

Solomon Center Research Director for Medical Legal Partnerships

The Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy at Yale Law School seeks applications for a quantitative research director to contribute to a critical gap in the legal and biomedical scholarly literature by completing an interdisciplinary, quantitative study to evaluate Medical Legal Partnerships (MLPs). The role is a 1- or 2-year position with possibility for renewal based upon performance and funding. Part-time applications will be considered.

MLPs embed legal services into the healthcare setting, allowing patients to address health-harming civil legal needs in a trusted setting. The Solomon Center has been a pioneer in the MLPs in New Haven; it founded the legal component of three of them, was a co-founder of a fourth, and provides student staffing for the fifth. Both sides of the partnerships – medical and legal – seek to evaluate the programs empirically.

Our five MLPs offer a unique laboratory because of their unprecedented diversity in a single city. Each addresses the needs of a distinct patient population: immigrants, veterans, former prisoners transitioning into the community, children, and palliative care patients. No empirical study has ever evaluated the value of the “L” – the law component specifically – in an MLP.

The research director will lead the conceptual design in order to address the key questions about the variety of benefits MLPs are intended to achieve. The research director will also oversee IRB approval, HIPAA compliance, and any necessary waivers; review existing data collection and screening processes to determine what components need to be added or changed; oversee the implementation of the infrastructure and evaluative tools necessary to produce data; and oversee data collection and analysis. We expect a series of publications to ensue, which will be major and new contributions to the MLP literature. This collaboration between lawyers, doctors, public health professionals, and community partners creates an unprecedented opportunity to be at the forefront of MLP scholarship at a time when MLPs are growing rapidly across the country.

Duties/Responsibilities:

1. Liaise closely with the attorneys, faculty, fellows, physicians, and students involved in the MLP program to understand the MLP models, patient populations, processes, and data intake model for each MLP.
2. Lead conceptual study design to identify and eventually implement quantitative metrics to evaluate the MLPs and identify the appropriate study populations.
3. As appropriate and consistent with the identified study design, develop forms and/or questionnaires and coordinate the application of research techniques.
4. Oversee submission of study protocols to the University IRB, as appropriate.
5. Ensure study timeline is well-defined and followed, and seek guidance from and provide updates to Solomon Center staff and other colleagues as needed.

6. Supervise the work of medical/law students and others collecting data, and, as needed, train individuals in data collection techniques.
7. Oversee data collection and maintenance and perform statistical analysis of data.
8. Write-up findings/assist in drafting manuscripts for submission to publications.
9. Perform such other tasks as needed to complete the research project.

Skills

1. Quantitative study design, particularly as related to health and social determinants of health
2. Quantitative/statistical analysis
3. Excellent communication, networking, and collaboration-building skills
4. Strong academic writing skills
5. Project management and ability to meet deadlines
6. Ability to communicate across disciplines and expertise

Experience/Knowledge

1. Experience in quantitative study design and research on health outcomes and/or social determinants of health
2. Experience with cost-effectiveness and/or comparative effectiveness research (desirable though not required)
3. Experience in modern epidemiology and causal inference (desirable though not required)
4. Knowledge of MLPs, social determinants of health, health care delivery systems, and/or legal aid services
5. Experience working on interdisciplinary research projects and/or projects involving multiple stakeholders
6. Experience collaborating on academic publications

Education

PhD or Master's degree; PhD candidates will be considered. Formal training in quantitative public health research methods is preferred.

About the Solomon Center

The Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy at Yale Law School is the first of its kind to focus on the intersection of law and the governance, practice, and business of health care. The Center brings together leading experts and practitioners from the public and private sectors to address cutting-edge questions of health law and policy and to train the next generation of top health lawyers, industry leaders, policymakers, and academics.

The Center was established to meet a critical need for a new academic and legal-professional discipline that responds to the rapidly evolving environment of health care and its centrality in the nation's economy and government. Among the few health law centers at U.S. law schools, the Solomon Center is unique in its focus not only on the

government's role in health care, but also health care business and physicians and scientists themselves. The Solomon Center distinguishes itself by doing what Yale does best: focusing on law as a tool to affect governance, industry, and the academy.

The Center's work is highly interdisciplinary. Programming includes many course offerings, both academic and experiential; career planning; academic research, policy work, and litigation briefs; and numerous high-profile panels and conferences that bring academic, government, and business leaders in health care to the Law School. In addition to hosting a steady stream of academic visitors from all disciplines to enrich programming and course offerings, the Center supports student research, field work, and publications. Building on relationships with the Yale School of Medicine, Yale Cancer Center, Yale New Haven Hospital, Yale School of Management, and Yale Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics, the Center brings together all that Yale has to offer to make a difference both at Yale and beyond.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please send resume/CV and cover letter to Katherine Kraschel, Executive Director, Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy at Yale Law School at Katherine.Kraschel@yale.edu.

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