

**NIDUS**Network for Investigation of
Delirium : Unifying Scientists

May 2019 NIDUS Newsletter

Network for Investigation of Delirium: Unifying Scientists

American Delirium Society 2019 Annual Meeting

We're looking forward to a busy and productive 9th annual American Delirium Society [meeting](#) in beautiful Boston in just a few short weeks. We're excited about connecting with NIDUS friends and fellow delirium researchers at our NIDUS pre-conference and throughout the conference.

We'll have a dedicated NIDUS session on Monday, June 17, from 11:30 to 12:30, to show how NIDUS resources can help you advance your delirium studies or research project. (Arlington Room). NIDUS will also present two abstract sessions featuring research from former boot camp alums and pilot grant awardees on Monday. The sessions will take place in Berkeley / Clarendon from 1:45 to 2:45 and again from 2:45 to 3:45.

If you're reading this on or before May 31, you may still be able to [register](#) for the conference, space permitting. Our NIDUS pre-conference is at capacity, but we'll send out a summary of panel presentations and roundtable discussions in a future newsletter or e-blast.

Get all the details on the 2019



NIDUS News

New Delirium Measurement Resources

The Measurement and Harmonization team has completed [harmonization of severity instruments](#)! Several papers summarizing this work have recently been published or are in process (see the publications list below). Next, the team will begin harmonization of diagnostic and other case identification instruments. Check out the NIDUS website's Measurement and Harmonization pages and look for [new brief screening tools](#) (including UB-2) along with pediatric delirium measurement info [cards](#) and more great resources.

Submit your study to the Delirium Research Hub!

The [Delirium Research Hub](#) now has 192 studies. Help NIDUS reach 200 by encouraging colleagues to [submit](#) their data and resources to further the field. Our Research Hub includes new search features for better specificity of searches, and we've also introduced a new feature, the "Investigator Spotlight."

Each month the Delirium Research Hub selects an investigator and research study included in the Delirium Research Hub to feature as a Spotlight Investigator. We aimed the first beam at [Dr. Tanya Mailhot](#), PhD, RN for her study, "**Evaluation of a Nurse Mentoring Intervention with Family Caregivers in the Management of Delirium (MENTOR_D)**" which piloted a nursing intervention with family caregivers for delirium management following cardiac surgery. We thank her for her important work and research and for

Boot Camp Applications Due June 24

June 24 is the deadline for 2019 Delirium Boot Camp applications. The 7th Annual Delirium Boot Camp will be held October 27 – 29 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, State College, PA. Delirium Boot Camp is an intensive two and a half day workshop on all aspects of delirium research, from study design and methodology to updates on current research in the field, to a practice grant review session. Learn more at our [website](#) and download the application [here](#).

2020-2021 NIDUS Pilot Award Call for Proposals now open

[Apply](#) for a NIDUS [Pilot Grant](#) by November 7, 2019. The one-year pilot awards encourage innovative research by targeting priority areas of delirium investigation. At least two grants of \$50,000 each (total direct costs) will be awarded. Indirect costs are supported. Awardees will be notified by March 1, 2020. Two application tracks are available: junior investigator track and established investigator track.

Congratulations to NIDUS 2019-2020 Pilot Grant Awardees!

NIDUS is thrilled to partner with a new group of researchers to further the field of delirium research. We look forward to sharing news about their studies and outcomes.

Colm Cunningham

Trinity College Dublin

Chemokine expression at the blood CSF barrier: investigating a causal role in acute cognitive dysfunction in a mouse model of delirium during dementia

Flavia C. Garcez

University of Sao Paulo

Effect of gut microbiota composition on delirium occurrence in acutely ill older adults: a prospective cohort study

Anne Donovan

University of California San Francisco

Development of a machine learning algorithm for the automated prediction

Luke Pilling

University of Exeter

Genetic variation and predisposition to delirium



This month's featured Pilot Grant Awardee is the University of Exeter's Dr. Luke Pilling, a Research Fellow in Genomic Epidemiology.

Luke Pilling joined the Epidemiology and Public Health group at the University of Exeter in November 2010. The group's research focuses on conventional and biochemical risk factors of aging and age-related diseases.

Here's Luke describing goals for his study on genetic variation and predisposition to delirium:

"I aim to identify biomarkers that could be used to firstly identify people at increased risk of delirium episodes, and secondly determine whether these risk factors are likely to be causal. If the evidence supports a causal link between the biomarker and subsequent onset of delirium then clinical intervention could improve prognosis and quality of life in patients.

Our team at the University of Exeter have already found some evidence for a link between lower vitamin D levels increasing delirium risk, and this award from NIDUS allows us to take this research much farther."

NIDUS Career Development Webinar Series

Join NIDUS and Kirsten Fiest,
PhD, on **Thursday, June 20th,**

Delirium Research: Lessons Learned from a Bootcamp Alumna." The webinar is targeted to Boot Camp Alums but open to all NIDUS friends and fellow researchers. Find the webinar [here](#).



Dr. Kirsten Fiest is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Critical Care Medicine, Community Health Sciences, and Psychiatry at the University of Calgary and the Director of Research and Innovation in the Department of Critical Care Medicine. She has a PhD in epidemiology and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in psychiatric epidemiology. Since joining the University of Calgary faculty in 2016, Dr. Fiest has received numerous peer reviewed grants and awards for teaching and mentorship. Her research program focuses on engaging critically ill patients and family members in research and care beyond the bedside.

New Publications

1. Boncyk CS, Rengel KF, Pandharipande PP, Hughes CG. **In the ICU - delirium post cardiac arrest.** Curr Opin Crit Care. 2019 Jun;25(3):218-225. doi: 10.1097/MCC.0000000000000615.
2. Schulman-Green D, Schmitt EM, Fong TG, Vasunilashorn SM, Gallagher J, Marcantonio ER, Brown CH 4th, Clark D, Flaherty JH, Gleason A, Gordon S, Kolanowski AM, Neufeld KJ, O'Connor M, Pisani MA, Robinson TN, Verghese J, Wald HL, Jones RN, Inouye SK; BASIL Study Group. **Use of an expert panel to identify domains and indicators of delirium severity.** Qual Life Res. 2019 May 17. doi: 10.1007/s11136-019-02201-0. [Epub ahead of print]
3. Ariba Khan, MD, MPH , Olga Boukrina, PhD, Mooyeon Oh-Park, MD, MS, Nina A Flanagan, PhD, GNP, Maharaj Singh, PhD, Mark Oldham, MD. **Preventing delirium takes a village: systematic review and meta-analysis of delirium preventive models of care.** Published online first May 10, 2019. doi: 10.12788/jhm.3212
4. Krewulak KD, Sept BG, Stelfox HT, Ely EW, Davidson JE, Ismail Z, Fiest KM. **Feasibility and acceptability of family administration of delirium detection tools in the intensive care unit: a patient-oriented pilot study.** CMAJ Open. 2019 Apr 26;7(2):E294-E299. doi: 10.9778/cmajo.20180123. Print 2019 Apr-Jun.

- training and standardisation.** BMC Geriatr. 2019 Apr 15;19(1):107. doi: 10.1186/s12877-019-1129-8.
6. Schmitt EM, Gallagher J, Albuquerque A, Tabloski P, Lee HJ, Gleason L, Weiner LS, Marcantonio ER, Jones RN, Inouye SK, Schulman-Green, D. **Perspectives on the Delirium Experience and Its Burden: Common Themes Among Older Patients, Their Family Caregivers, and Nurses.** Gerontologist. 2019 Mar 14;59(2):327-337. doi: 10.1093/geront/gnx153.
7. Hshieh TT, Fong TG, Schmitt EM, Marcantonio ER, D'Aquila ML, Gallagher J, Xu G, Guo YR, Abrantes TF, Bertrand SE, Jones RN, Inouye SK; for the BASIL Study Group. **The Better Assessment of Illness Study for Delirium Severity: Study Design, Procedures, and Cohort Description.** Gerontology. 2019;65(1):20-29. doi: 10.1159/000490386. Epub 2018 Jul 20.



Join NIDUS!

We encourage your mentees and colleagues to [sign up](#) and become a NIDUS member or just to receive our [announcements/newsletter](#).

For more information on NIDUS, please visit our [website](#).

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About NIDUS

NIDUS is a collaborative research network dedicated to spurring innovation and new advances in delirium research through development of new research and

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Health/National Institute on Aging (grant no. R24AG054259).

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