

The goal of the Program for AIDS Clinical Research Training (PACRT) is to provide broad training in quantitative research methodologies and closely supervised research experience to both infectious disease and other physicians at an early stage in their careers, as well as to pre-doctoral PhD students with a focus on HIV clinical research. This training will prepare both groups to conduct clinical research of direct relevance to the prevention and treatment of HIV infection, and it will prepare them for the next phase of development as independent investigators using the mechanism of the K01, K08, K23, and K25 awards. This training program has the following three specific aims:

1) Acquisition of a sufficient body of knowledge of quantitative methods to permit trainees to conduct independent research in one or more of the following areas: clinical epidemiology, biostatistics, clinical trials, decision sciences and outcomes research, and clinical virology or clinical immunology. This aim will be accomplished through pursuit of a core of didactic coursework at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

2) Development of a primary area of research expertise and focus for the trainee. This aim will be accomplished by a minimum of two years of direct research experience under the close supervision of one or more PACRT faculty mentors. Progress will be monitored by both the faculty mentor and the PACRT Steering Committee.

3) Acquisition of broad understanding of the various aspects of HIV infection in order to permit the trainee to engage in novel interdisciplinary research. This aim will be accomplished through attendance at regular seminars and meetings of direct relevance to HIV research. These meetings include: a weekly HIV Clinical Conference at Massachusetts General Hospital; a weekly journal club in the Infectious Disease Division at the Brigham & Women's Hospital; a weekly journal club in the Infectious Disease Division at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; a twice monthly HIV Clinical Research-In-Progress meeting based at the Massachusetts General and Brigham & Women's Hospitals, and monthly HIV research meetings at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

Trainees in past years have represented the breadth of institutions that make up this training grant, including the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, the Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston Children's Hospital, and the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. They have carried out research on HIV disease both in the US and internationally. All trainees have had opportunities to present their work to fellow trainees, as well as to more senior faculty at one or more of the conferences described above. The majority has continued on to NIH K Awards and careers in investigation.

To see list of mentors, [click here](#).