

Division of Law, Ethics and Psychiatry

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Overview

The Law, Ethics and Psychiatry Division undertakes education and research on issues related to the impact of law and ethics on psychiatry and medicine more broadly, and on the role of psychiatry in the legal and correctional systems. Division faculty are involved in the training of medical students, residents in psychiatry and other specialties, fellows in forensic psychiatry, clinical and research fellows in other areas of psychiatry, law students, graduate students, research staff, faculty members, and the general public. Research efforts currently focus on ethical, legal and social implications of neuropsychiatric and behavioral genetics; prediction and management of violent behavior; empirical studies of research ethics, including informed consent, competence, and therapeutic misconception; and issues related to the forensic system. The Division is home to the Center for Research on Ethical, Legal and Social Implications of Psychiatric, Neurologic, and Behavioral Genetics, which is undertaking studies of use of genetic testing, informed consent for the return of genomic research data, impact of genomic test results on research subjects, and use of behavioral genetic data in the criminal justice system. Faculty members in the Division consult to the NYS Office of Mental Health on issues related to law and psychiatry.

Current Research

The division's current research focuses on the ethics of research with human subjects, the ethics of medical practice, ethical/legal/social issues stemming from advances in genetics, and issues related to the management of persons with disorders of sexual behavior. **Dr. Appelbaum** is involved in funded projects examining the link between mental disorder and risk of firearm violence, and the effect of laws that limit access to guns for persons with mental illness; use of behavioral genetic data in the courts; informed consent to return of genomic data to research subjects; the consequences of returning genomic data to research subjects; and participant understanding of research participation. He leads a NHGRI-funded center for research on ethical, legal, and social implications of psychiatric, neurologic and behavioral genetics. **Dr. Fischbach** is conducting a funded study of the implications of autism genetic research and autism-related social stigma. She is also funded to develop both an undergraduate course and a web-based distance-learning course on stem cell research that focuses on the biology, applications, and ethics of stem cell research. **Dr. Klitzman** is funded to examine the use of genetic testing among medical specialists; IRB decision-making about threats to the integrity of research; consequences of return of genomic data to

research subjects. **Dr. Krueger** is studying the effects of GNRH agonists on paraphilic and hypersexual behavior; hypersexual behavior among persons who abuse stimulants; the characteristics of patients arrested or investigated for charges involving internet crimes against children; and internet-based evaluation of persons with atypical sexual behaviors.

Education and Training

The Division runs state-funded fellowship programs in Forensic Psychiatry (2 positions/year) and Forensic Psychiatry Research (1 position/year). Faculty also participate actively in training NYSPI residents and fellows, including child psychiatry, public psychiatry, HIV, and research fellows; educating Columbia medical, graduate, and law students; and providing education for faculty and staff in research ethics and health law, through collaborations with the Center for Bioethics (Dr. Fischbach is the director), the Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (Dr. Appelbaum is director of the Ethics Resource), the HIV Center at NYSPI (Drs. Klitzman and Appelbaum are members of the Public Health Practice and Policy Core), and the Columbia Law School (Dr. Appelbaum). Dr. Klitzman directs the Master's in Bioethics program through the School of Continuing Education, which admitted its inaugural class in Sept. 2010. He is course director for the courses on Research Ethics and Global Bioethics. Dr. Fischbach directs a Bioethics Elective Course for 4th year medical students, is co-director of courses on Bioethics for Biomedical Engineers and Topics in Biology - Crossroads in Bioethics (for undergraduates), and is Core faculty for the NYS-supported undergraduate course – Stem Cell Research: Biology, Ethics, and Applications. Dr. Appelbaum teaches Columbia Law School seminars on Genetics and the Law and on Mental Health Law.

Honors and Awards

Dr. Appelbaum

- Chair, Committee on Judicial Action, American Psychiatric Association
- Member, DSM Summit Group, American Psychiatric Association
- Member, Standing Committee on Ethics, World Psychiatric Association
- Member, Committee on Neuroscience and the Criminal Law, Research Network on Law and Neuroscience, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- Co-Chair, Workgroup on Informed Consent and Governance, Return of Results Consortium, National Human Genome Research Institute
- Distinguished Life Fellow, American Psychiatric Association
- Principal Investigator, Center for Ethical, Legal and Social Implications of Psychiatric, Neurologic & Behavioral Genetics (NHGRI)

Dr. Hoge

- Editorial Board, Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law

- Councilor, American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law
- Work Group Advisor, APA Task Force on DSM-V: Substance Abuse Work Group

Dr. Klitzman

- John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship
- Member, Research Ethics Advisory Panel, US Army, Dept. of Defense
- Member, NYS Stem Cell Commission
- Member, Ethics Working Group, HIV Prevention Trials Network
- Member, NY Academy of Medicine
- Principal Investigator, Views of IRBs toward HIV Prevention Trials Research.
(HIV Prevention Trials Network)

Dr. Krueger

- Member, Paraphilias SubWorkGroup, Sexual Disorders Workgroup of the DSM5, American Psychiatric Association
- Member, Sexual Health and Disorders Committee, World Health Organization

Dr. Fischbach

- Member-at-Large, Section on Societal Impacts of Science & Engineering, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Medical Advisory Board, Gold Foundation
- Board member, Global and Regional Asperger Syndrome Partnership

Publications (Selected)

- **Appelbaum PS**, Anatchkova M, Albert K, Dunn LB, Lidz CW. Therapeutic misconception in research subjects: development and validation of a measure. *Clinical Trials* 2012;9:748-761.
- **Hoge SK, Appelbaum PS**: Ethics and neuropsychiatric genetics: a review of major issues. *International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology* 2012;15(10):1547-1557.
- **Krueger RB**, Kaplan MS: Paraphilic diagnoses in DSM-5: *The Israeli Journal of Psychiatry and Related Sciences* 2012;49(4):248-254.
- **Klitzman R**. Institutional review board community members: Who are they, what do they do, and whom do they represent? *Academic Medicine*, 87(7):975-981.
- Keehn J, Holwell E, Abdul-Karim R, Chin LJ, Leu CS, Sauer MV, **Klitzman R**. Recruiting egg donors online: An analysis of in vitro fertilization clinic and agency

websites' adherence to American Society for Reproductive Medicine guidelines. Fertility and Sterility, 2012 Jul 27 [Epub ahead of print].

Divisional Highlights

- Awarded a 5-year Center grant from the National Human Genome Research Institute for a Center for the Study of Ethical, Legal, & Social Implications of Psychiatric, Neurologic, & Behavioral Genetics (Dr. Appelbaum, PI)
- Testimony to the Biden Task Force on Gun Violence on behalf of the American Psychiatric Association (Dr. Appelbaum)
- Invited Lecturer, Institute on Psychiatric Services of the American Psychiatric Association (Dr. Appelbaum)
- John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship (Dr. Klitzman)
- Bioethics On-Line Certificate program developed and set to go live during Fall 2013 semester (Dr. Klitzman)