

UPenn Emergency Department Academic Associates (AA) Program

What is the AA Program?

- Emergency Department based program that supports ED research
- Appoints volunteer students to consent and collect patient data
- Primarily supports ED faculty and resident research projects
- External departments will be considered on a case-by-case basis
- Funded projects may be subjected to a cost assessment discussion with the Medical Director

Who are the AA's

- Student volunteers primarily pooled from the Penn Post-Bacc Program
- Students pursuing Medical School
- Interested in research and/or Emergency Medicine
- Seeking exposure to clinical environments

Program Capabilities

- Screen patients for research projects in the ED at HUP and PPMC
- Notify study teams when eligible patients are present in the ED
- Obtain informed consent from ED patients eligible for research
- Enroll patients in minimal risk studies (e.g. patient surveys, biomarker studies)

Program Hours

- HUP: Monday-Sunday 7am-12am
- PPMC: Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm

Requesting AA Services

- All requests for services submitted through the Program Coordinator
- Request will be approved by the Medical Director
- Requests should include a summary of the proposed project, details of data collection, and preliminary consent form

Program Contacts

- Medical Director: Benjamin Abella, MD. MPhil
- Project Manager: Erica Dahlmeier (erica.dahlmeier@uphs.upenn.edu)
- Program Coordinator: Tim Vaughan-Ogunlusi (vaughano@uphs.upenn.edu)