

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Maureen A. Walton, Ph.D., associate professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1993	Michigan State University
M.P.H.	1990	San Diego State University

Professional Record:

2011-present	Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Michigan
2008-2011	Research Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan
2003-2008	Research Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan
1998-2003	Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Walton teaches and mentors undergraduates, graduate students, medical students, post-doctoral students and fellows, and junior faculty. She has been a regular guest lecturer to undergraduate psychology students for more than 20 years, in which her research projects serve as field placements for undergraduate students. She has mentored three students in honors thesis for the Department of Psychology in recent years (e.g., 2012-2015). In addition, she has mentored numerous graduate students in public health by involving them in her research both as interns, volunteers, and paid staff. She has also mentored post-doctoral fellows and residents; for example, two of her former post-doctoral fellows currently have K23 funding for which she is the primary mentor. She has mentored scientists from Slovakia, Poland, and the Ukraine and is currently the multiple PI of a Fogarty Training program in the Ukraine. Notably, she conducted training for physician assistants in the Department of Pediatric Surgery on SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment). As a result of this training, pediatric trauma patients are screened for alcohol misuse, with subsequent brief interventions to reduce risk for injury. Also, as part of the UM Injury Center, they established an online pediatric injury prevention curricula that uses video technology to produce online lectures with brief competence assessments for University of Michigan residents in pediatric emergency medicine, for which she produced a video lecture on alcohol screening and brief intervention for adolescents.

Research: Dr. Walton's productivity is demonstrated by her publication record and extensive grant funding (~\$9 million in funding as a principal investigator and more than \$13 million as a

co-investigator). She was the principal investigator of the first and only study to demonstrate the efficacy of a brief therapist intervention (SafERteens) in reducing youth violence (published in *JAMA*), which uses technology (i.e., computerized workbook) to structure the therapy. She is the principal investigator of a study funded by the CDC to implement the SafERteens intervention into routine clinical care in the emergency department, either by on-site social work staff or by remote video therapy, given the lack of available therapists 24/7. As evidence for her commitment to increasing access to care by harnessing technology, she has developed text messaging boosters that will be delivered in the two months post discharge. Similarly, she is the multiple PI of a study in which they developed a stand-alone computerized brief intervention for alcohol misuse that reduced risky drinking, alcohol consequences, drinking and driving, and non-medical prescription drug use. She is the PI of a new R01 which will be the first study to test the efficacy of social media (e.g., Facebook) as an innovative intervention delivery platform for reducing binge drinking among adolescents and emerging adults. Dr. Walton is deeply committed to interdisciplinary team science as evidenced by the success of her team of collaborators in terms of grant funding and publications. She provides the team with expertise in e-health and m-health for assessment and intervention delivery. These innovative, applied intervention projects demonstrate her continued commitment to early identification and prevention/intervention of alcohol and drug misuse in order to reduce morbidity and mortality of associated unintentional and intentional (violent) injury.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

Cunningham RM, Chermack ST, Zimmerman MA, Shope JT, Bingham CR, Blow FC, Walton MA: Brief motivational interviewing intervention for peer violence and alcohol use in teens: One-year follow-up. *Pediatrics* 129:1083-1090, 2012.

Walton MA, Bohnert K, Resko S, Barry KL, Chermack ST, Zucker RA, Zimmerman MA, Booth BM, Blow FC: Computer and therapist based brief interventions among cannabis-using adolescents presenting to primary care: One year outcomes. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 132:646-653, 2013.

Walton, MA, Resko S, Barry KL, Chermack ST, Zucker RA, Zimmerman MA, Booth BM, Blow FC: A randomized controlled trial testing the efficacy of a brief cannabis universal prevention program among adolescents in primary care. *Addiction* 109:786-797, 2014.

Walton MA, Chermack ST, Blow FC, Ehrlich PF, Barry KL, Booth BM, Cunningham RM: Components of brief alcohol interventions for youth in the emergency department. *Substance Abuse* 36:339-349, 2014.

Cunningham RM, Carter PM, Ranney M, Zimmerman MA, Blow FC, Booth BM, Goldstick J, Walton MA: Violent reinjury and mortality among youth seeking emergency department care for assault-related Injury: A 2-year prospective cohort study. *JAMA Pediatrics* 169:63-70, 2015.

Service: Since 2011, Dr. Walton has been serving as a co-director for research, lead for intentional injury, University of Michigan Injury Center. She is an associate director for Child Research, Substance Abuse Section and University of Michigan Addiction Center, Department

of Psychiatry. She has been a member of the Silverman (annual research) Conference Planning Committee, Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Walton serves as a grant reviewer for the University of Michigan Office of Research (UMOR). National recognition of Dr. Walton's expertise in early interventions for substance use and violence among adolescents using technology is evident by her involvement with several professional activities. She was recently appointed for a four-year term to be a standing member of the NIH, Center for Scientific Review, Interventions to Prevent and Treat Addictions Study Section. As a result of the *JAMA* article demonstrating the efficacy of the SafERteens violence intervention, she has current collaborations to test this intervention in London, UK. Following publications as first author in top level journals in her field (*Addiction, Drug and Alcohol Dependence*), she has been asked to consult on the NIDA Clinical Trials Network (CTN 60) regarding brief interventions for cannabis use among adolescents, including a symposia proposal for the Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine (March 2016).

#### External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Walton's body of work focuses on testing intervention strategies for risk reduction with youth encountered in the medical setting. Her niche is not just the age group for intervention, but the development of interactive, IM modalities for reaching this age group. She is one of a small handful of researchers in this niche, and is providing national leadership....Dr. Walton would certainly be accorded the rank of Professor if this review were occurring in our institution."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Walton is an accomplished investigator who has made important contributions to the field of substance abuse and violence prevention among adolescents and young adults....She is well recognized in the research community both nationally and internationally with her work in Eastern Europe of special note....She is an outstanding scientist. Michigan is very fortunate to have her on the faculty."


Reviewer C: "Her research findings on vulnerable teens are providing interventions to improve outcomes for this population in primary and emergency care settings. As a primary care provider and researcher, it is clear to me that this work has important implications for both practice and policy....Dr. Walton is a nationally and internationally respected researcher and educator who has made important contributions to her field. I am very impressed with her creativity and productivity, her contributions to the field of brief interventions and addictions research, her teaching and training, and her collegiality."

Reviewer D: "...despite focusing on populations and topics that are not the easiest to study, Dr. Walton has conducted rigorous research and real-world settings, including multiple widely-cited randomized clinical trials in the areas of substance use disorders, violence, emergency room services and multi-problem adolescents....I think that Dr. Walton has scholarly accomplishments consistent with being a full professor of psychiatry in a nationally leading medical school and university. She's a leader in the field who I believe will continue to become even more influential in the years to come."

Reviewer E: "...the phenomena of youth substance abuse and exposure to violence have been neglected by researchers, and she has been successful in contributing to the field by focusing on risk factors as well as early and brief interventions for this population....Her record as a supervisor of post-doctoral fellows is stellar and clearly benefits the University of Michigan by developing young talent that can join the faculty or creating opportunities for future collaboration around the world."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Walton has demonstrated her commitment to interdisciplinary team science as evidenced not only by her success as a principal investigator, but the success of her team of collaborators. She has provided the team with expertise in e-health and m-health for assessment and intervention delivery. These innovative, applied intervention projects demonstrate her sustained commitment to early identification and prevention/intervention of alcohol and drug misuse in order to reduce morbidity and mortality of associated unintentional and intentional (violent) injury. She has worked extensively with national and international collaborators. Her research, teaching, and service demonstrate her commitment to training the next generation of scientist in the prevention of adolescent substance use and to reduce the public health burden of substance use and violence. I am, therefore, pleased to recommend Maureen A. Walton, Ph.D. for promotion to professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.



---

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

May 2016