



Deborah Hirtz, MD
Mentor

"I am happy to see [clinicians] able to carry out research. I spent my career trying to get clinical research accomplished in my field. Anything I can do now at UVM to keep that going ... is satisfying to me."

Background

- Pediatric Neurologist
- Past Program Officer at National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke & Clinical trials expert
- Professor of Neurological Sciences and Pediatrics at the Larner College of Medicine
- Member of the multi-site, cross-state, research project on sleep disturbances in newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome

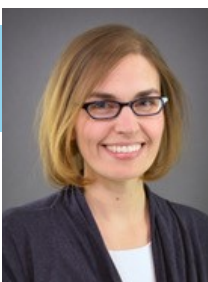


Deirdre O'Reilly, MD MPH
Mid-Career Mentee & Mentor

"I think [our mentoring relationship] has been fundamental to my success as a researcher, primarily because she has such an established track record of successful funding and experience with NIH."

Background

- Neonatologist
- Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Neonatology, Larner College of Medicine, University of Vermont
- Director, Perinatal-Neonatal Medicine Fellowship Program
- PI of multi-site, cross-state, research project on sleep disturbances in newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome



Adrienne Pahl, MD
Early-Career Mentee

"The most valuable thing overall is that both Dr. O'Reilly and Dr. Hirtz are deeply engaged in this project, and I think their engagement makes the project better and it makes my experience as a mentee better."

Background

- 2nd year Fellow in Perinatal Neonatal Fellowship Program at the University of Vermont Children's Hospital
- Clinical Instructor, Department of Pediatrics, Larner College of Medicine
- Member of the multi-site, cross-state, research project on sleep disturbances in newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome

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

NNE-CTR Participation

- Mentored a successful pilot project funded in 2019
- Used Research Design Core and Office of Clinical Research

Mentor Contribution

- Attends and advises during research meetings
- Edits protocols with knowledge of NIH grants
- Connects research team with national sleep experts

Value of Mentorship

"I always recommend including a biostatistician as we are developing the protocol. It is absolutely critical."

"The Office of Clinical Research is really important for supporting investigators initiating ideas for clinical trials and clinical studies. It is very useful."

NNE-CTR Participation

- Pilot Project award recipient 2019
- Used Research Design Core for proposal development
- Collaborates with NNE-CTR members at Maine Medical Center

Mentee Experience

- Able to work with mentor to modify grant proposal to be the most fundable and best way to approach the research
- Team meetings with Drs. Hirtz and Pahl and the team keep this multi-site project moving forward through regulatory challenges

Value of Mentorship

"I worked for years to establish funding for research I was interested in in neonatal neurology but it is incredibly difficult and competitive. To have someone with her degree of experience is essential to the success of our project."

NNE-CTR Participation

- Invited to join the NNE-CTR by her mentors, Drs. Hirtz and O'Reilly

Mentee Experience

"When Dr. Hirtz came to me with this project idea, I asked Dr. O'Reilly if she would mentor me. She accepted and has been very engaged in the project and an excellent mentor ... it's been such an amazing experience."

Value of Mentorship

- With different areas of research interest, Drs. Pahl and O'Reilly introduce each other to new ideas to explore together