The Master of Population Health Sciences (MPHS), offered by the School of Medicine, is a one-year full-time degree program for clinicians seeking training in clinical research methods. Its quantitative curriculum emphasizes the role of epidemiology and biostatistics in clinical effectiveness and outcomes research.

Congratulations to Students Completing the MPHS Program in 2022!

The following students will earn their MPHS this spring:

Sydney Beache, MD - Resident, Surgery  
Sam Broughton - Medical Student  
I-Ling Chiang - Medical Student  
Sarah Chiang - Medical Student  
Sakshi Dhar, MD - Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Alden D’Souza - Medical Student  
Cassandra Fritz, MD - Fellow, Gastroenterology  
Fellipe Godoy, MD  
Yunan Han, MD - Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Zachery Hong - Medical Student  
Xinwen Hu - Medical Student  
Ashwin Leo - Medical Student  
Martha McGilvray, MD, MSt - Resident, Surgery  
Keenan Robbins, MBBS - Resident, Surgery  
Alex Shiang - Medical Student  
Nirmala Shivakumar - Medical Student  
Linh Vuong - Medical Student  
Jin Zhang, PhD - Assistant Professor, Radiation Oncology

Save the Date for our Recognition Ceremony:

CRTC PREDOCTORAL & POSTDOCTORAL PROGRAMS, MSCI & MPHS COMMENCEMENT AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY

05 . 19 . 22

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
ERIC P. NEWMAN EDUCATION CENTER  
4:00pm – 6:00pm
MPHS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Neel S. Raval, MD/MPHS '21, published “Racial and Socioeconomic Differences in Acral Lentiginous Melanoma Outcomes: A Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Analysis” in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology, co-authored with MPHS alumni Wesley T. Hodges, MD/MPHS '20, Fellipe Godoy, MD, MPHS '22, et al.

Ashwin Leo, MD/MPHS ‘22, published “A Digital Mental Health Intervention in an Orthopedic Setting for Patients with Symptoms of Depression and/or Anxiety: Feasibility Prospective Cohort Study” in JMIR Formative Research, from work he completed in the lab of Abby Cheng, MD, MPHS ‘21 during his MPHS year. He will present at the Association of Academic Physiatrists’ (AAP) 2022 conference.

Sean Smith, MD, MPHS ‘20, is completing his ALS Clinical Trials Fellowship and will be appointed as instructor in the department of Neurology, Neuromuscular Division. He will continue research at the Washington University ALS Center as an investigator and co-investigator in national and multinational ALS trials.

Tiffany Wu, MD/MPHS ‘21, won the Best Poster award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) 2021 conference for her poster “Low hemoglobin and RBC transfusions as risk factors for severe ROP: A case-control study.”

In the past year, Yunan Han, MD, MPHS ‘22, won the Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Programs (GMaP) Region 2 Travel Award, the American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting Merit Award, and the American Association for Cancer Research Scholar-in-Training Award. She is presenting “Weight gain after age 18 and breast cancer risk: a meta-analysis” at an AACR Annual Meeting 2022 poster session, related to work she completed in Dr. Colditz’s “Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis” class.

Sakshi M. Dhar, MD, MPHS ‘22, and Yunan Han, MD, MPHS ‘22, published an abstract with MPHS instructor and professor of surgery Adetunji Toriola, MD, PhD, MPH. The abstract, “Examining racial differences in metastatic site and mortality among de novo stage IV colorectal cancer” was published in Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention.

Maria Schwabe, MD/MPHS ‘19, received a grant from the American Foundation for Surgery of the Hand (AFSH). Her study, "Mindfulness: Treating the Whole Patient with Thumb Arthritis," seeks to determine if a mindfulness intervention can help treat symptoms of carpometacarpal (CMC) arthritis, which affects nearly one in three postmenopausal women.

Are you alumni with news to share? We’d love to hear it! Send it to Kelly Oman at KLOman@wustl.edu.
We’re excited to offer a new class for the Fall 2022 semester, “Introduction to Health Disparities and the Structural and Social Determinants of Health.”

This course explores how structural and social determinants of health (SSDoH) produce and maintain health disparities.

Learn from expert guest lectures on cutting-edge research, key foundational and recent readings related to SSDoH and health disparities, and case studies. You’ll complete a research proposal to apply what we’ve learned to real-life situations. By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1) Define health disparities
2) Explain how social and structural determinants of health – including interpersonal and structural racism – produce and maintain health disparities across each phase of disease development
3) and Identify strategies for assessing and addressing health disparities in your own research.

This class will be held Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Coursemasters:

Bettina Drake, PhD, MPH
Professor of Surgery
Division of Public Health Sciences

Erika Waters, PhD, MPH
Professor of Surgery
Division of Public Health Sciences
Alumni Share MPHS Experience in New Videos

We feature 5 MPHS alumni in two new videos to help us spread the word about our program.

In the first video, Maria Schwabe, MD, MPHS; Cynthia Wang, MD, MPHS; and Nick Karlow, MD, MPHS, share why they chose the MPHS degree, how it supplemented their medical school training, and how it helped them when applying for residency.

In the second, Abby Cheng, MD, MPHS; and Will Chapman, Jr, MD, MPHS, share how they’re using the skills they learned in their MPHS coursework in their current research, and how they fit the classes into their training programs as residents.

Watch now at https://bit.ly/MPHSYouTube

Why Choose the Master of Population Health Sciences Degree Program?

The MPHS degree program accelerates clinical research expertise and gives physicians, residents, fellows, clinical doctorates, and medical students the foundation to excel in leading, designing, conducting and moving research to applications in clinical settings. The curriculum emphasizes the role of clinical epidemiology and biostatistics in clinical effectiveness and outcomes research. Population health sciences training brings together passion for patient care and uses research to improve health outcomes for patients.

Interested in the MPHS program?

Applications for the 2022-2023 academic year are now being accepted.