Megan Zelinsky, MA, BS

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LinkedIn | Website

CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

PhD, Clinical Translational Science (expected 2027)   May 2024 – Present

Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH

Dissertation in progress: "Bridging Translational Science and Empirical Neuroethics to Align Neurosurgical Metrics with Patient-Centered Outcomes"

Research focus: Translational neuroethics and patient-centered outcome selection in neurosurgery

MA, Bioethics and Medical Humanities, GPA: 4.0   Aug 2019 – May 2020

Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH

Capstone: "High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound for Parkinson Disease: Ethical Considerations in an Evolving Treatment Landscape"

BS, Biological Sciences, *summa cum laude*   Aug 2015 – Aug 2018

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

EMPLOYMENT

Research

Clinical Research Project Manager, Center for Neurological Restoration, Neurological Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH   Jan 2022 – Present

Research Assistant, Center for Neurological Restoration, Neurological Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH   Mar 2020 – Jan 2022

Laboratory Associate, Developmental Biology & Genetics, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA   Nov 2015 – Dec 2017

Teaching

Instructor, Columbia University School of Professional Studies, New York, NY   Aug 2023 – Aug 2023

Teaching Associate, Columbia University School of Professional Studies, New York, NY   May 2020 – Aug 2022

Lecturer, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH   Jan 2022 – May 2022

Adjunct Faculty, Capital University, Columbus, OH   Aug 2020 – May 2022

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial Board

Journal of Disability and Health   Jan 2024 – Present

Ad Hoc Peer Review

Journal of Disability and Health   May 2021 – Present

Journal of Bioethical Inquiry   Jul 2021 – Present

Membership in Professional Societies

International Neuroethics Society	Jan 2021 – Present
Society of Clinical Research Associates	Mar 2020 – Present
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities	Jan 2018 – Dec 2018

RESEARCH AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES

"Clinical and Physiological Outcomes Following Adaptive DBS Implantation: Descriptive Evaluation of Early Experience at a New aDBS Center," **Role: Co-investigator,** Funding: Pending	July 2025 – Present
"Evaluating Multidisciplinary Impact on Epilepsy Surgical Recommendations: A Quality Improvement Initiative Using Pre/Post Polling at Patient Management Conferences [QA/QI]," **Role: Contributor**, Funding: None	July 2025 – Present
"Center for Neurological Restoration Functional Neurological Disorder Clinical Database [QA/QI]," **Role: Database Manager,** Funding: Philanthropy	Feb 2025 – Present
"Provider Perspectives on the Use of Genetic Profiling in Deep Brain Stimulation Evaluation for Parkinson's Disease," **Role: Co-investigator,** Funding: internal, PI: Hubert Fernandez, MD	Jan 2025 – Present
"LGBTQ+ Inclusive Communication and Advance Care Planning," **Role: Data Analyst,** Funding: Advancing Interprofessional Learning Grant (EHEZ013), PI: Georgina Morley, PhD	Jan 2024 – July 2025
"Novel Care Model for Treatment of Functional Movement Disorders: A Mixed-Methods Study Investigating the Role of Virtual Shared Medical Appointments," **Role: Co-investigator,** Funding: Cleveland Clinic Healthcare Delivery and Implementation Science Center, PI: Xin Xin Yu, MD	Dec 2023 – Present
"Building Consensus on Disclosure of Preclinical Data in Early Phase Exploratory Research Involving Human Neurotechnology," **Role: Project Manager,** Funding: National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (3R01AT011905-02S1), Mechanism PI: Lauren Sankary, JD	Aug 2023 – Present
"A Cognitive Risk Calculator and Screening Tool for Primary Care Settings," **Role: Project Manager,** Funding: National Institutes of Health, Mechanism R33 (4R33AG069729-03), PI: Darlene Floden, PhD	June 2022 – Present
"Cognitive Outcomes of Magnetic Resonance-Guided Focused Ultrasound Neurosurgery," **Role: Project Manager,** Funding: internal, PI: Darlene Floden, PhD	Feb 2022 – Present
"Center for Functional and Restorative Neuroscience Neuropsychology Registry," **Role: Database Manager,** Funding: internal, PI: Darlene Floden, PhD	Oct 2021 – Present
"Optimizing Decision Support and Return of Results in Neurological Research," **Role: Project Manager,** Funding: internal, PI: Lauren Sankary, JD	Oct 2021 – Present

"Optimizing Decision Support for Alzheimer's Disease Research Participants," **Role: Project Manager,** Funding: Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG-22-974462), PI: Lauren Sankary, JD	Jun 2021 – Present
"Neuroethics Database for Ethics Consultations Involving Elective Neurosurgical Candidates," **Role: Database Manager,** Funding: Parkinson Foundation, PI: Lauren Sankary, JD	Apr 2021 – Present
"Responding to Ethical iSsues during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Operationalizing [intensive care] Nurses insights to Develop Ethical Resilience - RESPONDER Project," **Role: Study Coordinator,** Funding: pending, PI: Georgina Morley, PhD	Mar 2021 – Dec 2022
"A Statistical Scoring Tool to Optimize Preclinical Research," **Role: Study Coordinator,** Funding: Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institutes Innovation and Discovery (NIID) Award (2019-334), PI: Olivia Hogue, PhD, MPH	Sept 2020 – Present
"COVID-19 Related Barriers to Informed Consent in Aging and Cognitively Vulnerable Patients," **Role: Study Coordinator,** Funding: National Institute on Aging (NIA), Mechanism P30 (P30AG062428-02S2), PI: Lauren Sankary, JD	Aug 2020 – June 2022
"Overcoming Unanticipated Barriers to Informed Consent in Brain Research," **Research Assistant,** Funding: National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), Mechanism UH3 (3UH3NS100543-03S1), PI: Lauren Sankary, JD	Mar 2020 – July 2021
"Ethical Safeguards for Exit and Withdrawal from Implanted Neurotechnology Research," **Role: Research Assistant,** Funding: National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), Mechanism F32 (1F32MH115419-01), PI: Lauren Sankary, JD	Mar 2020 – June 2021

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Instructor: Neuroscience and Ethics, 3 credit graduate course, Columbia University School of Professional Studies (BIETPS5350)*	Summer 2023
Lecturer: Inclusivity & Accessibility of Neurotechnology, lecture in Foundations of Bioethics II, 6 credit graduate course, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine (BETH402)	Spring 2022
Instructor: Theoretical Ethics and Ethical Argumentation, 3 credit undergraduate course, Capital University (UC-410-02)*	Spring 2022
Lecturer: Unit in Neuroethics, 3 credit graduate course, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine (BETH423)	Spring 2022
Instructor: Theoretical Ethics and Ethical Argumentation, 3 credit undergraduate course, Capital University (UC-410-07)*	Fall 2021
Teaching Associate: Neuroscience and Ethics, 3 credit graduate course, Columbia University School of Professional Studies (BIETPS5350)*	Summer 2021
Instructor: Theoretical Ethics and Ethical Argumentation, 3 credit undergraduate course, Capital University (UC-410H-01)	Spring 2021

Instructor: Theoretical Ethics and Ethical Argumentation, 3 credit undergraduate course, Capital University (UC-410-01)*	Fall 2020
Instructor: Introduction to Ethics, 3 credit undergraduate course, Capital University (UC-170-01)*	Fall 2020
Instructor: Introduction to Ethics, 3 credit undergraduate course, Capital University (UC-170-02)*	Fall 2020
Teaching Associate: Neuroscience and Ethics, 3 credit graduate course, Columbia University School of Professional Studies (BIETPS5350)*	Summer 2020
Teaching Assistant: Biochemistry, 3 credit undergraduate course, University of Pittsburgh (BIO418)	Fall 2017
Teaching Assistant: Genetics, 3 credit undergraduate course, University of Pittsburgh (BIO431)	Spring 2017
Teaching Assistant: Organic Chemistry II, 3 credit undergraduate laboratory course, University of Pittsburgh (OCHEM115)	Spring 2017
Teaching Assistant: Organic Chemistry I, 3 credit undergraduate laboratory course, University of Pittsburgh (OCHEM114)	Spring 2016
Teaching Assistant: Biology II, 3 credit undergraduate laboratory course, University of Pittsburgh (BIO113)	Fall 2015
Teaching Assistant: Biology I, 3 credit undergraduate laboratory course, University of Pittsburgh (BIO112)	Spring 2015

*Teaching evaluations available.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Zelinsky M, Taylor SC, Lioi AB, et al. Neurologically at-risk Older Adults' Experience with Virtual Multidisciplinary Lifestyle Interventions: A Qualitative Study. *Journal of Aging and Health.* Under review.

Webster H, **Zelinsky M,** Rico V, Martinez K, Sankary LR. Reconciling recommendations for ethical disclosure of biomarker results to Alzheimer's research participants: a systematic review and qualitative synthesis. *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease.* Submitted.

Rico V, **Zelinsky M,** Ford PJ, et al. Recommended approaches to sharing individual research results in Alzheimer's disease research: a multidisciplinary expert Delphi consensus. *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease.* Submitted.

Sankary LR, Rico V, **Zelinsky M**, et al. Building expert consensus regarding sharing of individual research results in Alzheimer's disease research: a Delphi study protocol. BMJ Open. 2024;14(8):e089242. Published 2024 Aug 24. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2024-089242

Anis S, **Zelinsky M,** Shuaib U, et al. Introducing Virtual Shared Medical Appointments as a Novel Treatment Platform for Functional Movement Disorders. Tremor Other Hyperkinet Mov (N Y). 2024;14:36. Published 2024 Jul 4. doi:10.5334/tohm.921

Morley G, Copley DJ, Field RB, **Zelinsky M,** Albert NM. A divided community: A descriptive qualitative study of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on nurses and their relationships [published online ahead of print, 2023 Jun 26]. *J Adv Nurs*. 2023;10.1111/jan.15747.

Hogue O, **Zelinsky M,** Sonneborn C, et al. Phase 2 Clinical Trial Success: Association with Statistical Decision-Making in Preceding Rodent Experiments. *Clinical Science,* 2022. In revision.

Morley G, Copley DJ, Field R, **Zelinsky M,** Albert NM. RESPONDER: A qualitative study of ethical issues faced by critical care nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Nurs Manag.* 2022;30(7):2403-2415. doi:10.1111/jonm.13792

Sankary LR, **Zelinsky M,** Ford PJ, Blackstone EC, Fox RJ. Overcoming Barriers to Informed Consent in Neurological Research: Perspectives from a National Survey. *Research Ethics,* 2022. Accepted. RE-22-0039.

Sankary LR, **Zelinsky M**, Machado A, Rush T, White A, Ford PJ. "Exit from Brain Device Research: A Modified Grounded Theory Study of Researcher Obligations and Participant Experiences." *American Journal of Bioethics Neuroscience,* 2021. doi:https://doi.org/10.1080/21507740.2021.1938293

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Zelinsky M, Anis SA, Hartwig E, Rush T, Shuaib U, Yu XX. Survey Results Highlight the Value of Virtual Shared Appointments in Functional Movement Disorder Care.

Zelinsky M, Gonzalez R, Ford PJ, Ellison L, Najm I, Sankary LR. Participant Perspectives on Sharing of Individual Research Results in a Longitudinal Neurology Cohort: Survey Insights from the Cleveland Clinic Brain Study.

Zelinsky M, Ford PJ, Leverenz JB, Pillai J, Martinez K, Kisela E, Lerner AJ, Sankary LR. Sharing Individual Research Results (SIRR) Scale Development and Validation: A Psychometric Evaluation of Attitudes and Perceived Impact of Receiving Amyloid PET Results.

ABSTRACTS/POSTERS

Zelinsky M, Anis S, Shuaib U, Hartwig E, Rush TE, Yu XX. Investigating the role of virtual shared medical appointments in functional movement disorder care: Survey study insights. Presented at: 30th World Congress on Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders; May 7-10, 2025; New York, NY. Parkinsonism Relat Disord. 2025.

Sankary LR, Rico V, **Zelinsky M,** Leverenz JB. Building expert consensus regarding sharing of individual research results in Alzheimer's disease research: a Delphi study protocol.

Sankary LR, **Zelinsky M,** Webster HS, Lerner AJ, Martinez K, Miller JB, Ford PJ, Leverenz JB. Alzheimer's Disease Research Participant Perspectives on the Return of Individual Research Results. Poster presented at: AAIC 2022, The Alzheimer's Association International Conference; 2022 Jul 31-Aug 4, San Diego, California.

Morley G, Copley D, Field R, **Zelinsky M,** Albert N. Responding to Ethical Issues and Operationalizing Nurses Insights to Develop Ethical Resilience. Poster presented at: AACN National Teaching Institute (NTI) & Critical Care Exposition; 2023 May 24, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Morley G, Copley D, Field R, **Zelinsky M,** Albert N. A Divided Community: A Descriptive Qualitative Study of the Impact of COVID-19 on Nurses and their Relationships. Poster presented at: 18th Annual Cleveland Clinic Nursing Research Conference; 2023 Apr 24-25, Cleveland, Ohio.

Morley G, Copley D, Field R, **Zelinsky M,** Albert N. Responding to Ethical Issues during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Operationalizing Nurses Insights to Develop Ethical Resilience (RESPONDER): A Descriptive Qualitative Study. Poster presented at: 2023 ICU Operations Annual Summit; 2023 Mar 16, Cleveland, Ohio.

Sankary LR, **Zelinsky M,** Lindgren L, Ford PJ. Ethical Implications of Neurological Research Consent Adaptations Necessitated by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Abstract presented at: 2022 INS Annual Meeting, International Neuroethics Society: Bringing Neuroethics to Life Throughout Patient Care, Research, and Policy; 2022 Nov 2-4, Montreal, Canada.

Sankary LR, **Zelinsky M,** Knaggs C, Lerner AJ. Alzheimer's Disease Research Participant Perspectives on the Return of Individual Research Results. Poster presented at: AAIC 2022, The Alzheimer's Association International Conference; 2022 Jul 31-Aug 4, San Diego, California.

Morley G, Copley D, Field R, **Zelinsky M,** Albert N. Responding to Ethical Issues during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Operationalizing Nurses Insights to Develop Ethical Resilience (RESPONDER): A Descriptive Qualitative Study. Poster presented at: 17th Annual Cleveland Clinic Clinical Nursing Research Conference; 2022 Apr 25-26, Cleveland, Ohio.

AWARDS & HONORS

IAPRD Guided Poster Award: 2025
AACN Research Poster Award: 2023
99th Percentile in Teaching Evaluations, Capital University: Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022
Dean's List, University of Pittsburgh: All semesters
Best Undergraduate Capstone, University of Pittsburgh, 2017
Student Leadership Award, University of Pittsburgh: 2017
Student Research Day Best Abstract, University of Pittsburgh: Fall 2016
Student Research Day Best Poster Presentation, University of Pittsburgh: Fall 2016, Spring 2017
Distinguished Debate Performance, University of Pittsburgh: Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2017

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Executive Director, Cleveland Community Cat Project, Cleveland, OH   Sept 2018 – Present
   A 501(c)(3) nonprofit with over 175 volunteers focused on trap-neuter-return (TNR) and foster-based rescue of community cats.

PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE (NON-ACADEMIC)

Aerotek Recruiting and Staffing

Customer Support Supervisor, internal, Reading, PA	Dec 2011 – Jul 2017
Customer Support Analyst, internal, York, PA	Jan 2011 – Dec 2011
Administrative Assistant, internal, York, PA	Nov 2010 – Jan 2011

SKILLS AND METHODS

Research methods	Qualitative interviews, focus groups, thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke), grounded theory, content analysis, Delphi methodology, content validity methods, psychometric evaluation methods, cognitive interviewing, mixed-methods research (e.g., study design, triangulation methods), latent class analysis, survey design, implementation science frameworks, descriptive statistics, regression modeling, systematic reviews, qualitative meta-synthesis

Data management and analysis	Database design and longitudinal database structuring utilizing CDASH standards, REDCap (design, logic, export automation, API, dashboards), Excel, NVivo, Dedoose, R Studio, basic SQL, Python
Visualization and reporting	Data storytelling, dashboard creation, scientific writing, manuscript preparation, figure and table development for academic journals
IRB and protocol development	Regulatory navigation, QI vs. research determination, IRB submissions and amendments, protocol authorship
Website and app development	React, HTML/CSS, Firebase, GitHub Pages, Visual Studio Code
Collaboration and mentorship	Interdisciplinary team coordination, protocol start-up, mentorship of students and trainees, clinical-research integration
Professional communication	Grant writing, conference abstracts, executive summaries, scientific presentations, stakeholder engagement