

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Jessica Mellinger, M.D., M.S., assistant professor of internal medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, and assistant professor of psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, and associate professor of psychiatry, without tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.S.	2014	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
M.D.	2007	Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL
M.St.	2003	Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom
M.Phil.	2002	Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom
B.S.	2000	University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Professional Record:

2022 – Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan
2019 – Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University of Michigan
2015 – 2019	Clinical Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Mellinger actively participates in the educational mission of the department by routinely incorporating teaching into her clinical and research activities. She has provided both research and career mentorship to internal medicine residents and gastroenterology and hepatology fellows. She presents at continuing medical education events annually, at educational lectures for residents/fellows, and serves as a preceptor in the opioid use disorder medical student course. She is a member of the Professional Education Committee and the Clinical Curriculum Committee for the liver transplant hepatology fellowship at the University of Michigan. The multidisciplinary Alcohol-Associated Liver Disease clinic she founded has become a highly sought-after resource for educating medical students, residents, fellows, psychology post-graduates, and others on integrated mental health and hepatology care. Teaching evaluations are very good to excellent with feedback detailing her skills as a role model and clinician, and her supportive nature.

Research: Dr. Mellinger's research is focused on exploring the healthcare burden and epidemiology of alcohol-related liver disease (ALD), using mixed methods health service research approaches. Her work has had a significant impact in the field through the creation of novel behavioral interventions to improve engagement in the treatment of alcohol use disorder, and alcohol cessation in ALD patients. She published some of the inaugural studies dedicated to examining the specific reasons why ALD patients do not engage in alcohol use disorder treatment. Dr. Mellinger has been very successful in securing funding for her research from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. She is currently supported as a multi-principal investigator or principal investigator of three NIH R01's and as a consultant on an R33, and has been

supported by five past grants including a career development award. She has authored 57 peer-reviewed manuscripts in high impact journals such as *The American Journal of Gastroenterology*, *Liver Transplant*, and the *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hepatology*. Dr. Mellinger has delivered two prestigious lectures on ALD at Digestive Disease Week, the largest gastroenterology/hepatology conference in the United States. She has delivered 34 invited extramural presentations nationally and internationally including in Canada, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Mellinger JL, Medley S, Kidwell KM, Asefah H, Winder GS, Fernandez AC, Lok ASF, Blow F, “Improving alcohol treatment engagement using integrated behavioral interventions in alcohol-associated liver disease: A randomized pilot trial,” *Hepatology Commun.* 2023 Sep 15;7(10):e0181. doi: 10.1097/HC9.000000000000181. PMID: 37708435; PMCID: PMC10503679
- Mellinger JL, Winder GS, Fernandez AC, Klevering K, Johnson A, Asefah H, Figueroa M, Buchanan J, Blow F, Lok AS F, “Feasibility and early experience of a novel multidisciplinary alcohol-associated liver disease clinic,” *J Subst Abuse Treat.* 130: 108396, 11/2021. PM34118717
- Im GY, Mellinger JL, Winters A, Aby ES, Lominadze Z, Rice J, Lucey MR, Arab JP, Goel A, Jophlin LL, Sherman CB, Parker R, Chen P-H, Devuni D, Sidhu S, Dunn W, Szabo G, Singal AK, Shah VH, “Provider Attitudes and Practices for Alcohol Screening, Treatment, and Education in Patients With Liver Disease: A Survey From the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases Alcohol-Associated Liver Disease Special Interest Group,” *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol.* 19(11): 2407-2416.e8, 11/2021. PM33069880
- Anderson MS, Valbuena VS M, Brown CS, Waits SA, Sonnenday CJ, Englesbe M, Mellinger JL, “Association of COVID-19 With New Waiting List Registrations and Liver Transplantation for Alcoholic Hepatitis in the United States,” *JAMA Netw Open.* 4(10): e2131132, 10/2021. PM34698851
- Avanceña AL V, Miller N, Uttal SE, Hutton DW, Mellinger JL, “Cost-effectiveness of alcohol use treatments in patients with alcohol-related cirrhosis,” *J Hepatol.* 74(6): 12861294, 06/2021. PM33326815

Service: Dr. Mellinger has been very active in service nationally and institutionally. Nationally, she helped author the 2020 American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) ALD Guidance document, specifically authoring sections on ALD detection, treatment, and integrated care. She is a member of the AASLD Practice Guidelines Committee and serves as the communications committee chair for the AASLD ALD Special Interest Group. She is a reviewer on the Clinical, Treatment, and Health Services Research study section of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). She is on two editorial boards and previously served as an associate editor for *Clinical Liver Disease*. She is an ad hoc reviewer for many journals including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, and *Gastroenterology*. Institutionally, she serves as the chair of the UM Gastroenterology department’s workforce equity committee and recently chaired the Department of Internal Medicine’s review of the Allergy and Immunology Division. She is an active member of the Hepatology Liver Transplant Operating Committee. Working in collaboration with colleagues in psychiatry, she founded one of the first multidisciplinary ALD clinics in the nation. Designed to bring together mental health, substance use, and hepatology care for the sickest ALD patients, the clinic has been enormously successful, growing 300% over four years and spawning multiple similar clinics across the U.S. and worldwide, including Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard, University of Wisconsin, Duke University, Rush University, Cleveland Clinic, and the Swiss Liver Institute, to name a few.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “Dr. Mellinger is well funded by the NIH – she seamlessly transitioned from a K23 to two R01 awards as the PI, and this speaks her promise and prominence in the field. For her rank, she is well published and they have appeared in high impact journals such as JAMA Network Open, Journal of Hepatology and Lancet. She is an invited speaker at national and international meetings on multiple occasions. These accomplishments attest to her national and international recognition as a key opinion leader in the field of alcohol related liver disease.”

Reviewer B: “During this relatively brief time period, Dr. Mellinger published a total of 57 peer-reviewed publications (she is either first or senior author on over half of these), as well as ten book chapters and numerous invited editorials and reviews.”

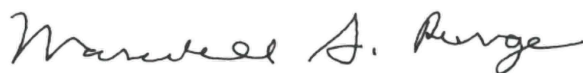
Reviewer C: “Dr. Mellinger’s commitment to service is evident through her active participation in committees, including the AASLD Practice Guidelines Committee and the Public and Clinical Policy Committee. Additionally, her role as an ad hoc member of the NIAAA study section and her leadership within the University of Michigan's GI/Hep Division further showcase her leadership skills.”

Reviewer D: “She is considered a thought leader and a trendsetter in liver diseases. She is frequently invited to present at local, regional and national meetings, including presenting at our Grand Rounds...She is a master at presenting complex nuanced issues around [the] management of patients with liver disease in general and patients with alcohol liver disease in particular. These talks underscore her standing as a national leader in the field.”

Reviewer E: “Jessica is a leader in the field of integrative care in ALD. She developed the integrated care program at UM—this has not only changed the lives of patients with ALD under her care, but has changed clinical practice across many institutions, both nationally and internationally.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Mellinger is a highly accomplished clinical investigator and thought leader in the alcohol use research field. Dr. Mellinger is a renowned scientist, a dedicated and effective teacher, and a very active citizen. I am pleased to recommend Jessica Mellinger, M.D., M.S. for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, and associate professor of psychiatry, without tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.



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

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