

## **Deborah G. Morrison**

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### **Professional Summary**

If your organization is seeking a professional, organized, competent, team-oriented self-starter with experience in development, implementation, management and refinement of research programs and protocols, then you may be interested in speaking with me. I am highly capable of independent work, able to take direction, and can prioritize and manage complex projects from the design stages through to fruition and dissemination. I am a passionate, sincere and loyal team member and team leader. My experience across different types of research programs throughout my education and work history have given me a diverse set of abilities and knowledge, and I am able to train, manage, and monitor other team members in a very positive manner.

### **Education**

**M.A., Psychology, University of Maine, 2012** (3.64 GPA)

Thesis: *Strabismus risk in the opiate exposed infant*

Thesis Advisor: Marie Hayes, Ph.D.

**B.A., Psychology, University of Maine, 2010** (3.89 GPA)

### **Technical Competencies**

#### **Research Project Management**

- Identify, prioritize, and assign tasks simultaneously for multiple protocols.
- Develop, submit, and manage projects through IRBs.
- Track project progress and initiate status updates regularly.
- Creative barrier identification and problem-solving abilities.
- Develop, test and modify Standard Operating Procedures across project tasks.
- Recruit, train, assign and oversee student research assistant's work and activities.

#### **Assessments Administration**

- Administration of numerous psychometric measures and assessments including GPRA, SCL\_90, PHQ9, GAD7, WHO Quality of Life, ACE; BDI II; CESD-R; CHQ-9; KDQOL; MAST; PPVT; SCL-90R TWEAK: T-ACE, and many more.

- Assessed patients using computerized neurocognitive test (CNS Vital Signs).
- Assisted in acquisition of EEG using Event Related Potential in longitudinal studies of infant/toddler cognition and memory.
- Administration of structured and semi-structured interviews to 1,500-plus research participants.

### **Accrual and Retention**

- Over ten years' experience in direct recruitment and longitudinal retention of research participants. The diverse range of participants have included pregnant women, homeless adolescents, individuals at high-risk for legal involvement, substance abuse patients of all ages with and without comorbid mental health disorders, and varying levels of education and sociodemographic statuses.
- Compassionate and effective interactions with individuals experiencing issues of custody, parental competence, mental health problems, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, employment difficulties, legal issues, incarceration and custody problems.
- Experience with community-based recruitment of individuals to join academic research programs as advisors and team members.

### **Database Development and Information Evaluation**

- Developed and managed numerous multi-variable databases, accessed electronic medical records for extraction of data with procedures compliant with HIPAA regulations.
- Converted measures to functional data using excel and statistical software (SPSS-20 and JMP-9).
- Continuously conducted quality assurance and quality improvement practices across multiple studies and sub-studies.
- Proficiency in creation, management, and quality control oversight of large data sets using excel.
- Proficient in Microsoft Word suite including PowerPoint and presentations.

### **Regulatory Compliance**

- Responsible for all Institutional Review Board (IRB) materials of study for University of Florida, WIRB, Eastern Maine Medical Center and the University of Maine over several years.
- Responsible for ethics compliance of all members of study team members (over 15 individuals at Maine lab, and over 30 students at UF) including human subjects (CITI) training compliance, IRB training compliance, and ongoing research participant confidentiality measures and adherence.

- Longitudinal program (including multiple imbedded studies and co-PIs) conducted following NIH guidelines for minority inclusion and human ethical protection of high-risk populations (women and infants).
- Protection of confidentiality/identity of women and newborns at EMMC with protective orders for non-contact, and patients in substance use disorder treatment programs.
- Train and monitor student research assistants in HIPAA and privacy compliance.

### **Advanced Multi-Institutional Communications**

- Developed and maintained professional relationships and communication for assessment protocols and neonatal testing at newborn nursery, NICU, CCN and in Pediatrics departments at Eastern Maine Medical Center. Worked directly with Chief of Neonatology and Nurse Directors.
- Interfaced with healthcare managers and staff from several participating in- and out- patient sites to identify appropriate participants, and obtained and scheduled facility access and space for numerous infant assessments and maternal interviews.
- Attended and contributed to Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome focus group headed by Dr. Mark S. Brown, Chief of Pediatrics, Eastern Maine Medical Center (2009-present).
- Multi-institution location liaison including EMMC, Acadia Hospital, Discovery House Methadone treatment program, Bangor Metro treatment program, and Bangor office of Women, Infants and Children.
- Created, conducted and scheduled multiple media and lecture events including invitation to speak at the Annual State Women, Infants and Children Conference, 2010.

### **Standard Operating Procedures and Protocol Compliance**

- Ability to develop, test and modify Standard Operating Procedures across project tasks.
- Created protocol for collection and offsite maintenance of saliva and buccal cell (genetic samples) followed by transfer to collaborators at Baylor College of Medicine (TX) for methylation studies.
- Developed effective protocol and SOP for birth reporting and first postnatal night sleep study using actigraphy and videosomnography at hospital NICU site.
- Scheduled and maintained a series of assessments (minimum of nine differing time points) for mothers and infants enrolled in study at numerous locales.
- Assisted and contributed to NIH and DOD annual reports and reviews.

## **Publications**

Heller, N.A., Shrestha, H., **Morrison, D.**, Daigle, K. M., Logan, B. A., Paul, J. A., Brown, M. S., & Hayes, M.J. (2021) *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Relation between Sleep and Learning in Early Development: Neonatal sleep development and early learning in infants with prenatal opioid exposure*. Editors: S. E. Berger, R. T. Harbourne, A. Scher (Eds.) *Advances in Child Development and Behavior* (60). doi.org/10.1016/bs.acdb.2020.07.001.

Reisfield, G. M., Teitelbaum, S. A., Opie, S. O., Jones, J., **Morrison, D. G.**, & Lewis, B. (2020). The roles of phosphatidylethanol (PEth), ethyl glucuronide (EtG), and ethyl sulfate (EtS) in identifying alcohol consumption among participants in professionals' health programs. *Drug Testing and Analysis*, 12(7), DOI: 10.1002/dta.2809

Diehl, E., **Morrison, D.**, & Tisher, C.C. (2019). Therapeutic Horticulture as a Quality of Life intervention in chronic hemodialysis patients. *Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture*, 29(2), 2-13.

Heller, N. A., Logan, B. A., **Morrison, D. G.**, Paul, J. A., Brown, M. S., & Hayes, M. J. (2017). Neonatal abstinence syndrome: Neurobehavior at 6 weeks of age in infants with or without pharmacological treatment for withdrawal. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 59(5). DOI: 10.1002/dev.21532

Paul, J. A., Logan, B. A., Krishnan, R., Heller, N. A., **Morrison, D. G.**, Pritham, U. A., ... & Hayes, M. J. (2014). Development of auditory event-related potentials in infants prenatally exposed to methadone. *Developmental psychobiology*, 56(5), 1119-1128.

Paul, J., Logan, B., Heller, N., **Morrison, D.**, Tanenbaum, A., Lindblad, K., ... & Hayes, M. J. (2011). Maternal alcohol use and neurocognitive performance in infants with and without prenatal opiate exposure: 0116. *Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research*, 35.

**Morrison, D. G.**, Farah, C., & Hock, J. (2013) Informed Consent for Biobanking Research: Cancer Patient Recruitment from Rural Communities in Maine. *Biopreservation and Biobanking*, 11(2). DOI: 10.1089/bio.2012.0054

Hock, J. M., Nealley, A., **Morrison, D. G.**, Farah, C., Hosgood, H.D. & Zahm, S. (2012). Unmet Challenges in Cancer Disparities. *Cancer, Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention*, 21, 248-249. DOI: 10.1158/1055-9965.EPI-11-1039.

**Morrison, D. G.** (2012) Strabismus Risk in Opiate-Exposed Infants. (Unpublished master's thesis). Digital Commons, University of Maine, Orono, ME

## **Professional Presentations**

Lee, J., Maldonado-Molina, M., Teitelbaum, S. A., **Morrison, D.**, Merlo, L. J. (2021, February). Correlates of dual use of cigarettes and e-cigarettes among individuals with substance use disorder (SUD): Latent class analysis using longitudinal data. Invited Presentation at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting.

Dodaro, M. F., Michaud, S. D., Curry, E. K., Lee, J., Maldonado-Molina, M., **Morrison, D. G.**, Teitelbaum, S.A. & Merlo, L. J. (2020, December). Tobacco use and attitudes toward tobacco cessation programming among individuals in treatment for substance use disorders. Poster presented at the UH Health Cancer Center (UFHCC) Virtual Research Symposium, Gainesville, FL.

**Morrison, D.**, Merlo, L. M., Phalin, B., Sutton, J., Orlando, D., Harcourt, R., Teitelbaum, S. & Bussing, R. (2020, April). Implementing measurement-based case in an academic substance use disorder treatment program. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Lee, J., Maldonado-Molina, M., **Morrison, D. G.**, Fields, D., Teitelbaum, S. A., Merlo, L. J. (2020, February). Patterns and correlates of e-cigarette use among individuals in treatment for substance use disorders (SUD). Poster presented at the UF Health College of Medicine Research Poster Session, Gainesville, FL.

Richardson, E. J., Teitelbaum, S.A., **Morrison, D.**, & Merlo, L. (2019, April). Perceived quality of sleep during substance use disorder treatment. Poster presented at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, Orlando, FL.

Sutton, J. A., **Morrison, D.**, Bussing, R., Teitelbaum, S. & Merlo, L. J. (2018, October). Exploration of depressive symptoms during substance use treatment. Poster presented at the National Network of Depression Centers 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Bussing, R., Korah, T., **Morrison, D.**, Mason, D., Winterstein, A., Bolshakova, M. & McBride, M. Pilot study of PHQ-9 changes during depression treatment with and without electro-convulsive therapy. (2018, May). Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychiatric Association, New York, NY.

Wachman, E. M., Hayes, M. J., Sherva, R., Brown, M. S., Paul, J., Logan, B.A., Heller, N. A., Shrestha, H., **Morrison, D.**, Humbarger, O., Sadri, L., Daigle, K., Farrer, L. A & Nielsen, D. A. (2016, May). Association of variants in COMT and PNOC genes with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome outcomes. Poster presented at the annual meeting of Pediatric Academic Societies, Baltimore, MD.

**Morrison, D. G.**, Logan, B., Heller, N. A., Shrestha, H. & Hayes, M. J. (2013, May). Prenatal methadone exposure and association with strabismus. Poster presented at the annual meeting of Pediatric Academic Societies, Washington, DC. [Expanded data set].

Heller, N. A., Logan, B. A., Paul, J. A., **Morrison, D. G.**, Shrestha, H., Brown, M. S. & Hayes, M. J. (2013, May). Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Infant neurobehavior at 1-month and maternal perceptions in treated and non-treated methadone-exposed and comparison infants. Poster presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Logan, B., Heller, N. A., **Morrison, D. G.**, Shrestha, H. & Hayes, M. J. (2012, June). Neurocognitive and developmental outcomes in opiate-exposed infants. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies XVIII Biennial, Minneapolis, MN.

**Morrison, D. G.**, Logan, B., Heller, N. A., Shrestha, H. & Hayes, M. J. (2012, June). Prenatal Methadone Exposure and Association with Strabismus. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, XVIII Biennial, Minneapolis, MN.

Logan, B., Krishnan, K., Paul, J., Heller, N. A., **Morrison, D. G.**, Brown, M. & Hayes, M. J. (2012, April). Neurodevelopmental and motor sequelae in methadone-exposed infants: Synergistic effects of alcohol. Poster presented Pediatric Academic Societies, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

Hock, J.M., Farah, C. & **Morrison, D. G.** (2012). Gender, Environment and Diagnosis Influence Spatial Distribution of Respiratory Diseases and Lung Cancers in Maine. Invited presentation at Eastern Maine Medical Center Grand Rounds, Bangor, ME.

**Morrison, D. G.**, Farah, C., Hock, J.M. (2012, February). Informed Consent in Biobank Research: Recruiting Patients with Health Disparities in Rural Maine. Paper presented at the National Cancer Institute, Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Biospecimen Research Network Symposium. Bethesda, MD. (DGM Invited Discussion Leader).

**Morrison, D. G.**, Logan, B. (2012) Report of the Maine Infant Follow-Up Project Results (Oral/PowerPoint presentation). Bangor offices of Women, Infants, and Children and Discovery House of Bangor Narcotics Treatment Program. Bangor, ME.

Paul, J., Logan, B., Heller, N., **Morrison, D.**, Tanenbaum, A., Lindblad, K., ... & Hayes, M. (2011). Maternal alcohol use and neurocognitive performance in infants with and without prenatal opiate exposure: 0116. *Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research*, 35.

Logan, B., Heller, N. A., **Morrison, D. G.**, Hayes, M. J. (2011). Long-term Developmental Outcomes in Infants of Opiate-Addicted Women: Effects on Cognitive

and Motor Development. Society for Research in Child Development conference, Montreal, Canada.

Heller, N., Logan, B., **Morrison, D. G.**, Hayes, M.J. (2011). Prenatal Opiate Exposure: Infant Withdrawal Severity and Maternal Perceptions of the Infant at One-Month. Society for Research in Child Development conference, Montreal, Canada.

**Morrison, D. G.** (2010). Maternal and Infant Issues with Opiate Addiction. Maine Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program Annual Conference, Augusta, Maine (Invited Speaker).

## **Professional Training and Development**

- 2017            Completion of Social and Behavioral Research Good Clinical Practices  
                  Developed through the National Center for Advancing Translational  
                  Science. University of Florida – Clinical and Translational Science  
                  Institute, Gainesville, FL.
- 2015            Graduate, Academy of Research Excellence  
                  Training and development in clinical research best practices, and  
                  competent delivery of informed consent for research.  
                  University of Florida – Clinical and Translational Science Institute,  
                  Gainesville, FL
- 2012            Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)  
                  “Train the trainer” certification for collection and reporting of  
                  performance data using approved measurement tools in mental health  
                  and addiction treatment services.

## **Awards/Honors:**

- 2015            University of Florida Clinical and Translational Science Institute Academy of  
                  Research Excellence (graduate)
- 2011            Graduate Student Government Grant Committee Reviewer
- 2010            “Outstanding Senior Psychology Student” of 150 University of Maine  
                  Psychology students
- 2009            Nichols Scholarship Award for Outstanding Scholarship & Voluntary  
                  Laboratory  
                  Research
- 2009-2011     Dean’s List for Scholastic Excellence

## **Volunteer Activities:**

Wilmot Botanical Gardens, College of Medicine, University of Florida (2014-2020).

Florida Guardian Ad Litum Program, Alachua County Florida (2016-2017)

Literacy Volunteers of America, Bangor Maine (2006-2008)

## **Work History**

2016-Current: **Clinical Research Coordinator III**

University of Florida College of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry  
Florida Recovery Center, Gainesville, FL. 32608

Major responsibilities:

- Creation and management of longitudinal data collection and Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs) based research databank.
- Ongoing/daily scheduling of research assistants and patients to complete patient health assessments.
- Electronic delivery of assessment results to treatment team for treatment planning.
- Database development using excel and REDCap.
- Management of informed consent process, and train others to deliver competently.
- Complete IRB protocol development, revisions and reviews.
- Mining of Electronic Medical Record data (Epic).
- Recruit, manage, train and develop undergraduate and graduate-level research assistants (minimum of eight per semester).
- Identification of professional presentation opportunities, and creation of abstracts and posters.
- Create reports and presentations using PowerPoint, excel, etc.
- Analyze data using SPSS.
- Assist in writing and submitting manuscripts for publication.
- Oversee the creation of quarterly reports to Joint Commission.
- Assist, support, and encouraged tenure-track faculty, attending physicians, and program fellows to become involved in research projects.
- Conduct feasibility of research studies seeking to conduct research within the patient population at the Florida Recovery Center.

Highlights and Accomplishments:

- Implementation of Florida Recovery Center's first ongoing research initiative.
- Successful development and implementation of data collection in a clinical setting.
- Agreement by over 80% of patients to allow data use for research projects.
- Assisted in development of graduate student receiving the 2019 American Society of Addiction Medicine's *Young Investigator* award recipient through use of patient data.
- According to Joint Commission Accreditation agent, this is the only project like it in the country.



## **Previous Positions**

2014-2016 **Research Coordinator III**

University of Florida Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Major responsibilities (Citizen Scientist Program):

- Recruit, interview, hire, train and manage local community members to act as patient advisors to research teams across the University of Florida College of Medicine.
- Development of marketing tools for recruitment based on team member input, training materials development for member orientation, an overview of what would be expected during research meetings, and bi-weekly meeting and training sessions.
- One of the main goals of this program was to affect research proposal development from initial stages through to implementation, and dissemination of project outcomes.
- This program was initially developed to meet the requirements of patient engagement as outlined in the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute's (PCORI) highly successful program that includes the requirement to involve patients in the development of research. I paired a number of team members with research projects and we were also asked, and some of the team agreed, to star in a public service announcement for an Arts in Medicine grant project to highlight the risk of developing AIDS in Florida residents aged 50 and older (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ouClzBpGeI4&feature=youtu.be>). Over five years later, more than one team member remains involved in at least one PCORnet project, and others continue to advise on national projects even while the program is no longer active at UF.(.50 FTE)

Coordinator, Implementation Science Program, University of Florida Clinical & Translational Science Institute.

- Wrote and delivered innovative protocol for "On the Road Studios" to introduce clinicians to collection of research data and implementation of research in clinical settings.
- Data gathered from statewide clinical locations supplied to Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute's Health Systems Leaders Demonstration Project. In this role I was invited as a guest lecturer on the topic of community-engaged research in graduate level courses (.25 FTE)

Clinical Research Project Coordinator, reporting directly to the Principal Investigator. Dialysis Corporation Incorporated Award #C-2013.32. *Employing Therapeutic Horticulture to Improve Lives of Chronic Hemodialysis Patients* PI: C. Craig Tisher, MD. University of Florida College of Medicine.

- Accrual, retention, and assessment of patient reported outcomes including quality of life, depression and perception of well-being using psychometric scales (PHQ-

- 9, CESD-R, MMPI-2, KDQOL).
- Management of longitudinal data collection, database development, and patient follow-up. Responsible for all regulatory compliance and program management through UF IRB. (.25 FTE)
- Responsible for managing and processing participant payments for study.

#### Highlights and Accomplishments:

- Recruited a culturally diverse group of individuals, across age and gender, to be part of this unique pilot program. These activities resulted in the training, development and implementation of an active, 11-member community engagement-in-research program.
- Activities culminated in the training, development and production of a competency-based training curriculum with modules that include HIPAA and CITI training, research ethics and consent, diversity and cultural competency, critical thinking, and dig data sessions and much more. All are available to other programs as a “how to” guide in program development and training. The full curriculum can be seen here: <https://citizenscientist.ctsi.ufl.edu>; my personal presentation on Intellectual Property and Confidentiality can be seen here: <https://citizenscientist.ctsi.ufl.edu/module-1/1-4-intellectual-property-and-confidentiality/>.

#### 2012-2014 **Research Associate**

Hornby Zeller Associates, Inc., South Portland, Maine. (Social Science research evaluation firm)

Principal Investigator for recruitment, monitoring and evaluation of federally funded (SAMHSA) intervention program aimed at transition-aged youth at risk for homelessness with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. (Grant #SM59442/Healthy Transitions Initiative to Maine Department of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services). Responsible for multi-agency, multi-location recruitment, assessment, interview, retention and follow-up of all participants, Federal-reporting using TRAC CMHS, data management, and QA/QC. (.75 FTE)

Support for evaluation of federally funded (SAMHSA) State Adolescent Treatment, Enhancement and Dissemination program. (Grant #T1024260 to Maine Department of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services).

Responsible for recruitment, interview and discharge tracking, direct training of individuals required to deliver GPRA data collection tool, and Federal reporting using CSAT/GPRA data site. (.25 FTE)

#### 2011-2012 **Clinical Research Project Coordinator**

Eastern Maine Healthcare Services/Maine Institute for Human Genetics & Health

Reporting directly to the Principal Investigator, Janet Hock, DDS, PhD.

US Dept. of Defense Grant (USAMRMC W81XWH-07- 2-0116)

*Research in Human Cancer for Improved Diagnosis, Prognosis and*

*Innovation of Therapeutic Strategies.*

- Assisted PI in completing participant interviews, maintained standard operating procedures, performed quality assurance and control on previously obtained data.
- Managed and disseminated participant data in accordance with GCP, NCI and ISBER Best Practices.
- Managed databases and analyzed data using excel and JMP programs.
- Created questionnaire to collect additional follow-up data and carried out participant re-contact.
- Responsible for all regulatory compliance and program management through Eastern Maine Medical Center IRB including creation, submission and tracking ICF's and protocols including revisions and annual reviews.
- Presented results of BioGeoBank study at NCI's Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research in 2012. Invited presenter: Eastern Maine Medical Center Grand Rounds for medical continuing education credits (2012).

2009-2011 **Clinical Research Project Coordinator**

Reporting directly to Principal Investigator: Marie Hayes, PhD.  
University of Maine and Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems  
Orono and Bangor, ME

- Project manager for NIH/NIDA Grant (# R21 DA024806-02A2) *Sleep, Arousal, and Spontaneous Movements in Opioid Exposed Infants.*
- Management and tracking of longitudinal study examining multiple outcomes for infants prenatally exposed to methadone (MAT). Managed all aspects of study from participant recruitment at Bangor area methadone clinics, data collection, database development, multiple-assessment longitudinal appointment scheduling and participant retention, recontact, and oversight of data quality for the lab.
- Managed scheduling and data collection completion for multiple graduate student research lab team members.
- Performed hundreds of semi-structured participant interviews including current and past drug and alcohol use history using the quantity-variability-frequency model; psychiatric assessments including the SCL-90R and BSID-II; Hollingshead 4-Factor index of social status, and IQ as attained from the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test.
- Scheduled and attended multiple longitudinal assessments (from <24 hours to 36-months of age). Experience conducting Event- Related Potential using EEG in infants and young children.
- Responsible for all regulatory compliance and creation of study ICF's, protocols, revisions and submissions to University of Maine and Eastern Maine Medical Center IRB.
- Coordinated the implementation of multi-site genetic research study including

the development of protocol for collection and offsite maintenance of saliva and buccal cell bio samples, including transfer to collaborators at Baylor College of Medicine (TX) and Boston University for methylation studies.