



RESEARCH - Grace Chang, MD, MPH



Dr. Grace Chang graduated cum laude from Yale University. She attended the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at Rutgers University and then returned to Yale where she did her residency and chief residency. She stayed on as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar in the Departments of Internal Medicine and Psychiatry and also earned her MPH. She is double-boarded in psychiatry and addiction psychiatry.

Dr. Chang held several clinical and administrative positions in the addictions field at the Connecticut Mental Health Center and was appointed assistant professor of psychiatry at Yale University School of Medicine. In 1991 she came to Boston and joined the staff at Brigham and Women's Hospital where she was director of the Division of Health Services Research for Partners Psychiatry and Mental Health, along with other roles. In 2011 she moved to the VA Boston Healthcare System where she has worked in substance abuse and consultation-liaison psychiatry. She has attained the rank of professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School (HMS) and is currently acting head of the Harvard Department of Psychiatry at the VA.

Dr. Chang's research has focused on three areas: transplantation psychiatry; substance abuse, especially its effects on pregnant women and their babies; and patient evaluation and treatment outcome issues. The results of her research on the identification and prevention of prenatal alcohol use, including the first-ever randomized trial of a brief intervention, informed the development of the Drinking and Reproductive Health Toolkit that is disseminated by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

She has a passion for initiating quality improvement/clinical research projects to encourage the academic development of psychiatry residents and junior faculty. She has chaired the Harvard Consolidated Department of Psychiatry Research Committee and has held many other positions in the HMS faculty organization. In addition to her research and teaching, Dr. Chang is an outstanding clinician and a consultant to the Massachusetts Medicaid Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program along with many other public and private mental health care and substance abuse treatment groups.

Dr. Chang has written 93 peer-reviewed papers and 33 chapters and reviews. She has been invited to speak locally, nationally, and internationally on subjects in her research areas. She is a reviewer for at least 20 professional journals and has received many awards and honors for her research as well as for her teaching and mentoring. Her research has been consistently funded for over 30 years.

The MPS is pleased to present Dr. Grace Chang with the 2019 Outstanding Psychiatrist Award for Research.