



FELLOW: Lauren Merz, MSc, MD
HOMETOWN: Spring Lake, MI
MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Michigan
RESIDENCY: BWH



Lauren is originally from Michigan, and she obtained a BA in Kinesiology and Spanish from Calvin College where she played varsity soccer and studied abroad in Spain, Mexico, and Honduras. She then obtained an MD from the University of Michigan Medical School and a MSc in Clinical Research from the University of Michigan School of Public Health before completing Internal Medicine residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital. While in medical school, she led the University of Michigan Student-Run Free Clinic. In residency, she helped develop the hematology team embedded in a single general medicine team to improve resident learning and patient care. She also conducted clinical research in classical hematology and health equity with Maureen Achebe and Nathan Connell.

She is passionate about addressing systemic inequalities in classical hematology. Her current projects address the impact of the Duffy null phenotype, a common variant mostly seen in those of African descent, on lowering absolute neutrophil counts through clinical research, opinion pieces, and quality improvement initiatives. She plans to become a clinical investigator in classical hematology with a focus on health equity.

Outside of work, she enjoys hiking in the mountains, exploring local restaurants and breweries, cheering for University of Michigan athletics (Go Blue!), reading, and planning her next travel adventure with her partner, Ryan, and her greyhound, Samwise.