



Search for Senior Investigator at the Associate Professor or Full Professor Level
Division of Bioethics and Palliative Care, Department of Pediatrics
University of Washington School of Medicine
and
Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and Palliative Care,
Center for Clinical and Translational Research
Seattle Children's Research Institute
Seattle, WA

THE SEARCH

The Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and Palliative Care at Seattle Children's Research Institute and the Division of Bioethics and Palliative Care in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Washington (UW) School of Medicine invite inquiries, applications, and nominations for a senior investigator in pediatric palliative care research at the Associate Professor or Full Professor level. The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary team of world-renowned researchers committed to advancing discovery and implementation in the broad fields of bioethics and palliative care.

Treuman Katz Center (TKC) is a research program at Seattle Children's Research Institute (SCRI) and the research home for faculty within the Division of Bioethics and Palliative Care in the Department of Pediatrics in the UW School of Medicine. The division supports several robust clinical and educational programs and is home to more than two dozen faculty and four dedicated trainees. TKC investigators address established and emerging issues in pediatric ethics and palliative care with a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary research. There are currently 20 investigators at TKC representing disciplines including medicine, nursing, public health, social science, theology, philosophy, psychology, and public policy. Some scholarship foci at TKC includes health equity; communication and medical decision-making; ethical issues in clinical pediatrics, public health, and research; and family centered care, including quality of life, patient experience, family engagement, and bereavement. TKC is a dedicated research center, and its specialization in pediatric issues and its position with both bioethics and palliative care provides both the infrastructure and opportunity to conduct high-impact research that impacts the lives of children. This has made TKC a national resource for both researchers and healthcare professionals and was recognized by the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities in 2024 with the Cornerstone Award, the first pediatric institution to receive this honor. Scholarship output from TKC faculty has shaped practice and policy in pediatric care both in the U.S. and internationally.

Seattle Children's Hospital, one of the premier children's hospitals in the nation, serves the largest region of any pediatric hospital, covering nearly one million square miles across four states. SCRI is the fourth largest pediatric research institute in the United States, with 2,400 faculty and staff members across eight divisions conducting more than \$250 million in funded research. SCRI serves as the research arm of Seattle

Children's under the joint leadership of Senior Vice Presidents Vittorio Gallo, PhD, and Eric Tham, MD, MS, FAAP, FAMIA, who serve as Chief Scientific Officer and Chief Research Operations Officer, respectively. The Department of Pediatrics at the UW School of Medicine is primarily housed at Seattle Children's Hospital with the Chair of Pediatrics and Associate Dean, Leslie Walker-Harding, MD, FAAP, FSAHM, serving as the Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer for Seattle Children's Hospital.

This is a rare and exciting opportunity to conduct cutting-edge bioethics and palliative care research and directly influence the future of pediatric care and health policy nationally and globally. The senior investigator will play a crucial role in the growth of TKC and the division, serving as both a research leader and a mentor for the talented cohort of junior researchers building their independent research programs. Embracing an interdisciplinary approach to scholarship, this individual will forge innovative, forward-thinking approaches to research in the fields of bioethics & palliative care while leveraging the expertise at the Treuman Katz Center, the Division of Bioethics and Palliative Care, Seattle Children's Research Institute, and other partners. As a member of the UW faculty, the senior investigator will have the opportunity to build partnerships within the School of Medicine and with faculty in other schools to advance research within the field. TKC is well positioned for future growth, with tremendous support from Seattle Children's Hospital and Research Institute leadership and clear alignment with strategic initiatives around collaboration, integration with clinicians, and the organization-wide dedication to anti-racism and health equity.

Seattle Children's has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist with this important search. Inquiries, nominations, and applications should be directed to the firm in confidence, as indicated at the end of this document.

TREUMAN KATZ CENTER FOR PEDIATRIC BIOETHICS AND PALLIATIVE CARE

The [Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and Palliative Care](#) began as the Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics in 2004 when the Seattle Children's Hospital Board of Trustees endowed the center and named it to honor retiring CEO Treuman Katz for his interest in pediatric bioethics. It has since become one of the foremost institutions in the field of pediatric bioethics. In 2018, the Treuman Katz Center expanded its focus to include pediatric palliative care research to improve quality of life, medical decision-making, and communication for children with severe illness and their families. In 2023, the Center was renamed the Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and Palliative Care to align with this commitment to scholarship and excellence in both pediatric bioethics and palliative care research. Currently, TKC has 20 investigators who received nearly \$3 million in grant funding in FY23. The Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and Palliative Care is supported by Seattle Children's Research Institute and partners with the Department of Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Washington School of Medicine, the Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence at the University of Washington, as well as the University of Washington Schools of Law, Nursing, and Public Health.

To learn more about the Treuman Katz Center please see the [2023 Annual Report](#).

DIVISION OF BIOETHICS & PALLIATIVE CARE

The Division of Bioethics and Palliative Care sits within the UW Department of Pediatrics and is dedicated to the mission of ensuring that each child, family, and community benefits from excellent, equitable healthcare and research centered on their needs and values. This mission is advanced via work in three domains: clinical care, education/training, and research/scholarship, with equity as a key focus throughout all of this work. The division currently consists of 26 faculty, two faculty trainees, and two fellows.

Clinical programs within the division consist of the Clinical Palliative Care Service, the Clinical Ethics Consultation Service, the Organizational Ethics Consultation Service, and the Journey Bereavement Program. In FY23, the Palliative Care Service saw 623 new consults, serving both inpatients at Seattle Children's Hospital and outpatients via our ambulatory clinic and the Seattle Children's Fetal Care and Treatment Center. The Northwest Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition was developed by the Palliative Care Service in partnership with [Doernbecher Children's Hospital](#) in order to advance access to pediatric palliative care in the region. The Clinical Ethics Consultation Service conducted more than 70 consultations in FY23 with an additional 13 consultations completed by the Organizational Ethics Service. The division also partners closely with the Nursing Ethics Liaison Program and Nursing Bioethics Program at Seattle Children's Hospital.

Education and training programs within the division include a highly sought-after fellowship training program focused on Pediatric Palliative Care as well as a robust fellowship/faculty training program in Pediatric Bioethics--one of only a small number of such programs in the nation. The division also supports the PedsTalk training program within the Department of Pediatrics, which utilizes the VitalTalk format to train faculty leaders from divisions across the Department. Additional offerings include the Mann Family Pediatric Palliative Care Grand Rounds and Sconyers/Godfrey Bioethics Grand Rounds. Research and scholarship in the division are primarily conducted through TKC as part of the Seattle Children's Research Institute.

THE CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

[The Center for Clinical and Translational Research](#) (CCTR) is home to more than 500 research faculty and staff members from over 30 clinical divisions and is the hub for clinical investigation and therapeutic development at Seattle Children's Research Institute. Nearly 300 faculty members span over ten divisions and 18 specialties within the Department of Pediatrics, including faculty from other University of Washington clinical departments. In 2023, the CCTR conducted over \$26 million in funded research and has over 500 active IRB studies. The Center plays an integral role locally, nationally, and internationally in turning scientific discoveries into improved treatments for children. Building on a history of groundbreaking achievements, CCTR investigators and staff are working together to develop next-generation therapies for a wide range of pediatric diseases and disorders.

The CCTR offers patients and families access to the latest clinical trials aimed at finding better ways to diagnose and treat childhood diseases. The CCTR is home to the Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and Palliative Care. The Center's vision is to be the bridge to advance laboratory discoveries from the institute toward new and innovative treatments that will potentially prevent and cure childhood illnesses and improve the quality of children's daily lives. CCTR aims to advance the science of clinical research by focusing on new methods to conduct better research in children and mentor new clinical scientists to become tomorrow's leaders.

The CCTR sponsors programs designed to promote the development of clinical and translational research projects and to assist in career development for clinical researchers at all levels. The Clinical Research Scholars Program (CRSP) is an intensive, mentored research career development program to support junior faculty of the CCTR. This is accomplished through a structured mentoring program by a dedicated CRSP faculty, educational seminars, and financial support. The Faculty Research Support Fund offers in-kind support to CCTR investigators with limited or no funding who wish to initiate a research project or to those who have funding but may need additional resources for project completion. The Pediatric Pilot Fund is a competitive program that supports investigators initiating "proof of concept" testing, obtaining preliminary findings, or conducting other activities necessary to prepare for competitive, full-scale grant applications.

CCTR provides the infrastructure and knowledge Seattle Children's researchers need to develop innovations that will advance pediatric care and speed improvements to children's health. As such, the CCTR provides training and guidance on study design and helps support the infrastructure needed to conduct high-impact clinical research. This includes the Clinical Research Scholars Program, which provides mentored career development for junior faculty. The CCTR is also closely aligned with and participates in the University of Washington's [Institute of Translational Health Sciences](#) (ITHS), which is home to its CTSA grant.

The Research Integration Hub increases and accelerates innovative clinical research throughout the Seattle Children's healthcare system by aligning and expanding its clinical research infrastructure, core services, and facilities. The Research Integration Hub at Seattle Children's provides several cores, each with specialized teams and facilities for supporting the work of clinical researchers from all pediatric subspecialties. Funding is available to subsidize core services from the CCTR and the Research Integration Hub.

SEATTLE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE

[The Seattle Children's Research Institute](#), established in 2006, is one of the top five most funded pediatric research institutes in the United States with over \$253 million in extramural awards, including over \$120 million from the NIH in 2023. The SCRI is organized into research centers, bringing together clinician scientists and PhD researchers to tackle the pressing issues in pediatric care. The research centers include:

- The Ben Towne Center for Childhood Cancer Research
- The Center for Child Health, Behavior, and Development
- The Center for Clinical and Translational Research
- The Center for Developmental Biology and Regenerative Medicine
- The Center for Global Infectious Disease Research
- The Center for Immunity and Immunotherapies
- The Center for Respiratory Biology and Therapeutics
- The Norcliffe Foundation Center for Integrative Brain Research

The SCRI and [Seattle Children's Therapeutics](#) form the Seattle Children's Research Division (SCRD). The SCRD is composed of 340 principal investigators and nearly 2,500 workforce members. The SCRD has approximately 400 clinical trials active per year. Research at Seattle Children's has led to 13 spin-off companies and 19 non-start-up commercial partnerships, and it has coordinated multi-center trials for new therapeutics for cystic fibrosis and the development of new pediatric cancer therapies. Seattle Children's Research Division has become one of the most productive research centers in the Western United States. The SCRD pushes the boundaries of medical research to find cures and therapeutics for pediatric diseases, improving outcomes for children worldwide.

The SCRI serves to improve pediatric healthcare by leading and participating in hundreds of research projects ranging from disease mechanism studies to investigational therapy improvement. The institute is devoted to recruiting and retaining dedicated researchers while creating the facilities, infrastructure, and programs they need to transform important research findings into viable, real-world therapies. Besides the main eight research centers, focus research programs at SCRI include the Treuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and Palliative Care, the Health Equity Research Program based in the Center for Diversity and Health Equity, and the Center for Nursing Research based in the Center for Child Health, Behavior and Development.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

The University of Washington [Department of Pediatrics](#) is a national leader and has a global presence in advancing the science of childhood health, disease prevention, and cures. The Department is redefining how healthcare can be delivered effectively to diverse communities and how a diverse department can create a vibrant workplace as well as a rich academic environment. Over 250 Pediatric residents and fellows are trained annually by 600 faculty. The Department of Pediatrics serves the Northwest region of the United States with clinical and training programs that span Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, and internationally in Kenya. The Department is committed to an integrated clinical and research environment. Through discoveries and advances, UW Pediatrics is improving health outcomes for children worldwide.

THE CAMBIA PALLIATIVE CARE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

The [Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence](#) (CPCCE), one of the top palliative care centers in the United States, partners with the Treuman Katz Center and its members to advance research in palliative care and ethical issues in pediatric care. The CPCCE is focused on advancing palliative care through research, education, and clinical practice. The CPCCE aims to improve the quality of life for patients with serious illnesses by addressing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs. Based at the University of Washington, the CPCCE plays a key role in interdisciplinary collaborations, promoting innovations in palliative care and ensuring that patients receive comprehensive, compassionate care. CPCCE's partnership with the Treuman Katz Center focuses on the intersection of pediatric care, palliative care, and bioethics, particularly around serious illness communication and quality improvement initiatives. This collaboration reflects a shared commitment to improving care for children with life-limiting illnesses by addressing not just medical but also ethical and psychosocial aspects of care. CPCCE operates a T32 grant from NHLBI focused on palliative care research, and many members of TKC have participated in this program and continue to maintain an active role in the CPCCE through monthly research-focused meetings and scientific collaboration.

ROLE OF THE ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OR FULL PROFESSOR

Associate and Full Professors hold indefinite appointments that align with a 12-month service period (July 1-June 30). Faculty with 12-month service periods are paid for 11 months of service over a 12-month period (July-June), meaning the equivalent of one month is available for paid time off. All University of Washington faculty engage in teaching, research and service.

Responsibilities will include research relevant to pediatric palliative care and/or bioethics (including related topics such as medical decision-making, communication science, health services, psychosocial impacts of serious childhood illness, health disparities) supported by independent extramural funding.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate for this position will possess many of the qualifications and characteristics below:

- MD, DO, JD, or foreign equivalent degree. A PhD in Bioethics or another relevant discipline (or foreign equivalent), or MD/PhD (or foreign equivalent), is also acceptable.
- A funded research portfolio, with a preference for NIH funding, that includes work with pediatric populations.
- Prior experience in palliative care and/or bioethics research expertise in medicine, nursing, decision science, psychology, or social sciences.
- A track record of interdisciplinary research.
- The ability and desire to serve as a mentor for other researchers.

- Academic record sufficient to merit appointment as an Associate Professor or, preferably, Professor at the University of Washington.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

The base salary range for this position will be:

Associate Professors MD \$14,240 - \$21,360 per month (\$170,884 - \$256,326 annually), Professors MD \$18,971 - \$28,457 per month (\$227,662 - 341,494 annually) commensurate with experience and qualifications, or as mandated by a U.S. Department of Labor prevailing wage determination.

TO APPLY

Seattle Children's Hospital has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in this faculty leader search. All inquiries, nominations, and applications should be directed in confidence to:

Nicholas Strand, Managing Associate (he/him)
Kristin Benoit, Associate (she/her)
Kira Hamilton, Senior Search Coordinator (they/them)

<https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/seattle-childrens-hospital-and-research-institute-center-clinical-and-translational-0>

All candidates must also submit their applications, including cover letter and diversity statement, through the UW portal linked below:

<https://apply.interfolio.com/143427>

Our community welcomes diverse experiences, backgrounds, and thoughts as this is what drives our spirit of inquiry and allows us to better connect with our increasingly diverse patients and families. Our organization recruits, employs, trains, compensates, and promotes without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, status as a protected veteran, status as an individual with a disability, or other applicable legally protected characteristics.

The people who work at Seattle Children's are members of a community that seeks to respect and celebrate all the qualities that make each of us unique. Each of us is empowered to be ourselves within this community, which cultivates and promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion at all levels.

Seattle Children's is proud to be an Equal Opportunity Workplace and Affirmative Action Employer.