

Summer Student Research Program
Project Description

FACULTY SPONSOR'S NAME AND DEGREE: *Ping-Hsin Chen, PhD*

PHONE: (973) 972 - 7351

DEPARTMENT AND INTERNAL MAILING ADDRESS: *Family Medicine, Behavioral Health Science Building, E1552, Newark*

E-MAIL: *chenpi@njms.rutgers.edu*

PROJECT TITLE (200 Characters max):

A Domestic Violence Intervention Program for Women and Children

HYPOTHESIS:

This program aims to (1) prevent future abuse; (2) break the cycle of violence; (3) enhance coping skills; (4) strengthen parent-child relationships; (5) overcome barriers to care; and (6) improve health outcomes for victims of domestic violence. We hypothesize that women and children will experience fewer domestic violence incidents and have better health outcomes after the intervention.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Include design, methodology, data collection, techniques, data analysis to be employed and evaluation and interpretation methodology)

Approximately 5.3 domestic violence (DV) victimizations occur annually, and costs for healthcare services are estimated at \$4.1 billion. The negative short- and long-term health effects on children who witness domestic violence have been well established, and there is an increased likelihood that the cycle of violence will be continued. Children exposed to domestic violence are at high risk for health problems, health behavioral problems, violence, and social functioning problems. The Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP) is an innovative program that involves interdisciplinary team collaborations for providing direct services to children and their mothers. Health care professionals, domestic violence specialists, and other relevant professionals at surrounding community organizations will combine their unique strengths and capabilities to improve the well-being of abused women and their children. The DVIP will screen, identify, and counsel abused women and their children in clinical settings. The DVIP will provide embedded and tailored intervention programs for abused women and their children to increase their access to care. The DVIP includes children's empowerment programs, support groups, parent education programs, and counseling services.

We will screen for exposure to domestic violence by using the validated screening tool of HITS (Hurt, Insult, Threaten, and Scream at) to screen for exposure to domestic violence. For those who screen positive, students will provide brief advocacy and patient education. We will schedule appointments for women and children who are willing to receive services. Domestic violence specialists will be present at the clinics and/or will be available by phone to provide crisis services. In school or community centers, we will conduct needs assessments regarding domestic violence exposure and critical areas to address. Clients who disclose exposure to domestic violence will be provided with individual counseling and group sessions.

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Women and children will be assessed throughout the program period. Non-clinical outcomes will be collected from surveys and notes of each session. Clinical outcomes, when available, will be collected from the patients' charts using doctors' notes and ICD-10 codes.

SPONSOR'S MOST RECENT PUBLICATIONS RELEVANT TO THIS RESEARCH:

Chen P-H, Rovi S, Jacobs A. Intimate partner violence: office screening for victims and perpetrators of IPV. *FP Essent.* 2013; 412:11-7.

Chen P-H, Rovi S, Jacobs A. Intimate partner violence: counseling, community resources, and legal issues for IPV victims and perpetrators. *FP Essent.* 2013; 412:18-23.

Chen P-H, Rovi S, Jacobs A. Intimate partner violence: childhood exposure to domestic violence. *FP Essent.* 2013; 412:24-7.

Chen P-H, Rovi S, Jacobs A. Intimate partner violence: IPV in the LGBT community. *FP Essent.* 2013; 412:28-35.

Chen P-H, Gerstmann M, Padilla D, Barrett T. Training future physicians to screen for and intervene with domestic violence. *Med Educ.* 2016; 50: 585. doi:10.1111/medu.13025

IS THIS PROJECT SUPPORTED BY EXTRAMURAL FUNDS?

Yes or No

(IF YES, PLEASE SUPPLY THE GRANTING AGENCY'S NAME)

THIS PROJECT IS: Clinical Laboratory Behavioral Other

THIS PROJECT INVOLVES THE USE OF ANIMALS

PENDING APPROVED IACUC PROTOCOL #

THIS PROJECT INVOLVES THE USE OF HUMAN SUBJECTS

PENDING APPROVED IRB PROTOCOL # M

THIS PROJECT IS SUITABLE FOR:

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ENTERING FRESHMAN
SOPHOMORES ALL STUDENTS

THIS PROJECT IS WORK-STUDY: Yes or No

THIS PROJECT WILL BE POSTED DURING ACADEMIC YEAR
FOR INTERESTED VOLUNTEERS?: Yes or No

WHAT WILL THE STUDENT LEARN FROM THIS EXPERIENCE?

Through involvement in this project, students will be able to:

- Learn about domestic violence screening and intervention recommendations
- Gain experience screening for domestic violence in clinical settings
- Develop their communication and counseling skills through their interactions with the families
- Collaborate with an interdisciplinary team including social workers and physicians to provide

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- domestic violence intervention for survivors
- Educate survivors and their children on various health topics