

IMPORTANT NOTE: Fellows are eligible for a complimentary Trainee membership for the duration of their accredited fellowship program. Click <https://www.htrs.org/HTRS/Membership/join> for more details.

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues and friends, and visit www.HTRS.org for up-to-the-minute news, announcements, and opportunities! Questions? Email htrs@versiti.org.



Fellows Network Newsletter

Summer/Fall 2020

The HTRS Fellows Network is pleased to present our Summer/Fall 2020 Newsletter! In this issue, you will find:

- *Spotlight on HTRS Fellow Member: Megan Brown, MD, MHS*
- *Spotlight on HTRS Faculty Member: Adam Cuker, MD, MS*
- *HTRS Trainee Webinar Series: "Applying for a Faculty Job"*
- *Connection to CLOT+ to highlight recent high-impact studies*
- *Announcements, funding opportunities and upcoming meetings*
- *FWGBD Conference info: September 24-25, 2020*
- *THSNA 2020 Conference info: October 27-30, 2020*
- *Pre-ASH 2020 Trainee Workshop info: December 2-3, 2020*



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THSNA 2020 Thrombosis & Hemostasis Summit of North America

THSNA 2020 Virtual Conference
October 27-30, 2020

Join Us!

FOR THE LATEST DETAILS: thsna.org and see below!

HTRS Fellow Spotlight

Megan Brown, MD, MHS

Senior Associate Fellow,
Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center at Emory
University



1. Describe your path to non-malignant hematology.

I first became interested in non-malignant hematology in medical school. This interest led me to the program at Emory University as it is the largest pediatric hematology program in the country. I love the diversity within the hematology program; not only is there a large sickle cell program, but there is a world-class hemostasis and thrombosis program, a bone marrow failure program, and a

thalassemia program here.

2. What do you love about non-malignant hematology?

I love that there is so much complexity. You really get to challenge yourself every day and always need to be learning. Also, especially in patients with bleeding disorders and sickle cell, you can have great continuity with patients and develop long-standing relationships.

3. What are you doing now?

I am currently in the midst of a senior associate year with the hemostasis and thrombosis team at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center at Emory University in Atlanta. I have spent 25 percent of my time doing clinical work with the general non-malignant hematology inpatient service and seeing patients outpatient as part of the hemostasis team, and the rest in clinical research focused on young women's bleeding and von Willebrand Disease.

4. What advice would you offer trainees interested in non-malignant hematology?

You should definitely take advantage of all of the great opportunities within non-malignant hematology. I was able to be a part of the Hematology Fellows Consortium and the Pre-ASH HTRS Trainee Workshop. Not only was I able to learn a lot, but it was great to connect with other fellows interested in non-malignant hematology as well as finding external mentors. Also, find a mentor! The community of non-malignant hematologists has been so welcoming and supportive during my fellowship training, and spending time at these events and getting to know individuals with similar interests within the community has helped me to build a web of mentors in addition to the wonderful team of mentors I have at Emory. The community is very collaborative and has helped me to develop my research interests and find direction for my career.

HTRS Faculty Member Spotlight



Adam Cuker, MD, MS

Associate Professor of Medicine,
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania,
Director of the Penn Blood Disorders Center and
the Penn Comprehensive Hemophilia and
Thrombosis Program

1. Which mentors and experiences (research, training, and/or professional) inspired you to enter the field of non-malignant hematology?

When I began fellowship, I planned to pursue a career in leukemia/bone marrow transplant. I had minimal exposure to non-malignant hematology at that point and hadn't even considered it as a career option. Then, during my required hematology consult blocks and hematology clinics as a first-year fellow, I was unexpectedly swept off my feet by coagulation. Why? First, the field suits my temperament well. Coagulation medicine places high importance on history-taking, differential diagnosis, and laboratory evaluation (the parts of medicine I enjoy the most) and does not involve procedures (the part I enjoy the least). Second, I was fortunate to work with and learn from some truly inspiring mentors including Doug Cines, Charles Abrams, and Barb Konkle.

2. How did you translate this inspiration into training in hematology?

After I settled on a career in hemostasis and thrombosis, I spent as much clinical time as I could in my second- and third-year of fellowship seeing patients in the Penn Comprehensive Hemophilia and Thrombosis Program and in the Penn Specialized Coagulation Laboratory. After having had some experience in bench research in college, medical school, and residency, I decided that my pipetting career was over and that I wanted to try patient-oriented research. So I became involved in a few small patient-oriented research projects with my mentors, which I greatly enjoyed, and went on to pursue a Master's Degree in Translational Research.

3. How did you navigate the process of finding the right mentor to guide your early career as a trainee and faculty member?

My primary research mentors were Barb Konkle and Doug Cines. Barb was Director of the HTC and Doug was Director of the coagulation lab at Penn. I worked with both of them on clinical rotations during first year and got to know them, not only as superb clinicians, but also as the sort of people I enjoyed being around. Barb was doing patient-oriented research, mainly on bleeding disorders. Doug was doing laboratory-based research, mainly on platelet disorders. I wanted to do patient-oriented research on platelet disorders. So they seemed like (and were) the perfect mentorship team for me.

4. What were the biggest challenges you faced as a fellow and as a faculty member?

When I first dedicated myself to a career in non-malignant hematology, I worried about what I would do if academia didn't work out for me. I had seen others a few years ahead of me leave academia and pursue a career in private practice. But they were all oncologists. There is virtually no such thing as private practice non-malignant hematology. I ultimately decided that if the academic thing didn't pan out, I would go into industry. Thankfully, my career in academia has been more rewarding than I ever could have imagined and I have never needed to pursue plan B.

5. What is one piece of advice you can give fellows to help them become successful hematologists and hemostasis/thrombosis researchers?

I can't resist but give two pieces of advice here.

First, do what you love. I know it's cliché, but whatever you choose to do, you will spend countless hours doing it. So make sure it turns you on. Don't worry about your ability to find a job, how much money you will make, etc. Those things will take care of themselves as long as you have a passion for what you are doing.

Second, don't ignore your internal compass. You will (and probably already have) received career advice from many people -- some of it good, and some of it not so good. Never take advice blindly. Always consider whether the advice makes sense to you. I did my Master's thesis on heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT). After I defended my thesis, one of my committee members (a well-respected member of the coagulation community) said to me,

“Congratulations, Adam. Great job. But you need to find something else to study. HIT is going away and a career in HIT is a dead-end.” I was crestfallen at first, but after thinking about it more and speaking with my mentors, I decided this well-meaning advice was not right for me and I wasn’t going to take it. I am so glad I listened to my internal compass and my mentors because, 10 years later, HIT continues to be a very fruitful area for me.

6. How does your typical work week look?

The best part of my job is how varied it is. It never gets boring. I have two half-day clinics per week and attend in the coagulation lab 4 months per year. I have administrative responsibilities as Director of the Penn Blood Disorders Center and the Penn Comprehensive Hemophilia and Thrombosis Program. I teach and mentor medical students, residents, and fellows. I do patient-oriented research in hemostasis and thrombosis. And I am heavily involved in work with professional societies including ASH, ISTH, and the Anticoagulation Forum.

7. If you were not a physician, what profession would you choose, and why?

Medicine was my second choice. My first choice was to play third base for the New York Mets, but a total lack of athletic ability proved to be an insurmountable barrier. I still love baseball. If I wasn’t a physician, maybe I would have tried to do something on the business or management side of the sport.

2020 Virtual Conference



FWGBD is Going Virtual!

September 24-25, 2020

[Registration now open!](#)

Join FWGBD at its biennial educational conference for professionals dedicated to the care and support of women and girls with blood disorders. The conference will be held virtually, beginning at **11 am ET on Thursday, September 24, and will conclude by 4:30 PM on Friday, September 25.**

Our goal is to increase awareness, enhance knowledge, foster the next generation of healthcare providers, and support collaboration across disciplines – and it all comes together at the FWGBD 2020 conference.

First HTRS Trainee Career Development Webinar:
"Applying for a Faculty Job"

Thanks to all who attended the successful launch of our new HTRS Fellows Network Webinar Series focusing on Career Development, which took place August 25, 2020, via Zoom Conference. Attendees, please watch for a survey

to come soon with links to contact info for the presenting faculty.

Four faculty panelists discussed their experiences navigating the process of applying for a faculty job in the last year:

- **Jori May, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- **Sven Olson, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Section of Classical Hematology, Oregon Health & Science University
- **Michael H. White, MD, MSc**, Assistant Professor in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- **Megan Brown MD, MSc**, Senior Associate in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

For key tips shared during the Webinar, [CLICK HERE](#)

For Fellows Network Chair Jennifer Yui's slide presentation, [CLICK HERE](#)

Watch for the next FN Career Development Webinar on Mentor/Mentee Relationships on **Tuesday, October 13th at 6:00 PM CT**. To register and receive the Zoom link, email jziegler@versiti.org by Friday, October 9, 2020.

Recent High-Impact Articles from CLOT+

We are excited to continue our new collaboration with [CLOT+](#) to provide curated, high-yield hemostasis and thrombosis articles via this newsletter.

For more information and to access the links below, click [HERE](#) to register for free at CLOT+.

[Recurrent thrombosis in patients with antiphospholipid antibodies and an initial venous or arterial thromboembolic event: A systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

J Thromb Haemost. 2020 Jun 2. doi: 10.1111/jth.14936. (*Systematic review*)

[Extended DOAC therapy in patients with VTE and potential risk of recurrence: a systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

J Thromb Haemost. 2020 Jun 8. doi: 10.1111/jth.14949. (*Systematic review*)

[Oral factor Xa inhibitors and risk of subdural hematoma: COMPASS trial results and meta-analysis.](#)

Neurology. 2020 Aug 4;95(5):e480-e487. doi: 10.1212/WNL.00000000000009826. Epub 2020 Jul 10. (*Original study*)

[Effect of oral anticoagulants on hemostatic and thromboembolic complications in hip fracture: A systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

J Thromb Haemost. 2020 Jun 23. doi: 10.1111/jth.14977. (*Systematic review*)

[Safety of using the combination of the Wells rule and D-dimer test for excluding acute recurrent ipsilateral deep vein thrombosis.](#)

J Thromb Haemost. 2020 Jul 2. doi: 10.1111/jth.14986. (*Original study*)

[Risk scores for occult cancer in patients with unprovoked venous thromboembolism: Results from an individual patient data meta-analysis.](#)

J Thromb Haemost. 2020 Jul 12. doi: 10.1111/jth.15001. (*Original study*)

Announcements

THSNA 2020 Vir



October 27-30, 2020

THSNA 2020 is going virtual! The THSNA 2020 virtual program will offer attendees FREE access to a combination of on demand and live programming beginning on October 27, 2020.

Please find information below regarding conference registration, as well as our call for abstracts. Please contact us at info@thsna.org if you have any questions.

Conference Registration

Join us! FREE registration [HERE!](#)

Attendees can expect:

- On-demand access to the watch recordings of the programed presentations for 30 days, beginning on October 27.
- Access to attend scheduled live Q&A/discussion panels.
- The ability to ask each presenter questions via the online Q&A system.
- Access the Virtual Exhibit Hall as well as attend corporate symposia to learn about innovative products and services.
- The ability to claim AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ or PACE CE credits (small fee required).

Did you previously register for the THSNA in-person meeting? All previous registrations have been automatically converted to the virtual conference and any paid registration fees have been refunded.

2021 HTRS/Novo Nordisk Clinical Fellowship Award (CFA) in Hemophilia and Rare Bleeding Disorders

The Call for Applications for the 2021 HTRS/Novo Nordisk Clinical Fellowship Award in Hemophilia and Rare Bleeding Disorders will open Tuesday, September 15, 2020.

HTRS and Novo Nordisk Inc. (Novo) soon will announce the availability of one Clinical Fellowship Award (CFA) in 2021 focused on hemophilia and rare bleeding disorders for one academic year (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022). This 2021 award is supported by an educational grant from Novo Nordisk Inc. During the fellowship year, the awardee is mentored by an experienced MD, MD/PhD or DO working in hemophilia or rare bleeding disorders at an established U.S.-based hemostasis treatment center (HTC).

See the [Request for Proposals](#) for details of the 2020 program. Stay tuned for 2021 program details to be announced within the next several weeks.

The online 2020 Application Form is available [HERE](#) as a reference for 2021 applicants.

Questions about the program may be directed to Jennifer in the HTRS Office at htrs@versiti.org or jziegler@versiti.org

HTRS recognizes Novo Nordisk as the HTRS/Novo Nordisk CFA in HTRS/Novo Nordisk CFA in



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2020 Pre-ASH Trainee Workshop

RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS, WATCH FOR DETAILS

HTRS Trainee Workshop Virtual Event: “Building a Career in Hemostasis and Thrombosis” -- **December 2-3, 2020**

[Click here for more information!](#)

*Our next **HTRS Trainee Workshop** now will take place virtually on December 2-3, 2020, following the recent decision for the all-virtual 62nd Annual ASH Annual Meeting & Exposition. Any questions, please email: htrs@versiti.org.*

This ongoing educational activity is supported by educational grants from founding supporter Novo Nordisk Inc., CSL Behring, Shire/Takeda, and Grifols.

Hemostasis and Thrombosis Research Society

Fellows Network Newsletter

2020 Fellows Network Council Members:

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Harry Fuentes Bayne, MD, Mayo Clinic

George Goshua, MD, Yale

Hana Lim, MD, MS, Weill Cornell Medicine

8733 Watertown Plank Road

Milwaukee, WI 53266-3548

(414) 937-6569 | htrs@versiti.org | htrs.org