HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL

GLOBAL CLINICAL SCHOLARS RESEARCH TRAINING

Taking the Next Step on the Path to Clinical Discovery

Letter from Program Director

Harvard Medical School's Global Clinical Scholars Research Training (GCSRT) certificate program provides clinicians and clinician-scientists located around the world with advanced training in the skills and methods required to conduct high-impact clinical research. Our curriculum combines the best of traditional and innovative approaches, utilizing a blended learning model. Over the course of one year, participants have access to online and in person tools: live virtual seminars, in person workshops, interactive webinars, and prerecorded online lectures providing a wealth of knowledge at your fingertips. Our distinguished faculty are accessible and available throughout the program through special seminars and faculty review sessions.

At the conclusion of the program, participants will be able to:

- Design and perform observational and experimental clinical research
- Analyze, interpret and present clinical research data
- Write and revise successful grant proposals
- Lead clinical teams across a variety of health care settings

GCSRT graduates who wish to extend their study in the practice and methods of clinical research will find that the skills and knowledge gained in the GCSRT program are invaluable for our Master of Medical Sciences in Clinical Investigation (MMSCI) degree program.

We look forward to welcoming you to our community of global scholars.

Ajay Singh, MBBS, FRCP, MBA
Senior Associate Dean
Postgraduate Medical Education
Harvard Medical School

"IT TEACHES YOU NOT ONLY ABOUT THE BASICS OF RESEARCH, BUT ALSO ABOUT TEAMWORK, GRANTS AND PUBLISHING YOUR DATA IN AN INTERACTIVE WAY."

"This program is fantastic. It teaches you not only about the basics of research, but also about teamwork, grants and publishing your data in an interactive way. The online courses provide flexibility in my schedule, and the workshops are a valuable tool for networking and for team building. I am happy to be a part of the GCSRT team, and I am finally able to enjoy statistics."

Krishna Soujanya Gunturu, MD
Tufts Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts

Program Overview

The GCSRT program is designed for early-to-mid-career clinicians who are currently working in clinical research at the faculty level or equivalent. Candidates holding an MD, PhD, MBBS, DMD, DDS, PharmD, DNP, or an equivalent degree are well-suited for this program. Past participants have included chief physicians, directors, fellows, scientists, and specialists—most have authored or contributed to research publications; all have demonstrated strong interest in enhancing and advancing their careers by gaining clinical research skills.

GCSRT is a broad-based program, both in its global reach—we have seen students representing many countries from every continent—and in its structure. In addition to core courses and the capstone, students can choose between two concentrations and three electives, depending upon their interests and career goals. Participants have 24/7 access to learning content and can engage with the material at the time and place best suited to their needs.

Upon fulfilling the GCSRT program requirements, participants receive a Certificate of Completion that grants associate membership to the Harvard Medical School and Harvard University alumni associations, and includes invitations to PGME program alumni events throughout the year.

Curriculum Highlights

The GCSRT program's core curriculum is structured around three primary themes—Clinical Leadership in Medicine, Advanced Statistical Tools and Research Ethics—that permeate all aspects of the program. The goal is to impart a broad base of knowledge about clinical research to all participants, who are then able to customize their experience by selecting a concentration and elective of particular interest to them. The program culminates in a capstone project that is developed during the second half of the year-long program.

With five to six interactive webinars monthly, as well as more than 85 recorded online lectures, the program emphasizes team-based learning. For both the summer and winter programs, the curriculum is structured as follows:

- Foundation Courses – including biostatistics, epidemiology, biostatistical computing, ethics, design, and more
- Electives – comprising drug development, secondary analysis of clinical trials and survey design
- Concentrations – a choice of Advanced Quantitative Methods of Epidemiology or Principles and Practice of Clinical Trials
- Capstone Project – develop and present a formal proposal based on an original research question; all participants begin writing their research proposal prior to the second workshop, with faculty and peers providing feedback throughout the process

Fast Facts

- One-year program combines online learning with three intensive workshops designed to advance knowledge and skills in clinical research
- Two concentrations to choose from—Advanced Quantitative Methods of Epidemiology or Principles and Practice of Clinical Trials—as well as electives in Drug Development, Secondary Analysis of Clinical Trials, and Survey Design
- Five to six interactive monthly webinars, as well as more than 85 recorded online lectures
- Capstone project requires participants to design and present an original research proposal
- Upon successful completion of the program, participants receive a Certificate of Completion from Harvard Medical School

Who Leads the Program?

Ajay Singh, MBBS, FRCP, MBA
Program Director
Senior Associate Dean
Postgraduate Medical Education
Harvard Medical Schoolr

Jamie Robertson, PhD, MPH
Associate Co-Director
Director of Innovation in Surgical Education
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Instructor in Surgery
Harvard Medical School

Sagar Nigwekar, MBBS
Associate Co-Director
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Assistant Physician
Massachusetts General Hospital

Gearoid McMahon, MB, BCH, FASN
Director for Capstone
Associate Physician Renal Division
Instructor
Harvard Medical School

Sample Capstone Topics

The following topics were presented by prior participants of the GCSRT program, and are listed here to provide a sense of the range of questions others have sought to explore:

- Reducing neuro-cognitive deficits associated with treatment for brain metastases
- A novel regimen to cure sickle cell disease by maternal donor hematopoietic stem cell transplantation
- In-hospital delirium and risk of long-term cognitive impairment among patients with ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke
- The effects of geriatric syndrome assessments on the care of older adults in the cardiac intensive care unit
- The effect of cryoanalgesia for traumatic rib fractures in opioid tolerant patients
- Prehospital administration of freeze-dried lyophilized plasma for traumatic haemorrhagic shock

STUDENT PROFILE

"In addition to the extensive knowledge I gained from the faculty, the Global Clinical Scholars Research Training program allowed me to build a strong network of other researchers from around the world, which is of inestimable value. I have already applied the skills and concepts learned in the program to my career. I am grateful for this truly outstanding program and would recommend it to anyone who wants to take their research career to the next level."

Martine Blanchet, MSc, PhD
Medical Science Liaison, UCB

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