



## Recent Publications from NORCH Investigators

**Genetic Screen for Cell Fitness in High or Low Oxygen Highlights Mitochondrial and Lipid Metabolism.** Jain IH, Calvo SE, Markhard AL, Skinner OS, To TL, Ast T, Mootha VK. Cell. 2020 Apr 6. pii: S0092-8674(20)30321-4. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2020.03.029. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: [32259488](#).

**Intestinal alkaline phosphatase targets the gut barrier to prevent aging.** Kühn F, Adiliaghdam F, Cavallaro PM, Hamarneh SR, Tsurumi A, Hoda RS, Munoz AR, Dhole Y, Ramirez JM, Liu E, Vasani R, Liu Y, Samarbafzadeh E, Nunez RA, Farber MZ, Chopra V, Malo MS, Rahme LG, **Hodin RA**. JCI Insight. 2020 Mar 26;5(6). pii: 134049. doi: 10.1172/jci.insight.134049. PMID: [32213701](#).

**Maternal experiences of racial discrimination and offspring sleep in the first 2 years of life: Project Viva cohort, Massachusetts, USA (1999-2002).** Powell CA, Rifas-Shiman SL, **Oken E**, Krieger N, Rich-Edwards JW, Redline S, Taveras EM. Sleep Health. 2020 Apr 21. pii: S2352-7218(20)30067-X. doi: 10.1016/j.sleh.2020.02.002. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: [32331867](#).

**Fecal microbiota transplantation for the improvement of metabolism in obesity: The FMT-TRIM double-blind placebo-controlled pilot trial.** Yu EW, Gao L, Stastka P, Cheney MC, Mahabamunuge J, Torres Soto M, Ford CB, Bryant JA, Henn MR, **Hohmann EL**. PLoS Med. 2020 Mar 9;17(3):e1003051. doi: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1003051. eCollection 2020 Mar. PMID: [32150549](#).

**Comprehensive genomic analysis of dietary habits in UK Biobank identifies hundreds of genetic associations.** Cole JB, **Florez JC**, **Hirschhorn JN**. Nat Commun. 2020 Mar 19;11(1):1467. doi: 10.1038/s41467-020-15193-0. PMID: [32193382](#).

**Comparison of Short and Long-Term Outcomes of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery in Adolescents and Adults.** **Stanford FC**, Mushannen T, Cortez P, Campoverde Reyes KJ, Lee H, Gee DW, Pratt JS, Boepple PA, **Bredella MA**, **Misra M**, **Singhal V**. Front Endocrinol (Lausanne). 2020 Mar 24;11:157. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2020.00157. eCollection 2020. PMID: [32265846](#).

**Differential Plasma Protein Regulation and Statin Effects in HIV-infected and Non-HIV-infected Patients Utilizing a Proteomics Approach Protein Regulation and Statin Effects in HIV.** deFilippi C, **Toribio M**, Wong LP, **Sadreyev R**, Grundberg I, Fitch KV, Zanni MV, Lo J, Sponseller CA, Sprecher E, Rashidi N, Thompson MA, Cagliero D, Aberg JA, Braun LR, **Stanley TL**, **Lee H**, **Grinspoon SK**. J Infect Dis. 2020 Apr 20. pii: jiaa196. doi: 10.1093/infdis/jiaa196. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: [32310273](#).

## NORCH Symposium:

21st Annual Harvard Nutrition and Obesity Symposium

### Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD): Mechanisms and Novel Therapeutics

June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**A LIVESTREAMED EVENT!**

**Speakers:**

George L. Blackburn Lecture: Sudha Biddinger, MD	Bernd Schnabl, MD	Mary Rinella, MD
Kathleen Corey, MD, MPH, MMSc	Miriam Vos, MD	Arun Sanyal, MD
Zobair Younossi, MD	Zobair Younossi, MD	Steven Grinspoon, MD
Elizabeth Spiliotes, MD, PhD, MPH	Manal Abdelmalek, MD, MPH	Jeffrey Schwimmer, MD
Jagpreet Chhatwal, PhD	Rohit Loomba, MD, MHSc	

**Presented by:**

## SYMPOSIUM NOW VIRTUAL!

Please register for the symposium on Eventbrite to ensure that the link to the virtual livestream will be emailed to you in the days leading up to the Symposium! The agenda is available on our website [here](#). We look forward to seeing you all virtually in June and hope that you stay safe!  
**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!**

## NORCH Highlight:

### **SEEKING NOMINATIONS FROM Current & Past P&F Awardees for OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD**

The Nutrition Obesity Research Center at Harvard is delighted to announce an Outstanding Mentor Award to be given to a faculty member who has provided meaningful sustained mentorship to young investigators in the fields of nutrition, obesity, and metabolism. All past and current NORCH P&F Awardees are eligible to nominate their mentor. Deadline August 3<sup>rd</sup>. For more information and the nomination form click [HERE!](#)

Have a comment, questions or suggestion? Email us at [HarvardNORC@mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:HarvardNORC@mgh.harvard.edu)



## Messages from NORCH Administration:

### Thank you from the NORCH!

We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during this unprecedented time. Thank you for everyone's continued clinical and research efforts, courage and compassion in the fight against COVID-19. There are no words that capture the remarkable resilience of healthcare workers everywhere. So, whether you are on the front lines, working on COVID in the lab, or working from home and physical distancing, we thank you!

### NORCH Cores are still here for you!

During this time, even though many of our Core services are unavailable due to COVID-19, our core leaders and administration are still available for consultation!

### SAVE THE DATE!

NORCH is happy to announce the date of our annual symposium for next year! Please mark your calendars for Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We will be announcing the topic at this year's NAFLD Symposium!

June 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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**Tuesday June 15th, 2021**

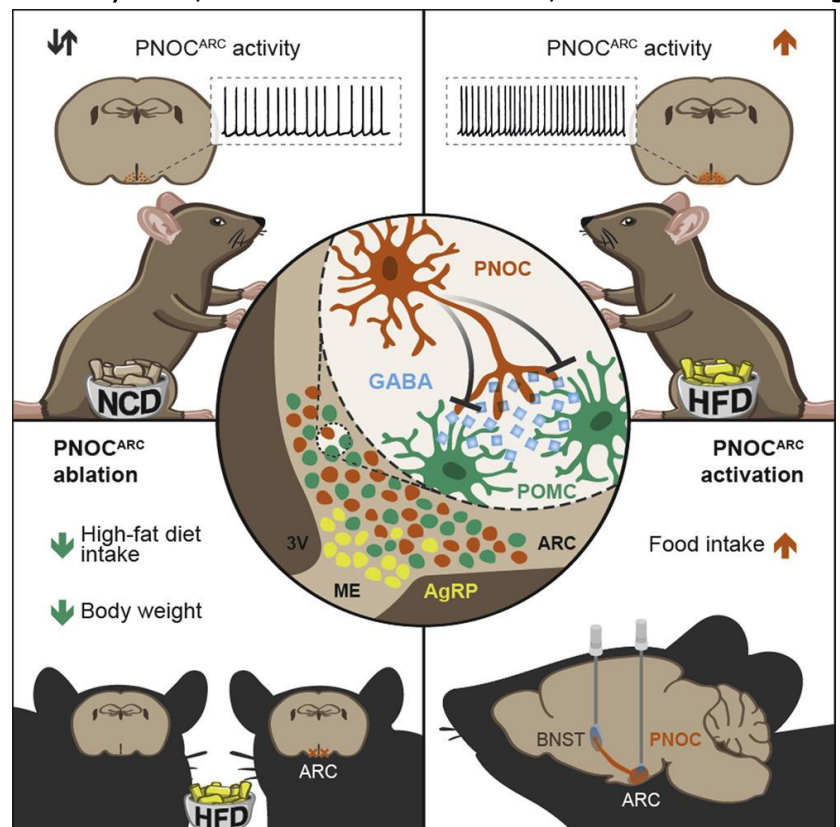
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HarvardNORC@mgh.harvard.edu



## Publication Spotlight

### **Featured: Novel Arcuate Nucleus Neurons, PNOC<sup>ARC</sup>, Promote Hyperphagia Upon Palatable Food Consumption**

Highly palatable diets are known to promote overeating, but the mechanisms underlying this effect remain unclear. A recent report in *Neuron* newly describes a population of prepronociceptin (PNOC)-expressing GABAergic neurons in the arcuate nucleus (PNOC<sup>ARC</sup>) that likely contribute to this effect. In mice, PNOC<sup>ARC</sup> neurons are activated upon high-fat diet (HFD) and inhibit neighboring anorexigenic POMC neurons (see graphical abstract below). Ablation of these neurons resulted in activation of POMC neurons with HFD, resulting in decreased feeding, as shown in the lower left corner. In contrast, when these neurons are intact and activated by HFD, food intake is increased, as shown on the right.



### **Citation:**

Jais et al., *Neuron*, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuron.2020.03.022>.

Figure used with permission under Creative Commons License. PMID: [32302532](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32302532/).



Our work as a Center is measured in part by the contributions we make to published science. Please cite the National Institutes of Health Grant P30 DK040561 in all publications that results from the use of NORC-H services or resources.

Have a comment, questions or suggestion? Email us at  
HarvardNORC@mgh.harvard.edu

Cite the grant! P30 DK040561



## The News from other NORC's

### [Nutrition Obesity Research Center @ LSU](#)

#### **Research Study: How has COVID-19 impacted you and your family?**

To qualify for this research study, participants should:

- Be 18 years or older
- Be able to access the survey via the internet

By volunteering for this survey, you will have the opportunity to see study results, which will be emailed to you once analyzed.

To complete the COVID-19 And You survey, [click here](#).

### [Nutrition Obesity Research Center @ Columbia](#)

#### **DeWitt Goodman Seminar Series**

Wednesday Series postponed until further notice. Please visit [here](#) for updated schedule.

### [The Obesity Society \(TOS\)](#)

Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC), 285 Andrew Young International Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30313

TOS ObesityWeek® Annual Meeting Scientific Sessions: Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### [UAB-Short Course on Strengthening Causal Inference in Behavioral Obesity Research!](#)

June 8 – June 12, 2020, Chicago, IL

Identifying causal relations among variables is fundamental to science. Obesity is a major problem for which much progress in understanding, treatment, and prevention remains to be made. Understanding which social and behavioral factors cause variations in adiposity is vital to producing, evaluating, and selecting intervention and prevention strategies. In addition, developing a greater understanding of obesity's causes requires input from diverse disciplines including statistics, economics, psychology, epidemiology, mathematics, philosophy, and behavioral or statistical genetics. However, applying techniques from these disciplines does not involve routine well-known 'cookbook' approaches. Rather, an understanding of the underlying principles is required so that the investigator can tailor approaches to specific and varying situations.

For full details of each of the courses, please refer to our websites:

[Strengthening Causal Inference in Behavioral Obesity Research](#)

Travel scholarships are available to selected early career investigators.

Women, members of underrepresented minority groups, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

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