We are pleased to announce the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Research Fellowship in Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative Care. This fellowship is directed toward physicians, psychologists, doctorally-prepared nurses, social workers, and other clinicians who wish to prepare themselves for an academic research career in palliative care or psychosocial oncology. The goal of this fellowship is to train early investigators prepared to move these fields forward through the conduct of highest quality research.

**Duration:** 2 years

**The Fellowship Experience**

- Completion of an original research project under the guidance of a Harvard Medical School Faculty Mentor(s), at least one of which is affiliated with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.
- Applicants should have an idea of their research focus, but identification of a specific project or mentor is not necessary.
- After identifying a mentorship team, fellows will choose their research project and refine a study protocol in their initial months.
- Core curriculum in research methods and biostatistics delivered through the Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Catalyst program; further coursework will be available and tailored to the fellow’s needs.
- Frequent opportunities to present research ideas and challenges in small group settings.
- Weekly seminar series on key topics essential to building a successful research career including, but not limited, to: professional development, peer feedback, mentorship, journal review, and methodology
- Works-in-Progress Seminar sessions to present, receive feedback, and learn about related research
- Participation in relevant conferences and symposia hosted by the Harvard Medical School affiliated institutions

**The Research Project**

- Each fellow will identify one long-term research project that will span the length of the fellowship. This research project can be an original question proposed by the fellow or the fellow may partner with a mentor to own a piece of an existing study.
Most fellows will work on several projects throughout their fellowship in addition to their core research project.

Fellows are expected to publish their findings in an academic journal; most fellows will have multiple publications over the two years.

**Additional Educational Opportunities**

- Tuition dollars available to pursue relevant educational coursework
- Summer Program in Clinical Effectiveness - Intensive 15 credit summer program providing clinical investigators with fundamental training in Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics [https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/clinical-effectiveness/](https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/clinical-effectiveness/)
- Harvard Catalyst [https://catalyst.harvard.edu/](https://catalyst.harvard.edu/)
- Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health [https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/](https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/)

**Meeting Series**

Fellows are invited and encouraged to attend a variety of meetings taking place across various departments at Dana-Farber, as well as at other local academic teaching hospitals, and organizations.

**Research Fellow Seminar – Weekly (required)**

Topics Include:

- Methodology: (e.g., Mixed Methods, Technology in Research, Propensity Scores, Intervention Development, Qualitative analysis, etc)
- Professional Development: (e.g., Navigating the mentor-mentee relationship, Conducting effective and honest peer review, promoting one’s work, etc)
- Works-in-progress
- Journal Club

**Weekly Meetings**

- POPC Summer Writing Seminar
- Center for Outcomes and Policy Research Seminar
- Palliative Care Grand Rounds
- Pediatric Psychosocial Grand Rounds

**Bi-Weekly Meetings**

- POPC Research Seminar
- Works-in-progress seminar open to investigators within POPC to share early work, conceptual models, specific aims etc.
- Fellows present at seminar once per year
- Ariadne Labs Innovation Meetings
Monthly Meetings

- Psychosocial Oncology Grand Rounds
- Harvard Medical School Center for Palliative Care Clinical Case Seminar
- Pediatric PACT Rounds

The Environment

The Dana-Farber Department of Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative Care consists of over 40 faculty (and > 80 clinical and administrative staff) across five divisions: Adult Palliative Care, Pediatric Palliative Care, Adult Psychosocial Oncology, Pediatric Psychosocial Oncology, and Social Work. The work of these divisions spans the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and Boston Children’s Hospital. The Department shares a research relationship with Massachusetts General Hospital and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center through the Dana-Farber Harvard Cancer Center, and is closely affiliated with the Harvard Medical School Center for Palliative Care, which serves as a national home for palliative care education. The nearby proximity of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard Medical School Department of Health Care Policy, and innovative centers such as Ariadne Labs (each housing investigators with related interests) offer an unparalleled and extraordinarily rich research environment.

Eligibility

Candidates must demonstrate a serious interest in pursuing research in palliative care or psychosocial oncology. Appropriate trainees include:

- Physicians completing clinical fellowships in Palliative Medicine or Psychosocial Oncology, as well as individuals trained in fields such as Psychiatry, Pediatrics, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Geriatrics, or other relevant specialties provided they are focused on palliative care or psychosocial oncology research.
- Clinical Psychologists completing post-doctoral clinical training in psychosocial oncology.
- Post-doctoral PhDs from the fields of Nursing, Social Work, and other clinical disciplines, with a focus on palliative care or psychosocial oncology.

Applicants must agree to undertake a minimum of two years of research training from the time of appointment. Appropriately credentialed clinicians may dedicate up to 20% of their effort to clinical work.

Compensation and Benefits

Fellows will be appointed and paid at the appropriate PGY Fellow year and receive health insurance and other benefits comparable to clinical fellows. Fellows will receive a Harvard Medical School appointment. Malpractice insurance is provided for fellows who engage in clinical effort.

Application process

Applicants should submit a package consisting of:

- 2-page personal statement describing the applicant’s background, career goals, and research interests
- Applicant’s CV
- Reference letter from the applicant’s prior residency, fellowship, or doctoral director
- Two additional reference letters that address the candidate’s research potential
Selection criteria:

The goal of this program is to train researchers in palliative care and psychosocial oncology. We will use rigorous selection criteria (e.g., prior research experience, publications, references from research mentors) to identify candidates likely to pursue careers as successful independent investigators. Selected applicants will be invited for interviews (in-person and by phone) in Winter 2020, and decisions made soon thereafter. We are now accepting applications.

Fellowship Start: July 1, 2020

Interested applicants should submit their application to POPCResearchFellowship@partners.org

For more details and information about the Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative Care Research Fellowship, please visit our website at www.dana-farber.org/fellowships or contact us by email at the address above.

We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and pregnancy-related conditions, or any other characteristic protected by law.