor model and alongside a perinatal child health fellow, offering bidirectional learning opportunities for both fellows. Interprofessional team members include nurses, peer support specialists, and social workers. Fellows can participate in research and design quality improvement and patient safety initiatives.

Fellows train in the following:

- Evaluations and care for adults who use opioids and other substances
- Medications for persons with substance use, including Suboxone, Vivitrol, or buprenorphine
- Medications and care for patients who are pregnant and postpartum
- Medications and care for patients with SUD and co-occurring viral illnesses (Hepatitis C)
- Prevention of HIV

Dr. Ruchi Fitzgerald (Service Chief) and Dr. Kathleen McDonough (Outpatient Medical Director and Site Director) directly supervise the fellows. Drs Fitzgerald and McDonough are board-certified in Addiction Medicine

Family Guidance Center, Inc. Opioid Treatment Program 2-Week Rotation

FGC is recognized as one of the most accessed Opioid Treatment Programs in the Chicago area and has multiple locations throughout the state.

Fellows work with Dr. Gordon (site director & medical director), nurses, and counselors in an interdisciplinary team and have ample opportunities to practice team-based care and bidirectional learning.

Fellows work in the FGC outpatient medical clinic that aids persons with SUDs by providing comprehensive behavioral health solutions and traveling with Dr. Gordon to several of Chicago's inpatient detoxification facilities (Thorek, Methodist, and St. Bernard's)

Fellows gain educational experiences in:

- Working with low-income, disadvantaged, and unstably housed patients with co-occurring mood or medical illnesses
- The use of methadone for treating OUD in an OTP and how an underserved population accesses methadone.
- Engage in detoxification intake, physical exams, and medication for addiction treatment clinics.
- Improve awareness of why patients choose methadone, buprenorphine, or extended-release naltrexone, working with their patients on setting and achieving recovery goals.
- The harm reduction model, trauma-informed care, motivational interviewing, and using patient and family-centered communication.

Dr. Hilton Gordon provides direct supervision.

Lurie Children's Adolescent Addiction Medicine 2-Week Rotation

Lurie Children's Hospital Outpatient Center, located at 1440 N. Dayton, has a variety of services; geared toward treating adolescent SUD .

The Lurie Substance Use and Prevention Program Treatment includes medications for addiction treatment and individual therapy while providing resources for parents and family members.

Fellows work within an interprofessional team of addiction medicine attendings, other fellows, nurses, social workers, residents, specialists, and medical students to provide comprehensive, holistic care for youth who meet the criteria for any substance use disorder. The preceptor model allows for bi-directional learning.

- Fellows engage with adolescent patients, examining each patient's unique experience with substance use, and have a basic understanding of the common MAT medications and how they are used
- Fellows engaging appropriately in the adolescent setting and learning maneuvers and appropriate counsel on harm reduction aspects, naloxone teaching, needle exchanges, and other measures to engage with patients and learn how to counsel them on screening for sexually transmitted diseases and refer them to treatment pending each patient's unique experience and exposure to substance use.

Dr. Maria H. Rahmandar and Lindsey Eilers, LCSW, CADC, provide direct supervision.

Dr. Rahmandar is certified in addiction medicine.

UIC Community Intervention Outreach Project (COIP) Van and Clinic 2-Week Community Addiction Medicine Rotation

The Community Intervention Outreach Project for persons with SUD across the adult age spectrum is facilitated by UIC. It is located at 1603 W Taylor Street, Chicago, 60644, and has mobile van locations. The COIP interprofessional team includes addiction medicine attendings, other fellows, residents, pharmacists, peer support specialists, and medical students. The preceptor model allows for bi-directional learning. This rotation allows the fellow to understand the role of a community addiction medicine physician.

- Develop an understanding of working with community members with an understanding of harm reduction for community members with SUDs, including how to counsel patients and families on harm reduction, have a basic understanding of the common MAT medications, and how they are used appropriately in the community setting.
- Demonstrate an understanding and respect for the boundaries of patients engaging with community SUD treatment.
- Engage with patients and learn how to counsel them on screening for sexually transmitted diseases and also refer to treatment pending each patient's unique experience and exposure to SU. particularly as it relates to SU from a mobile clinic setting
- Engage with community members, examining each patient's unique experience with SU and learning maneuvers and appropriate counsel on harm reduction aspects, Narcan teaching, needle exchanges, and other harm reduction measures as appropriate per each patient's unique needs.
- Understand the various social and environmental factors that complicate care for resource-limited communities, including the benefits, limitations, and challenges associated with providing medical and SU care from a mobile van.

Dr. Sarah Messmer and Dr. Elisabeth Poorman provide direct supervision. Drs. Messmer and Poorman are certified in addiction medicine.

2-WEEK ELECTIVES

- Toxicology, Psychiatry Consult Liaison, Psych C-L, Research-Scholarly, Gambling Certification, Addiction Inpatient Consults Health Policy
- Others - Create Your Own

Elective, Research, Education, and Scholarship Longitudinal Learning Experience

Opportunities include:

- Research in basic science, education, translational science, patient care, or population health
- Peer-reviewed grants
- Quality improvement and patient safety initiatives
- Systematic reviews, meta-analyses, review articles, chapters in medical textbooks, case reports, PMID articles (publications in PubMed)
- Conference presentations (abstracts, posters, and presentations at international, national, and regional meetings)
- Creation of curricula, evaluation tools, didactic educational activities, or electronic educational materials
- Contribution to professional committees, educational organizations, or editorial boards

T. Celeste Napier, Ph.D., serves as Education and Research Training Director.

- Meets weekly with fellows.
- Directly oversees and serves as the content expert for several mandatory presentations, including our program's national ACAAM lecture, "Behavioral Addictions: Beyond Gambling."
- Directly supervises the Research and Scholarly Learning 2-Week Rotation. The rotation includes an online 'Gambling Counselor Certification' program developed by the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Council on Problem Gambling.

Faculty participate in organized clinical discussions, rounds, journal clubs, and conferences.

- Faculty co-lecture with fellows as assigned content experts.
- At least one faculty member is present at each didactic session.
- Faculty supervises at their assigned site.
- [Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program Policy for Supervision of Addiction Medicine Fellows.pdf](#)
- Fellows are matched with faculty mentors in the department of their primary board specialty.
- Faculty assess and evaluate the clinical skills of each fellow.
- Faculty are assessed yearly for engagement.

Post Interview Communication

One final note:

We will abide by the NRMP “Code of Conduct”; post interview we are limited in the way we can communicate with you.

We can answer follow up questions, but can not discuss much else!

Thank ***you*** for being here!