The Einstein-Montefiore Institute for Clinical and Translational Research is pleased to announce the latest round of career development awardees.

The three new investigators will join previous years’ awardees, including: Matthew Abramowitz, MD, MS, Irene Blanco, MD, MS, Gabriele de Vos, MD, MS, Sean Lucan, MD, MPH, MS, Rebecca Madan, MD, MS, Shadi Nahvi, MD, MS, Mooyeon Oh-Park, MD, MS, Deepa Rastogi, MD, MS, Susan Rubin, MD, MPH, Amy Sanders, MD, William Southern, MD, MS, Joshua Steinerman, MD, and Tao Wang, MD, PhD.

Educating and training the next generation of clinical investigators is a high priority of the ICTR and the CTSA program.

Jeny GharTEY, DO, assistant professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and women’s health, is an obstetrician/gynecologist. Dr. GharTEY’s research is aimed at defining the genital tract mucosal immune environment in pregnant women and its role in preventing preterm birth. Her early findings suggest that a reduction in endogenous mucosal immunity is associated with bacterial colonization in term pregnant women. Knowledge of soluble mucosal immunity in the genital tract could lead to novel strategies aimed at the prevention of preterm birth. Dr. GharTEY’s mentors are Betsy Herold, MD (professor of pediatrics, division of infectious disease, microbiology, and obstetrics, gynecology and women’s health) and Cynthia Chazotte, MD (professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and women’s health).

Mark Kuniholm, PhD, instructor of epidemiology and population health, is an infectious diseases epidemiologist. Dr. Kuniholm’s research examines the role of immune gene variation in relation to HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV) pathogenesis. This knowledge is clinically important because it can provide evidence that specific molecular pathways affect the development of disease. There is also considerable interest in using host genetic data to “personalize” management and treatment of HIV and HCV. Dr. Kuniholm’s mentor is Howard Strickler, MD, MPH (professor, epidemiology and population health).

Max O’Donnell, MD MPH, assistant professor of medicine in the division of pulmonary medicine, is studying tuberculosis (TB), drug-resistant TB, TB/HIV, and global health, including ethical issues in global health research. His work is centered in South Africa and involves collaboration with the Jacobs’ lab at Einstein. His current work uses a novel biomarker to quantify response to treatment and detect new drug-resistance among XDR-TB patients on treatment, and studies to diagnose TB based on genetic testing of exhaled breath condensate. Dr. O’Donnell’s mentor is Simon Spivack, MD, MPH (associate professor of medicine, division of pulmonary medicine).