



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**PHYSICIAN SCIENTIST
TRAINING PROGRAM**



PHYSICIAN SCIENTIST TRAINING PROGRAM



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PHYSICIAN SCIENTISTS form a small, essential cadre of physicians who play a unique role in forwarding biomedical research. These physicians use their knowledge and practical experience treating diseases in the clinic to focus basic, translational and clinical research on solving problems relevant to the health of their patients. In an era in which our scientific knowledge has exploded, physician scientists are needed to bring the day-to-day contact with patients and the diseases they face into the research arena.



CURRENT TRENDS

30%

OF ALL NIH PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS ARE PHYSICIAN SCIENTISTS

2003
22% → 45%

AN AGING WORKFORCE:
NIH-FUNDED PHYSICIAN SCIENTISTS GREATER THAN 50 YEARS OLD

2012

14k

TOTAL PHYSICIAN SCIENTISTS HAS NOT CHANGED SINCE 2003

The UNC Department of Medicine's [PHYSICIAN SCIENTIST TRAINING PROGRAM](#) (PSTP) has been created to face these challenging trends. The UNC PSTP integrates post-graduate clinical and research training and provides developmental support to transition trainees into independent research careers.

- Accepts the most highly qualified candidates with both a medical degree (MD) and significant research experience (PhD, MPH or equivalent research experiences)
- A post-graduate American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Research Pathway program that includes training in Internal Medicine and a medical subspecialty, leading to board certification
- Cross-disciplinary research training taking advantage of close proximity and collaborations between highly-ranked Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy and Public Health

Carolina's program provides career support in addition to training opportunity:

- Regular meetings with PSTP leadership and colleagues covering science, grant and career development
- Guaranteed salary support for protected research time of at least 80 percent during research years
- Up to \$100,000 to support research project development during research years
- Faculty appointment during final year of ABIM Research Pathway training



UNC PSTP PARTICIPANT **CARY COTTON, MD, MPH**

MPH, Epidemiology, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2015

MD, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2016

I chose UNC's Physician Scientist Training Program over others' because of its culture of collegiality. Carolina has a reputation of people working together rather than competing against one another.

UNC also provides infrastructure not always available at other institutions. The TRACS Institute offers fantastic support on topics that include statistics, patient recruitment, grant writing, career development and more.

As a physician scientist trainee in Gastroenterology and Hepatology, my goal is to produce clinically relevant literature to inform policy decisions and guidelines development. I am excited to continue learning clinical medicine and to develop research skills in an ideal academic setting rich in scientific resources, mentorship and enthusiasm.

For more information contact:

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