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Health



David Geffen
School of Medicine

UCLA RCMAR CHIME
Scientific Retreat – 20th Anniversary Celebration
June 13, 2022 at 8:30-3 PM
UCLA Luskin Conference Center – Legacy Room

Meet Cohort 2022-23



Cecilia Canales, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor in Residence
Department of Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Dr. Canales' research focus is patient-oriented outcomes research in aging surgical patients. She has developed and implemented a diagnostic accuracy study to identify if Point-of-Care ultrasound measurements can be used to discriminate between frail and not frail patients to predict postoperative outcomes. She is also focused on studying factors that contribute to postoperative neurocognitive disorders (PND). Dr. Canales is a National Institute of Aging-Butler-Williams Scholar, and is particularly interested in studying PND in minority elders. Limited English proficient patients are excluded from PND studies since language can influence neurocognitive tests. Dr. Canales's work aims to bridge this gap to better understand the needs and treatment strategies.

Project title: Project Title: Factors Contributing to Postoperative Neurocognitive Disorder in Elderly Kidney Transplant Patients: Improving Patient Outcomes in Minority Elder Surgical Patients



Steven Nieto, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow
UCLA Department of Psychology
David Geffen School of Medicine UCLA

Steven Joseph Nieto, PhD is a project scientist in the Department of Psychology at UCLA. He received his PhD in Behavioral Neuroscience from the University of Houston in 2019. His work focuses on leveraging deep behavioral phenotyping and human laboratory paradigms to advance precision medicine for addiction, particularly alcohol use disorder. His research interests include: (1) identifying neurofunctional domains relevant for etiology and treatment of addiction, (2) applying behavioral economics to screen novel medications for alcohol use disorder, and (3) examining the relationship between chronic pain and heavy alcohol use.

Project Title: Evaluating the clinical utility of neurofunctional domains derived using deep phenotyping among older Hispanic individuals with alcohol-associated liver disease



Sha'Shonda Revels, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Surgery
Department of Surgery, Division of Thoracic Surgery
David Geffen School of Medicine UCLA

Shonda L. Revels, MD, MS is a surgeon at UCLA Health. She is board certified in general surgery, thoracic surgery, and critical care. She completed a research fellowship at the Center for Healthcare Outcomes and Policy, and an MS in Health Care Research at the University of Michigan. She attended medical school at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. Her general surgery and critical care training were completed at the University of Michigan. She returned to UCLA for cardiothoracic surgery fellowship and joined the UCLA Division of Thoracic Surgery in 2018. Her research interests include identifying disparities in the receipt of curative cancer care among underserved communities and employing novel research methods that empower patients to participate in the development of interventions to improve their access to guideline concordant cancer care.

Project title: Identifying Barriers to Lung Cancer Screening Among Elderly High-Risk Minority Patients



Hafifa Siddiq, PhD, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
School of Nursing
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Dr. Siddiq's background is in inpatient psychiatry and community-based mental health care. She received her PhD at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Nursing, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in health services and health policy research at the UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program. Her work focuses on the role of community-based mental health services in addressing the needs of immigrant and refugee populations and training future clinicians in trauma-informed tele-mental health care for marginalized patient populations. Her current research examines the role of social isolation and social cohesion on the physical and mental health of older adult refugees from Muslim-majority countries.

Project title: Post-migration stressors and wellbeing among immigrants and refugees



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