



Methods in Clinical Urology Research (MCURe) Workshop

Call for Nominations

Nominations Due: May 24, 2021

The American Urological Association (AUA) Office of Research is now accepting nominations for **investigators seeking success in clinical urology research** to attend the 2021 **AUA Methods in Clinical Urology Research (MCURe) Workshop**. This new and impactful workshop, building on the AUA’s successful track record in urologic research education, will be held on **July 25-27, 2021**. Due to ongoing uncertainties for travel during the COVID-19 pandemic, this educational event will be held virtually, with plans to convene the event in future years at the AUA Headquarters in Linthicum, Maryland.

The goal of the MCURe Workshop is to provide urology surgeon-scientists and urologic researchers with knowledge, insights, mentoring, and networking toward becoming active members and eventually leaders in clinical urology research, including, but not limited to, urology clinical trials across the spectrum of oncologic and benign urologic diseases and conditions. This 3-day, virtual workshop and its activities are geared for individuals in two tracks: 1) those planning to initiate clinical studies as PIs or site investigators within the next 6-12 months, and 2) those who are 18-24 months or more from initiating a clinical study as a PI or site investigator.

CURRICULUM

The workshop and full program content will develop or build on existing skills in the design and implementation of clinical urology research. The program consists of the following:

- Pre-workshop (available starting June 25, 2021)
 - Online educational modules and mentoring (asynchronous)
- Post-workshop
 - Additional mentoring
- Workshop (July 25-27, 2021) (Live Virtual)
 - Didactic Instruction
 - Individual and Small Group Protocol Review and Critiques with Senior Scientific Advisors
 - Protocol Review/Revision

COST

Registration fees, according to the below fee schedule, will be paid after nominee reviews have been completed and participants have been selected to attend the workshop.

	AUA Member	AUA Non-member
Active and Associate	\$375	\$475
Resident/Fellow	\$245	\$245 (plus \$115 for one-year AUA membership if selected)
Advanced Practice Provider	\$325	\$325 (plus \$191 for one-year AUA membership if selected)
Research Scientist	\$295	\$295 (plus \$191 for one-year AUA membership if selected)

ELIGIBILITY

All nominees must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Urologists in fellowships or in their first five years in academic or community-based practice are encouraged to participate in this program. Residents and mid-career urologists may also be considered. In addition, urology researchers in academic urology departments or working in community-based urology research are also encouraged to consider this opportunity.



- Familiarity (baseline knowledge) with the basic concepts and techniques of statistics and study design.
- In, or plan to enter, a career track that will ultimately permit them to be clinical trial principal investigators or site investigators.

Early vs. Advanced Protocol Development Tracks: A dual-track training program has been incorporated into the workshop to provide the best possible training experience. All nominees, if selected to participate in the MCURE Workshop, will be assigned to one of the following participant groups:

- **Early Protocol Development Group:** faculty, clinical fellows, postdoctoral fellows, and residents who require training in clinical research design and implementation but will not serve as the principal investigator (PI) or co-PI of a clinical research study or clinical trial until 18-14 months or more after the workshop. Mentorship meetings will take place in virtual small-group sessions.
- **Advanced Protocol Development Group:** investigators preparing to initiate a clinical research study or clinical trial as the principal investigator (PI) or co-PI within an academic or private practice or department within 6-12 months after the workshop. Mentorship meetings will take place in virtual one:one sessions.

NOMINATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE

- ✓ All nominations must be submitted by the urology department of any institution within the boundaries of the eight sections of the AUA.
- ✓ Each department may nominate a maximum of three individuals.
- ✓ Nomination packages must be emailed to JGumminger@auanet.org **by or before Monday, May 24, 2021**. Late submissions will not be considered.
- ✓ All nominees must submit application documents in the following order, combined into a single PDF file saved as: "Lastname.FirstInitial_2021MCURE.pdf" (For example: Doe.J_2021MCURE.pdf):
 1. Nominee Information Form with all necessary signatures (can be downloaded at <https://www.auanet.org/research/research-education-and-events/methods-in-clinical-urology-research-workshop>)
 2. Nominee's curriculum vitae or NIH-formatted biosketch
 3. Statement of Interest (1-2 pages) that includes:
 - a. Why the nominee wishes to participate in the MCURE Workshop (**include career goals and 2-3 goals focused on what you want to get out of the MCURE workshop and/or mentoring**)
 - b. A list of previous coursework or experience that is relevant to the conduct of clinical research
 4. Letter of Support (1-2 pages) from the nominee's urology department chair or mentor detailing the research environment, institutional support, commitment to the nominee's research and career development, and reasons why the nominee should be selected.
 5. (**ADVANCED Protocol Development Group only**) A description (4-page limit), including purpose, objectives, general design, preliminary inclusion/exclusion expectations, intended treatment/observation, anticipated assessments of the clinical study of interest that does not have an existing written protocol.

CRITERIA FOR REVIEW OF NOMINATIONS

- Nominee
 - To what degree the nominee's achievements indicate high potential for success as a clinical urology researcher.
 - To what degree the nominee's stated career goals indicate strong commitment to pursuing clinical urology research throughout their career.



- Letter of Support
 - To what degree the letter indicates high potential of the nominee for success as a clinical urology researcher.
- Proposed Research
 - (*All nominees*): To what degree the project will ultimately address an important problem or critical barrier to progress in urology clinical care.
 - (*Advanced Protocol Development Group nominees only*)
 - To what degree the nominee is well suited to the project.
 - To what degree the project as developed thus far provides a strong foundation for a feasible and impactful clinical study or trial to be implemented within the next 6-12 months.
 - To what degree the environment in which the work will be conducted supports the probability of success.

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Nomination packages will be evaluated by the program faculty to determine program acceptance, group assignment, and wait list selections. All accepted MCURE participants will be assigned to either the *Early Protocol Development* or *Advanced Protocol Development* group. Group assignments are intended to ensure educational needs match with programmatic content and activities. **Nominees will be notified of the selection decisions and group assignments via email no later than June 14, 2021.**

PREPARING FOR THE WORKSHOP

All workshop participants (Early and Advanced Protocol Development Groups) are expected to complete pre-workshop online educational modules. This component of the workshop will be asynchronous and can be completed in accordance with each participant's availability. Pre-workshop modules will be available starting June 25 and **must** be completed prior to the start of the workshop (July 25).

By **Friday, July 2, 2021**, each selected ***Advanced Protocol Development Group*** participant must submit a complete clinical protocol draft. The assigned mentor will review the draft and provide initial feedback in advance of the workshop. Participants are expected to be prepared to address the first round of faculty comments either prior to, or at the workshop. Advanced Group participants will meet with faculty advisors at the workshop in virtual one-on-one sessions for additional revision and improvement of the protocol. A key outcome of the workshop is that each Advanced Group participant will have a protocol that is in "near submission" condition.

By **Friday, July 9, 2021**, each selected ***Early Protocol Development Group*** participant must submit a Study Aims page draft (one page). The Study Aims page should include the background, hypothesis or question to be addressed, population to be included, and objectives of a study that the participant may wish to pursue in the future. Assigned faculty mentors will review Study Aims drafts and provide feedback and discussion in small group mentoring sessions during the live virtual workshop.

FACULTY SPEAKERS and MENTORS

Recruitment of faculty scientific advisors and speakers for 2021 is ongoing. Prospective faculty include the following:

- Cindy L. Amundsen, MD, *Duke University Medical Center*
- Melissa Assel, *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*
- Ralph V. Clayman, MD, *University of California Irvine*
- Philipp Dahm, MD, MHSC, *University of Minnesota*
- Scott E. Eggener, MD, *University of Chicago*
- Michael D. Fabrizio, MD, *Urology of Virginia*



- John Gore, MD, MS, *University of Washington*
- Christine Grady, MSN, PhD, RN, *National Institutes of Health*
- Steven Grambow, PhD, *Duke University Medical Center*
- Nader Halim, PhD, *Verana Health*
- Steven Kaplan, MD, *Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai*
- Mark S. Litwin, MD, MPH, *University of California Los Angeles*
- Viraj Master, MD, PhD, *Winship Cancer Institute*
- Aria F. Olumi, MD, *Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School*
- Elizabeth Plimack, MD, *Fox Chase Cancer Center*
- Sarah P. Psutka, MD, MS, *University of Washington*
- Matthew Roe, MD, MHS, *Verana Health*
- Claus Roerhborn, MD, *University of Texas Southwestern*
- Charles D. Scales Jr., MD, MSHS, *Duke University*
- Angela Smith, MD, MS, *University of North Carolina*
- Ian M. Thompson, Jr., MD, *Texas Urology Group*
- Ronald Tutrone, MD, *Chesapeake Urology*
- Willie Underwood, III, MD, MPH, MSc, *KAPS Biotechnology*
- Andrew Vickers, PhD, *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center*
- Hunter Wessells, MD, FACS, *University of Washington*
- Tian Zhang, MD, *Duke University*

ADDITIONAL FACULTY MENTORS

Will be recruited based on project areas of selected participants.

MCURe WORKSHOP TIMELINE

The following due dates should be considered when submitting your nomination package. Failure to meet confirmed deadlines may result in removal from the workshop.

<u>2021 Dates</u>	<u>Due</u>
May 24	Nomination packages submitted to JGumminger@auanet.org
June 14	Nominees notified of selection decisions via email
June 25	Pre-workshop educational sessions available online
July 2	<i>Advanced Protocol Development Group</i> participants submit draft protocol to JGumminger@auanet.org and assigned faculty mentor
July 3-25	<i>Advanced Protocol Development Group</i> participant and assigned faculty mentor communication
July 9	Early Protocol Development Group participant submit Study Aims page to JGumminger@auanet.org
July 25-27	MCURe Workshop

CONTACT INFORMATION

- ✓ All **nomination packages** should be emailed to: JGumminger@auanet.org
- ✓ All **questions** regarding the MCURe Program should be directed to: JGumminger@auanet.org