Centre for Mental Health
Child & Adolescent Mental Health Research Group
Imperial College London

Celebrating 10 years of Koplowitz Fellows
The Koplowitz Foundation has had a long-standing association with Imperial College London; Koplowitz Fellows have been coming to work with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Group for 10 years. In that time there have been 15 Fellows appointed, gaining wide-ranging experience and training in both clinical and research practice in child and adolescent mental health. Many have gained further qualifications and prizes; including PhD’s, teaching diplomas and research prizes from British and European organisations.

Imperial College London & CNWL NHS Trust

The Child & Adolescent Mental Health Research Group at Imperial College is one of the most active child and adolescent academic groups in the UK, and together with CNWL NHS Foundation Trust Westminster CAMHS provides a first-class research and clinical experience for our Koplowitz Fellows. The Fellowship provides clinical experience in a range of areas that can be tailored to meet the needs of each Fellow: Assessment, formulation and diagnosis; Psychotherapies; Psychopharmacology; Liaison work with paediatrics, social services and education; Neuropsychiatry; Psychosomatic disorders; Cultural child and adolescent psychiatry; Community psychiatry; and Forensic child and adolescent psychiatry.

The Fellowship incorporates structured academic training because Fellows join the Academic Programme with other trainee Child & Adolescent Psychiatrists in North West London. The weekly programme includes formal teaching on psychological therapies, a linked evidenced-based reading seminar, research methods workshops and case presentations.

Finally, research experience and training is provided by active researchers and is tailored to the knowledge and skills of the Fellow. Current active research areas include; parental and infant mental health, autism, adolescent mental health following sexual assault, child and adolescent depression and the overlap between physical and mental health. A range of methods are used including randomised controlled trials, longitudinal studies, detailed observational methods and biological and epigenetic research.

Fellows

Over the last 10 years 15 Fellowships have been hosted at Imperial College:

- Dr Isabel Hernandez Otero (2004 – 2006)
- Dr Victoria Fernandez (2005 – 2007)
- Dr Monica Ramirez (2007 – 2009)
- Dr Maria Picouto (2008 – 2010)
- Ms Elizabeth Sanchez Cao (2009 – 2011)
- Dr Mari Dominguez-Barrera (2010 – 2012)
- Dr Angels Mayordomo-Aranda (2010 – 2012)
- Dr Azul Forti Buratti (2011 – 2013)
- Dr Leticia Gutierrez-Galve (2012 – 2014)
- Dr Maria Martinez-Herves (2012 – 2014)
- Dr Marta Casanovas Espinar (2014 – 2016)
- Ms Fatima Valencia Agudo (2014 – 2016)
- Ms Elizabeth Sanchez Cao (2015 – 2017)
- Dr Marina Fabrega Ribera (2015 – 2017)
Where are they now?

Dr Marta Casanovas Espinar

Marta, a current Koplowitz Fellow, is working with Dr Tami Kramer on a Sexual Assault research study, analysing data that is currently being collected. Marta has completed 1-year clinical experience with Westminster CAMHS, and is now gaining experience at an in-patient Unit.

Dr Mari Dominguez-Barrera

Mari is in her final year of training as a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist on the St Mary’s Higher Training Scheme, and is an Honorary Clinical Lecturer at Imperial College. For the Koplowitz Foundation: in 2013 Mari was an expert scientific reviewer; in 2015 she was on the Scientific Committee for the Foundation’s 10th Annual Conference on C&A Psychiatry; and since 2014 Mari has been President of the Foundation’s Association of Child & Adolescent Mental Health Scientists.

Dr Marina Fabrega Ribera

Marina, a current Koplowitz Fellow, is working with Dr Paul Ramchandani & Dr Christine O’Farrelly on the early intervention randomised controlled trial using a video feedback parenting intervention. Her first year of clinical experience will be gained at Westminster CAMHS.

Dr Victoria Fernandez

Victoria completed her training as a child & adolescent psychiatrist in London and is now a Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist in the Deaf children, Young people and Family service Outreach team of the South West London & St George’s Mental Health Trust.
Dr Azul Forti Buratti

Azul returned to Spain after her Fellowship, & now works as a Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist in the out-patient department of the Fundacion Jimenez Diaz in Madrid.

Dr Leticia Gutierrez Galve

Leticia is completing her training as a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist holding a prestigious Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) with University College London.

Dr Isabel Hernandez Otero

Isabel returned to Spain in 2006 to take up a clinical post.

Dr Maria Martinez Herves

Maria is an ST4 doctor in child and adolescent psychiatry working for South West London & St Georges Mental Health Trust. She is a member of the Alicia Koplowitz Scientific Association.

Dr Angels Mayordomo-Aranda

Angels completed her training as a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist on the St Mary’s Higher Scheme in summer 2015, and is now a Locum Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist in the East London NHS Foundation Trust.
Dr Maria (Lola) Picouto

Lola returned to Spain & is now a Consultant Child Psychiatrist at the Saint Joan de Deu Hospital in Barcelona. Lola defended her PhD at the University of Alcala (Madrid) in 2013 which was based on the research she started during her Fellowship. For the Koplowitz Foundation: Lola is on the board of Directors of the Association of Child and Adolescent mental Health Scientists; in 2013 & 2014 she was on the committee evaluating the Research Grant applications.

Dr Monica Ramirez

Monica completed her training as a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist in London, and is now a Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist in Westminster CAMHS.

Ms Elizabeth Sanchez Cao

Elizabeth returned to Spain with the aim to continue clinical practice.

Ms Fatima Valenica Agudo

Fatima, a current Koplowitz Fellow, is also working with Dr Tami Kramer on the Sexual Assault research study, while also being trained as an intervener for an early intervention randomised controlled trial using a video feedback parenting intervention. Fatima has completed 1-year clinical experience with Westminster CAMHS, and is now gaining experience at another CAMSH Unit within London.
Dr Mar Vila

Mar completed her training as a child & adolescent psychiatrist in London, and has defended her PhD at the University of Barcelona in 2014 which was based on the research she started during her Fellowship. She is now a Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist at the day hospital for adolescents at the Hospital Saint Joan de Deu in Barcelona.

Dr Laia Villalta Macia

Having completed her 2-yr Fellowship in Aug 2015, Laia was awarded a 6-month grant by the Fundacion Alicia Koplowitz enabling her to stay in London & continue working on the research started during her fellowship, with the aim to register for a PhD in Spain.

Prizes & Awards won by Fellows

Dr Mari Dominguez-Barrera won the ‘Imperial College Rees Rawlings Post Graduate Certificate on Learning & Teaching’ Prize in December 2012.

Dr Leticia Gutierrez-Galve won the Association for Child & Adolescent Mental Health Poster prize in March 2013 for her poster entitled ‘Mediators & moderators of the association between paternal depression in the postnatal period and child development’.

Dr Maria Martinez-Herves won the 1st Prize in the Poster Competition at the XXIII Meeting of the Galician Association of Psychiatry in June 2013, for her poster entitled ‘Patterns of ICT use and its association with cyberbullying in a sample of secondary school students in the UK’.

Dr Mari Dominguez-Barrera was awarded the European Psychiatric Association Research Prize in the ‘Child and Adolescent Psychiatry’ category for the best scientific paper published in 2013.

Dr Angels Mayordomo-Aranda won the Imperial College Post Graduate Diploma Prize for the best Dissertation in 2014.

Dr Maria Martinez-Herves won the prize for best research presentation at the Royal College of Psychiatrists Child & Adolescent Faculty Meeting in 2014.
Publications from Fellowship projects


Key staff facilitating the Fellowship

Dr Paul Ramchandani - Fellowship Programme Director & Head of the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Research Group
Paul is Reader in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Imperial College, London, and a Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist in the NHS with CNWL NHS Foundation Trust. His research is focused on the prevention of mental health problems in infancy and childhood. His team use a variety of methods to investigate this area including the development and testing of clinical interventions, population epidemiology, and detailed observational studies of parent-child interaction and the biology of the stress response system.

Dr Sharon Taylor - Clinical Supervisor & Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist
Dr Sharon Taylor is a consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist with a specific expertise in paediatric liaison psychiatry. Prior to training as a child psychiatrist, Sharon completed qualifications in paediatrics. Dr Taylor has also completed training in family therapy at the Tavistock Clinic, and post graduate training in education. She has a number of educational roles, including Joint Trainee Programme director for higher trainees pursuing a career in child psychiatry. She is also an educational supervisor for specialist trainees, and personal tutor for medical students at the Imperial College School of medicine.

Dr Tami Kramer – Research Supervisor, Senior Clinical Research Fellow & Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist
Tami is a Senior Clinical Research Fellow at Imperial College, & a Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist with CNWL NHS Trust. She is interested in research on the development of evidence based mental health service provision within specialist and non specialist settings. Her current research projects encompass (i) a prospective study of the mental health outcomes for young people attending sexual assault centres in London; & (ii) on-going development of an intervention for adolescent depression within primary health care. Clinically, Tami has specific expertise in forensic case consultation (including leadership of mental health input to a multiagency programme for young people in gangs). She also jointly chairs a skills development Link programme between CNWL NHS Trust and Mirembe Hospital in Tanzania.
Dr Matthew Hodes – Senior Lecturer and Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist

Matthew Hodes is an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Imperial College London, and a Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry with CNWL NHS Foundation Trust. He carries out mental health service research with young people in two main areas:

1. **The interface between physical and mental health**: Studying adolescent eating disorders, and the association between diseases such as epilepsy and sickle cell disease and child adjustment. Recently he has studied maternal and child anxiety associated with child food allergy.

2. **Sociocultural and migration influences on child and adolescent mental health & service contact**: Studying risk & protective factors of psychopathology & service use amongst young refugees.

He is active in teaching C&A psychiatry at Imperial College, & plays a leading role overseeing the delivery of Higher Training across London. He is Lead service provider for young people with eating disorders.

Prof Emeritus Elena Garralda – Honorary Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist

Elena Garralda is Emeritus Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Imperial College London and Honorary Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist with CNWL Foundation Trust in London, UK. Her research interests include the interface of physical and mental health and psychotic symptoms in children and adolescents. She is involved in national and international projects to help promote and disseminate attention to child and adolescent mental health problems.

Nicole Hickey – Administrator for the Centre for Mental Health

Nicole has been the administrator for the Child & Adolescent MH group for nearly 10yrs; organising the contracts for new Fellows, helping them settle into London and inducting them to Imperial College and the Fellowship we host.

Nicole also has 20-yrs experience of mental health research, with a particular focus on forensic mental health, which is put to use helping new Fellows learn statistical analysis & develop research skills.