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## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **POSITION:**

Executive Director  
MLH Center for Population Health Research at LIMR  
Lankenau Institute for Medical Research  
Main Line Health  
<http://www.mainlinehealth.org/>

Faculty Appointment  
Jefferson College of Population Health  
Thomas Jefferson University  
[www.jefferson.edu/university](http://www.jefferson.edu/university)

### **REPORTS TO:**

David B. Nash, MD, MBA  
Dean, College of Population Health  
Thomas Jefferson University  
<http://www.jefferson.edu/university/population-health.html>

### **LOCATION:**

Philadelphia, PA

## **MLH Center for Population Research at LIMR**

In a highly innovative and forward thinking collaboration, The Lankenau Institute for Medical Research (LIMR) at Main Line Health (MLH) is joining together with the Jefferson College of Population Health (JCPH) at Thomas Jefferson University to create a Research Center focused solely on population health research.



The MLH Center for Population Health Research at LIMR (Center) is a collaborative research effort based on a primary mission of advancing the health and well-being of the MLH patient community through impactful research studies of population health management and health outcomes assessment whose findings will be applicable both locally and nationally. The mission is further designed to complement and improve upon the delivery of clinical care at MLH and the Delaware Valley ACO; the basic science and clinical research activities of LIMR; and the academic objectives of TJU. Population Health research conducted at the Center will serve as a foundation for further improvements in the quality of health care delivery while also providing a framework for the strategic efforts of MLH and LIMR to proactively address the changes in care delivery and coordination paradigms – and the related changes in payment models – associated with full implementation of healthcare reform.

Development of the Center, under the leadership of the Executive Director, will allow for the recruitment of a talented research faculty into a uniquely positioned research center focused on important operational issues in population health, and on helping healthcare provider organizations (including PCMHs, ACOs and other integrated delivery networks) navigate the trajectory from traditional fee-for-service reimbursement (volume) to a value-based payment model. Together, LIMR and the Jefferson College of Population Health (JCPH) will actively engage the recently established Delaware Valley ACO in generating and implementing research findings that positively affect regional healthcare strategy and delivery.

#### The role of the Executive Director

This newly created position combines administrative and scientific responsibilities, including a faculty appointment at JCPH up to the rank of Professor, depending on academic credentials. The Executive Director will create, implement and lead a robust, strategically-based center focused on population health research which will directly impact, influence and inform the delivery of health care on a local, regional and national level.

Overseeing the Center - housed within LIMR at MLH - the Executive Director (ED) will report to the Dean of JCPH, with administrative accountabilities to the LIMR President & CEO on Center operations. The ED is further responsible for the overall development of the Center, including grants management, faculty recruitment and mentoring, and all other general administration of the Center.

In support of this initiative, the Executive Director will be provided with the resources to create, build, and implement the center including those required to recruit an Associate Director and other faculty, as well as the space to accommodate such growth. Administrative and other support staff will be provided as needed. In addition, MLH, and TJU through JCPH, will provide Center researchers with appropriate access to patient and population health data (in accordance

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with all applicable compliance and privacy regulations.) In order to meet the goal of creating a nationally visible research center focused on population health, JCPH will utilize its national conferences, peer-reviewed journals and other publications to leverage the promotion and visibility of the Center.

## Center Oversight and Leadership:

The Executive Director will function in a highly collaborative and inclusive style of leadership and will serve on, and work closely with the following advisory and oversight committees.

- *The Joint Oversight Committee (JOC)* will consist of senior leadership and representatives from MLH, LIMR, and JCPH working together to determine the Center's objectives and strategies, define research goals and project review processes, and in overseeing administrative operations and financial support.
- *The Research Integration Subcommittee* of the JOC will develop and manage the Center's research topics, priorities, goals, publications and grant submissions, and serve in part as a faculty search and faculty review committee.
- The *Community Advisory Council* will be organized by the Center Director, in collaboration with the JOC, consistent with the principals of community-based participatory research, to periodically review the research focus, goals, productivity and contributions of the Center and advise the JOC of its perspective.
- The *MLH Board Research and Education Subcommittee* will review progress reports on a regular basis with the ED.

## Research Focus and Funding:

Through the *Research Integration Subcommittee* of the *Joint Oversight Committee*, MLH and JCPH will select and develop specific research focus areas in the Center. While the Center's research agenda will remain responsive to faculty recruitment, funding, and other opportunities, it is expected to initially focus on population health research related to the goals of MLH and the Delaware Valley ACO. It is anticipated that the Center will produce traditional research outputs, including publications and competitive applications and proposals for external research funding, as well as recommendations for population health operational improvement approaches that can be implemented by MLH and the ACO. Through collaborative engagement of MLH and JCPH, research at the Center will make nationally relevant contributions to the ACO and regional healthcare delivery improvement.

As the Center moves from start-up to steady-state operation during the first few years of operation, it will develop and submit research proposals ranging in both size and target funding sources (including federal, state, and local government, as well as foundation and private funders). During the Center's initial years of operation, however, as it develops and submits external research proposals and awaits secured significant external research funding, research



will focus attention on several specific projects related to MLH. These specific projects will include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- Developing new program development opportunities that link MLH, ACO, and provider networks including those of TJU and its affiliates. Supporting and collaborating on publication opportunities for current MLH population initiatives and Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) implementation initiatives, and validating MLH's collection of relevant population demographic data
- Creating a systematic process for cataloguing relevant population demographic data across all MLH entities
- Developing an approach regarding how to leverage the new EMR to support population health and relevant population demographic data
- Developing a plan to optimize payor data to improve quality and eliminate disparities
- Evaluating current MLH programs and specific impact of health care disparities initiatives

#### Performance Measures

The Executive Director will work in conjunction with staff and leaders of MLH and JCPH in developing and producing semi-annual reports, such as those related to financial expenditures, recruitment, research funding (including proposals), and research outputs (publications, etc.), for presentation to the *Joint Oversight Committee*, the LIMR Board, the MLH Board Research and Education Subcommittee, and JCPH.

#### Requirements and qualifications of the Executive Director:

The successful candidate will have a proven ability to develop and implement a strategic and proactive vision for scientific excellence in alignment with the mission of the Center. S/he will possess the finesse and political acumen to execute such a vision in a highly collaborative and inclusive fashion that demonstrates integrity, intelligence, creativity, and accountability. The Executive Director must be able to both think at a big-picture level and to execute in a hands-on way, working closely with colleagues in a collegial, intellectually rigorous, learning-based culture that maintains a tangible commitment to mission.

The ideal candidate will have earned an MD and/or PhD in health services research, epidemiology, health policy, economics, or other related field. A proven track record of securing and leading externally supported research along with an equally robust record of peer-reviewed publications is expected. An ability and desire to work collaboratively with both internal and external colleagues is essential while experience in training and mentoring is preferred.



### **The Collaborating Institutions:**

#### **Lankenau Institute for Medical Research (LIMR)**

Founded in 1927, LIMR is one of the few freestanding hospital-associated research centers in the nation. Its mission is to advance human health and well-being through research to improve the detection and treatment of disease; the rapid transfer of new technology to the clinic; and the training of the next generation of scientists and physicians.

Located on the campus of Lankenau Medical Center, LIMR's faculty consists of 18 resident faculty supported by an 85-member staff who lead and assist in research focused on cancer, cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Total research funding at LIMR in 2014 was approximately \$15 million. Studies examine disease modifier genes, pioneering nanotechnology-based gene therapies, as well as new pharmacological agents to treat cancer; explore cardiovascular disease focused on hypertension and cardiac arrhythmias. The research also uses basic and preclinical findings to create new prognostic and therapeutic tools for clinical use. In addition to its research, LIMR also sponsors several educational initiatives that encourage both students and physicians to engage in research activities within our laboratories.

In planning for the new normal in the field of funded research (with limited NIH funding), LIMR researchers are actively engaged in moving scientific discoveries from bench to bedside through the creation of an exceptional environment where translational research has greater impact in both commercial and clinical settings.

LIMR's multidisciplinary approach exploits the synergies that develop whenever those with different expertise and experience work near each other; such is the case with LIMR's mixture of scientists, biomedical investigators, and clinical integration that is an integral part of the LIMR environment. This "bench to bedside" approach incorporates the two primary pillars of LIMR's biomedical research with two MLH clinical specialties - cardiovascular disease and cancer. These research initiatives are further enhanced by public health research strategies and clinical research support services conducted at MLH Hospitals through the Center for Clinical Cardiology, the Center for Clinical Cancer Research, and LIMR's Clinical Research Center. For more information visit <http://www.limr.org>.

#### **Jefferson College of Population Health (JCPH)**

Established in 2008, JCPH is a part of Thomas Jefferson University. It is the only College of its kind, providing graduate education in population health, public health, health policy, healthcare quality and safety, and applied health economics and outcomes research supported by evidence-based research, scholarship, and publications. The College offers a doctoral degree in population

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health sciences, a variety of master's degrees and graduate certificates, and dual degrees in combination with the Master of Public Health for appropriately qualified students both through on-site training and online.

JCPH's faculty, most of whom are thought leaders in their fields, engage in research and scholarly activities in various aspects of population health, including: healthcare quality and safety; health economics and health outcomes; public health; comparative effectiveness; and health services research, especially as it pertains to social determinants of health. Research administrative support is provided through the College's program directors, medical writers, statistical analysts, clinical research specialists, and data analysts.

Dedicated to exploring the policies and forces that define the health and well-being of populations, JCPH prepares leaders with the global vision to examine the social determinants of health and to evaluate, develop and implement health policies and systems that will improve the health of populations and thereby enhance the quality of life. For more information go to <http://www.jefferson.edu/university/population-health.html>

## Main Line Health (MLH)

Founded in 1985, MLH is a not-for-profit health system serving portions of Philadelphia and its western suburbs at four acute care hospitals, and four outpatient centers through a multispecialty physician network. MLH employs approximately 10,000 FTEs and 2,000 physicians who together provided clinical care to over one million outpatients and for more than 63,000 discharges in 2013.

MLH is the recipient of numerous awards for quality care and service, including System Magnet® designation, and is among the area's leaders in medicine, providing advanced patient-centered care, education and research. The system currently includes the following facilities and programs:

- Lankenau Medical Center - a 389-bed, not-for-profit teaching hospital
- Bryn Mawr Hospital - a 319-bed, not-for-profit hospital
- Paoli Hospital - 231-bed, not-for-profit acute care hospital and Level II Regional Trauma Center
- Riddle Hospital - a 204-bed not-for-profit, acute-care hospital
- Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital - a 148-bed, not-for-profit hospital
- Mirmont Treatment Center - a behavioral health facility
- LIMR - a freestanding hospital-associated research center
- A home care and hospice program.
- Main Line HealthCare - a multi-specialty physician network,
- And four outpatient health centers throughout suburban Philadelphia



For more information visit <http://www.mainlinehealth.org/>.

Thomas Jefferson University (TJU)

Founded in 1824 as the Jefferson Medical College, now the Sidney Kimmel Medical College, TJU also includes the Jefferson College of Biomedical Sciences, Jefferson College of Health Professions, Jefferson College of Nursing, Jefferson College of Pharmacy, and Jefferson College of Population Health.

Located on 13 acres in Center City, Philadelphia, TJU has an enrollment of more than 3,700 future healthcare professionals who receive exceptional education from 3,200 full and part-time faculty nationally and internationally recognized in their fields of expertise. Public and private funding of TJU research exceeds \$88 million annually, with more than 1,500 active research studies. Today, TJU, along with its clinical partner Jefferson University Hospitals, annually treats more than 46,000 inpatients and 1,000,000 outpatients.

For more information on TJU visit <http://www.jefferson.edu/university.html>.

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For more information about degree and certificate programs at JCPH visit <http://www.jefferson.edu/university/population-health/about.html>

**To explore this opportunity, or to apply, please contact:**

**Patricia Hastie, MSS**

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