

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Amy S.B. Bohnert, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2008	Johns Hopkins University
M.H.S.	2005	Johns Hopkins University
B.A.	2002	University of Maryland

Professional Record:

2010-present	Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Michigan
2010-present	Research Investigator, Department of Veteran's Affairs, National Serious Mental Illness Treatment Resource and Evaluation Center (SMITREC), HSR&D Center of Excellence, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Teaching: Dr. Bohnert teaches and mentors undergraduates, graduate students, post-doctoral students and fellows. She has mentored two students in honors thesis for the Department of Psychology in recent years (e.g., 2011-2015). She has been invited to lecture across the University of Michigan in various departments and schools including the Department of Psychiatry, School of Dentistry, School of Social Work and School of Public Health. Since joining the faculty of the UM Substance Abuse Research Center (UMSARC) NIDA-funded T32 program in 2014, she has provided lectures as part of the training program seminars.

The key focus of Dr. Bohnert's teaching activities is to assist clinicians and trainees in the Department of Psychiatry in understanding study design and analysis sufficiently to become informed consumers of research literature. In 2012, Dr. Bohnert developed and taught a four session series, called "Introduction to Statistics," which was open to the department and was attended by residents, fellows, research staff and other faculty. Dr. Bohnert is regularly available to consult on interpreting statistical methods with residents who present at the monthly Psychiatry Evidence Based Medicine seminar.

A key part of Dr. Bohnert's teaching performance is the success in supporting trainees in publishing peer-reviewed science. This resulted in 11 publications in which she led and included trainees as collaborators. Most importantly, her mentorship of trainees resulted in 29 peer-reviewed publications first authored by those trainees, a critical milestone towards their development of independence.

Research: Dr. Bohnert is a health services researcher with training in public health. She has focused on epidemiology and brief interventions related to substance use and related disorders. Dr. Bohnert's research portfolio includes clinical epidemiologic projects and clinical trials of brief interventions to

reduce risky substance use, particularly opiates prescribed for chronic pain conditions. She is a national leader in this area.

As the leader of a team of collaborators at the University of Michigan and the VA, she has led a number of projects related to overdose and prescription drug safety and also contributed to the successful conduct of her colleagues' projects. Dr. Bohnert launched a series of projects using epidemiologic and survey research methods that have the goal of identifying strategies to address this highly significant problem. This work was supported by her VA-funded Career Development Award (CDA) as well as a R03 from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and a VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) Rapid Response Project (RRP). These projects have resulted in 16 peer-reviewed publications, including 12 first author, three middle author and two senior author publications. Parallel to her epidemiologic work on overdose mortality, she conducted a sequential series of projects to develop and test brief interventions to reduce opioid overdose risk behaviors and non-medical use. This work began with a UM Injury Research Center pilot project, which led to a small research project (R21-size in scope) as part of the CDC Injury Research Center and a National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)-funded R34 project. Both studies involve invention development work and then the conduct of a moderately-sized randomized clinical trial (n=200 and 120 respectively).

Most recently, Dr. Bohnert received funding as the principal investigator for a VA Health Services Research and Development (HSR&D) R01-equivalent project entitled '*Primary care intervention to reduce prescription opioid overdoses.*' This project will conduct a randomized controlled trial of a brief intervention for opioid safety among Veterans in primary care. In addition to this work she has led on brief interventions for opioid safety in patient populations, she has also been a collaborator on a number of randomized controlled trials of screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT) protocols for alcohol and drug use. Dr. Bohnert provides her expertise on projects related to data analysis methods as well as intervention content related to prescription drug use. This includes two National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) R01s, one NIDA R01, and one Department of Defense (DoD)-funded project, all led by Frederic Blow, Ph.D. These projects are largely in the stage of start-up, collecting data or conducting analysis, but this work has resulted in one middle author publication at this time. A publication detailing results of her CDC-funded trial is currently under review.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

Bohnert ASB, Roeder K, Ilgen MA: Unintentional overdoses and suicide among substance users: A review of overlap and risk factors. *Drug Alcohol Depend* 110:183-192, 2010.

Bohnert ASB, Nandi A, Tracy M, Cerda M, Tardiff K, Vlahov D, Galea S: Policing and risk of overdose mortality in urban neighborhoods. *Drug Alcohol Depend* 113:62-68, 2011.

Bohnert ASB, Valenstein M, Bair MJ, Ganoczy D, McCarthy JF, Ilgen MA, Blow FC: The association between opioid prescribing patterns and opioid overdose-related deaths. *JAMA* 305:1315-1321, 2011.

Bohnert ASB, Ilgen MA, Ignacio R, McCarthy JF, Valenstein MM, Blow FC: Risk of death from accidental overdose associated with psychiatric and substance use disorders. *Am J Psychiatry* 169:64-70, 2012.

Becker WC, Ganoczy D, Fiellin FA, Bohnert ASB: Buprenorphine/naloxone dose and pain intensity among individuals initiating treatment for opioid use disorder. *J Subst Abuse Treat* 48:128-131, 2015.

Service: Since 2013, Dr. Bohnert has been a member of the VA Substance Use Disorder Quality Enhancement Research Initiative, Substance Use Disorder and Pain Workgroup. She is also a member of two Centers for Disease Control and Prevention groups; Middle-Age Suicide, Prescription Drug Overdose (PDO) and PDO-Related Mortality Classification Expert Panel and the Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for Chronic Pain, Core Expert Group. Dr. Bohnert serves as a scientific consultant, Governor's Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force in Lansing, Michigan.

Dr. Bohnert has presented at national and international meetings. She is an author of 77 peer-reviewed publications (20 as first author, one in press), three non-peer reviewed publications (two as first author) in high impact journals including *JAMA*, *Addiction* and *the American Journal of Psychiatry*. Dr. Bohnert serves as an ad hoc reviewer for many journals including *Addiction*, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, *BMJ*, *American Journal of Addiction* and *JAMA*. She has been recognized in the top 5% of reviewers for the journal of *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*.

In 2014, she was an invited participant for an FDA meeting on post-marketing surveillance for long-acting opioids where she and other panel members provided feedback and guidance to the manufacturers of long-acting opioids on the design of several studies. During 2015, she served on two expert panels for the CDC, one of which is related to surveillance and classification of prescription drug overdose deaths, and one to support the CDC's development of opioid therapy guidelines.

A highlight of Dr. Bohnert's clinical epidemiologic work is a series of publications that brought considerable attention to the problem of prescription opioid overdose among patients prescribed opioids for pain. Most notably, her first author publication in *JAMA* in 2011 found an increasing risk of fatal overdose associated with higher prescribed opioid dosages. Given the absence of evidence of a benefit of very high dosages, this work has led to changes in clinical guidelines and other initiatives to reduce the frequency of high dosage opioid prescribing nationally. Subsequent publications in this line of work have elucidated the relationship between psychiatric conditions and risk of unintentional overdose death, changes in rates of opioid prescribing and overdose rates in the VA healthcare system, and settings of treatment received prior to overdose death among VA patients. This work was funded by her VA career development award as well as an R03 grant from NIA and a rapid response project from VA.

#### External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Bohnert has rapidly emerged as a leader studying the problem of drug overdose deaths, a public health challenge that now confronts the entire country....You have a very strong and 'rapidly ascending' faculty member in the person of Amy Bohnert."

Reviewer B: "...Dr. Bohnert's work is important and valued, and she plays an important role in educating the next generation of researchers."

Reviewer C: "Dr. Bohnert has a reputation for being an effective and intellectually generous collaborator...In a span of 7-8 years she has amassed a total of 77 peer-reviewed publications, with

20 as first author....A highlight of her publication record is a 2011 paper in *JAMA* establishing an association between prescribed opioid dosage and risk of opioid overdose death, which is highly cited and has been influential in changing prescribing practices and policies in the US.”

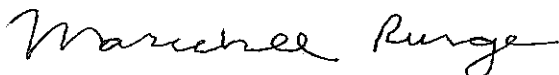
Reviewer D: “...I would place Dr. Bohnert up with [the] very best in the country alongside much more senior people...In the area of pain, opioids, addiction and overdose she is a rising star whose impact and stature is only going to grow in the coming years.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Bohnert is a nationally recognized expert in the epidemiology of substance use disorders and overdose....Her work addresses critically important questions, is methodologically rigorous, and has been extremely influential on primary care and pain medicine practice and on public health policy related to opioid analgesic prescribing.”

Reviewer F: “She shows excellent productivity, with 10 or more peer-reviewed publications per year since 2010....She is building a reputation in this area, and clearly is developing a national presence as evidenced by her work for the CDC...as well as her serving on an ad hoc study section. Notably, she has also been PI on an NIH R03 grant, and has a currently funded R34 grant.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Bohnert’s individual leadership as well as her commitment to team science has made an impact in the field of substance use disorders as evidenced by her research contributions that have influenced public policy and health outcomes. She is guiding the next generation of researchers, mentoring and developing them as scientific researchers. Dr. Bohnert is a well-trained scientist who is on a promising trajectory. She will undoubtedly continue to make important contributions to the field, and represent well the Department of Psychiatry and the University of Michigan. I am pleased to recommend Amy S.B. Bohnert, Ph.D. for promotion to associate professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.



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Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs  
Dean, Medical School

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