

Mentorship Spotlight



NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND
CLINICAL & TRANSLATIONAL
RESEARCH NETWORK



Aaron Brown, PhD

Mentee

Background

- PhD in Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology
- Faculty Scientist at Maine Medical Center Research Institute
- Molecular Phenotyping and Flow Cytometry Core Director, Maine Medical Center Research Institute

"It's opened up a lot of doors for me in areas of research that I wouldn't have [thought] to even do because he has contacts that allow me to [meet] with other clinicians at the hospital. He's done a lot of work to support this whole idea of translational research."

NNE-CTR Participation

- Use of Research Design Core for designing human clinical research studies such as assisting with writing IRB protocols for human studies with patient samples
- Participates in clinical research group created by Professional Development Core

Mentee Experience

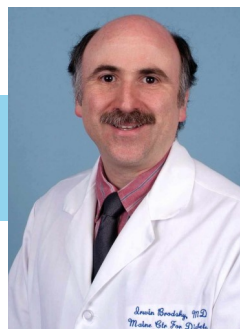
- Receives guidance and advice on clinical, translational, and human studies research project ideas and process
- Learns about recent developments in the clinical field to frame research
- Facilitates access to human samples for research to identify molecular determinants for diabetes and obesity

Value of Mentorship

"[I] learn a lot by talking to him about what's going on in the field. And it actually works both ways because he gets to find out what's going on in the research world. You gain a different perspective. That's what I get from him really. Somebody that's more on the front lines. You can't ask the mice how they're doing. But you can ask a patient, a human patient, and that's his experience."

Learn more

The NNE-CTR Network leverages and coordinates regional resources to conduct collaborative clinical and translation research and disseminate findings to improve both health and healthcare delivery in our region. To learn more or join the NNE-CTR Network, visit: <http://nne-ctr.net/>
This work is supported by the NIH CTR grant (NNE-CTR): U54GM115516



Irwin Brodsky, MD

Mentor

Background

- Board Certified in Endocrinology, Diabetes, & Metabolism
- Professional Development Core Co-Leader, Northern New England Clinical & Translational Research Network

"Working with Aaron has given me perspective on how clinicians can provide benefit to the basic scientists. It has opened my eyes that providing these connections is [crucial] and [I hope that] through those contacts it will bear fruit at some point in [moving forward] human disease research."

NNE-CTR Participation

- Maine Co-Director, NNE-CTR Professional Development Core
- Serves as a liaison among MMC clinicians, the NNE-CTR, and other CTSA research networks, like the Trial Innovation Network
- Serves as clinical mentor for NNE-CTR and COBRE grants

Mentor Contributions

- Provide guidance on the clinical context of research theories and findings
- Serves as a liaison to connect mentee with other clinicians who can forward other lines of research investigation that involve human tissue and human disease

Value of Mentorship

"I've been able to take on some large-scale clinical trial work, and then when the NNE-CTR asked if I would serve the clinical liaison role and clinician professional development role, it has allowed me to have more time available to get back into scholarly work. That's been great."