

COLORADO

NORC

Nutrition Obesity Research Center

July 2022

NORC Member Highlight

Jayne Martin-Carli, PhD, Post-doctoral Fellow



Martin-Carli is a former NORC Pilot Awardee who recently received an NIH K99/R00 Pathway to Independence Award (HD107496). Working in the labs of Drs. Jennifer Monks and James McManaman, she studies the physiological mechanisms underlying the effects of maternal metabolism on lactation success.

She recently published a study of human milk-derived cells as “liquid breast biopsies” and their potential to serve as proxies for the lactating human mammary gland. She is now utilizing these milk-derived cells to identify differences in the mammary epithelium between women with and without metabolic disease and to define the molecular mechanisms underlying lactation insufficiency in the context of obesity and/or insulin resistance. Since her arrival to the University of Colorado in 2017, she has secured fellowships from the Nutrition and Neonatology T32 programs and the American Heart Association. Along with her K99/R00 grant, Dr. Martin-Carli was recently awarded a seed grant from the Ludeman Family Center for Women’s Health, which she will leverage to establishing her independent research program. In her free time, Dr. Martin-Carli enjoys design, gardening, and reading, and exploring national parks with her husband, Joe, and daughter, Delia.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

2022 NORC Pilot Awards Congratulations goes to the 2022 Colorado NORC Pilot Awardees! We had 10 outstanding applications this year. With generous support from the national NORC program and Dean John Reilly, we were able to provide new pilot awards to the following individuals this cycle.

Katherine Ranard, PhD (Peds/Developmental Biology) Role of n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids in myelination during neurodevelopment

Courtney Steele, PhD (Med/Renal) Renal Oxygen Consumption, Insulin Sensitivity, and Daily Caloric Restriction in Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD)

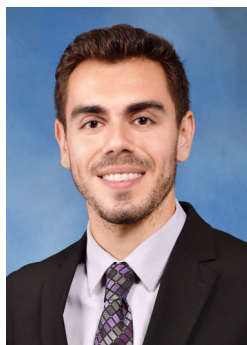
Stephanie Waldrop, PhD (Peds/Nutrition) The association between maternal serum concentrations of 1-Carbon nutrients, folate and choline, with adiposity in infancy and early childhood mediated through epigenome wide DNA methylation in newborn cord blood: a pilot investigation

In addition to these new awardees, the following 2020 NORC Pilot Awardees were approved for a second year of funding: **Catherine Cioffi Cohen, PhD; Sylvania da Silva Teixeira, PhD; Andrew Libby, PhD; Jane Stremming, MD; Karin Zemski Berry, PhD.** Be sure to congratulate all of these talented investigators the next time your paths cross!

NORC Progress Report Thank you to all of the members of our research base, core directors, and program leaders, for your outstanding contributions to our 2021-2022 noncompetitive renewal. Your efforts have ensured the continued funding for the NORC’s cores and programs. For more information about the NORC’s cores and programs, visit our website at <http://cunorc.org/>

John Michael Taormina, MD, Obesity Medicine Fellow

Please welcome our new Obesity Medicine Fellow, Dr. John Michael Taormina for the 2022/23 fellowship year. Dr. Taormina will be working with Drs. Catenacci, Nicklas and Sullivan in the AHWC clinic. You will see him around campus as he completes his rotations at the VA with Drs. Thomas and Saxton, attends the Lifestyle Medicine Clinic at CHCO and bariatrics at UHealth. He will be completing scholarly work with Dr. Sean Iwamoto focusing on weight changes in gender diverse individuals starting gender-affirming hormone therapy. Dr. Taormina completed his residency training in family medicine in PA. He is excited to make Colorado his new home! Outside of the clinic, this year you will find him going on new hikes with his partner, attending musical theatre performances at the DCPA and trying his best not to injure himself learning to ski.



Obesity Medicine Fellowship Applications are being accepted for the Obesity Medicine Fellowship. Details can be found here: <http://cunorc.org/application-process/>

2022 Annual NORC Retreat Save the date! Monday, October 24th, location and times pending. We are excited to announce John Thyfault, PhD, FACSM, FTOS from Kansas University Medical Center as our keynote speaker this year. Registration details to come.

2022 Metabolic Imaging Workshop This event was held on July 11th & 12th at CU-AMC. Thanks to all speakers and attendees. See more at: <http://cunorc.org/2022-metabolic-imaging-workshop/>



Obesity Week 2022 Save the date! Obesity Week will be held November 1-4, 2022 (in person, San Diego!).

CU NORC Website: cunorc.org
Ideas for the next NORCNews?
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