

Tala Berro

MS, LCGC

EDUCATION

- 2016–2018 **Boston University School of Medicine**, M.S. in Genetic Counseling
- 2011–2015 **Boston College**, B.S. in Biology

LICENSURE & BOARD CERTIFICATION

- 2019–Present Board of Registration of Genetic Counselors in Commonwealth of MA
- 2018–Present American Board of Genetic Counseling
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018–2022 **Mass General Brigham**
Senior Genetic Counselor
- Adult Genetics Clinic - Provide genetic counseling with four different geneticists with sub-specialties including cancer, neurofibromatosis type 1, neurology, and general genetics. Independently perform telehealth virtual visits for genetic testing results disclosures.
 - Preventive Genomics Clinic - Provide genetic counseling in the first academically affiliated clinical service for healthy adults and their children.
- Project Manager at Genomes2People (G2P)*
- PeopleSeq Consortium - Manage survey study of healthy adults who have undergone preventive genetic testing. Coordinated a Consortium of 16 industry, research, and clinical partners to ensure broad recruitment.
 - REVEAL-SCAN - Disclose amyloid imaging results in the first multi-site, randomized clinical trial to examine the impact of learning amyloid imaging results in cognitively normal individuals.
 - Diversity and Inclusion Efforts - Created a Genomic Inclusion Board of minority researchers who consult on G2P projects and created a BIPOC internship program for prospective graduate and medical students.
- 2016–2018 **The Undiagnosed Diseases Network at Harvard Medical School**
Genetic Counseling Research Assistant
- Consented families for participant webpages project and prepared each webpage. Answered phone calls and emails at the UDN Helpdesk to aid participants. Curated phenotypic data from 7 clinical sites with Phenotips.
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2020–Present **MGH Institute of Health Professions**
Adjunct Assistant Professor

- Seminar Instructor - Course creator and lecturer for the Seminar I/IV course for both 1st and 2nd year students for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022.
- Admissions Committee - Review applications for Fall 2021 class.
- Clinical Skills Instructor - Reviewed sessions of genetic counseling students with simulated patients with general genetics referrals.

Advisory Board Member

- Provide recommendations to the GC program through curriculum, outcome measures, and initiatives.

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED

*Top cited article in 2020-2021

Rajkovic A, Cirino AL, **Berro T**, Koeller DR, Zayhowski K. Transgender and gender-diverse (TGD) individuals' perspectives on research seeking genetic variants associated with TGD identities: a qualitative study. *Journal of Community Genetics*. 2021 Oct 12. doi: 10.1007/s12687-021-00554-z.

Berro T, Barrett E, Aldubayan S. Clinical Multigene Testing for Prostate Cancer. *Urologic Clinics of North America*, 48, 3, (2021). doi:10.1016/j.ucl.2021.03.002.

LeBlanc K, Kelley E, Nagy A, Bater J, **Berro T**, McGuinness M, Studwell C, Might M. Rare disease patient matchmaking: development and outcomes of an internet case-finding strategy in the Undiagnosed Diseases Network. *Orphanet Journal of Rare Disease* 16, 210 (2021).
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13023-021-01825-1>

*Ruderman M, **Berro T**, Torrey Sosa L, Zayhowski K. Genetic counselors' experiences with transgender individuals in prenatal and preconception settings. *Journal of Genetic Counseling*. 2021;00:1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jgc4.1394>

Berro T, Amir F, Chan-Smutko G, Lawrence J, Channaoui N. Creation and utility of ‘Boston Minority Genetic Counselors’. *Journal of Genetic Counseling*. 2020;00:1–6. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jgc4.1268>

***Berro T**, Zayhowski K, Field T, Channaoui N, Sotelo J. Genetic counselors’ comfort and knowledge of cancer risk assessment for transgender patients. *Journal of Genetic Counseling*. 2019;00:1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jgc4.1172>

Zayhowski K, Park J, Boehmer U, Gabriel C, **Berro T**, Champion M. Cancer genetic counselors' experiences with transgender patients: A qualitative study. *Journal of Genetic Counseling*. 2019;00:1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jgc4.1092>

Ford J, Gaesser B, DiBiase H, **Berro T**, Young L, & Kensinger E. Heroic memory: Remembering the details of others' heroism in the aftermath of a traumatic public event can foster our own prosocial response. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*. 2017. doi:10.1002.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

2020–Present	Co-founder: Boston Minority Genetic Counselors
2019–Present	Reviewer: <i>Journal of Genetic Counseling</i>
2019–2020	Subject Matter Expert: Implicit Bias Online Course for NSGC

INVITED PRESENTATIONS & TRAININGS

WEBINARS

2021	Public Health SIG: Health (In)equity in Genomic Medicine & Research
2021	Midwest Regional Genetics: Beyond the Binary: Gender Diversity
2021	NSGC: Beyond the Binary: Gender Diversity in Genetic Counseling
2019	Michigan Dept. of Health Services: Counseling for LGBTQIA+ Patients
2019	InformedDNA: Transgender Cancer Care

TRAININGS

2022	MGH Genetics Conference: Queering Genetics and Genetic Counseling
2021	MGH IHP: Counseling for Consanguinity and Endogamy
2020	MGB Division of Genetics: Considerations for Gender Diverse Patients
2019	MGH IHP: Exploring the Impact of Power, Privilege, and Positionality

POSTERS

2021	NSGC AEC: Strategies for Enhancing Minority Recruitment in Early Adopters of Preventive Genomics
2021	NSGC AEC: Proactive Whole Genome Sequencing in Healthy Adults Yields Medically Relevant Information: A Case Series
2020	NSGC AEC: Genomic Testing in Healthy Individuals: The Brigham Preventive Genomics Clinic
2020	AfroBiotech: Innovative Approach to Minority Recruitment in a Genetic Study
2020	ASHG: Comparing perceived utility and reported lifestyle changes after disclosure of actionable genomic results in elective sequencing vs biobank return of results
2019	NSGC AEC: Streamlining Exposure to Genetic Counseling as a Profession through Hospital-Based Genetic Counseling Career Day Event
2018	NSGC AEC: Genetic Counselor Comfort and Knowledge of Cancer Risk Assessment for Transgender Patients

GUEST LECTURES

2022 Johns Hopkins	Examining Ties Between Gender, Genetics, and Justice
2021, 2022 UCLA	Cancer Care for Transgender Patients

2020, 2022 MGH IHP	The "Healthy Adult"
2019, 2020 BU	Genetic Counseling Considerations for LGBTQIA+ Patients
2018, 2020 HMS	Interpreting Your Genome
2019 MGH IHP	Being a Research Genetic Counselor
2019 NU	Being a Genetic Counselor

MENTORSHIP & SUPERVISION

GENETIC COUNSELING THESIS MENTORSHIP

2021–2022	<i>Experiences and recommendations from the intersex community on genetic counseling</i>
2021–2022	<i>Assessing genetic counselor attitudes and perception of personal responsibility in disrupting anti-LGBTQ+ bias from patients</i>
2020–2021	<i>Consideration of Attitudes of the Transgender Community on Genetic Testing and Research Related to Gender Identity</i> *Won the Beth Kaplan Best Student Abstract Award
2019–2020	<i>Genetic counselors' experiences with transgender individuals in prenatal and preconception spaces</i>

CLINICAL & RESEARCH SUPERVISION

2021–Present	BIPOC Research Undergraduate Student Trainees (3 students)
2018–Present	Clinical Genetic Counseling Students (6 students)
2018–Present	Research Genetic Counseling Students (5 students)

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

2020	American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) Member
2017–Present	National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC) Member
2019–Present	NSGC Precision Medicine Special Interest Group Member
2016–2019	American College of Medicine and Genomics Member

HONORS & AWARDS

2020	Audrey Heimler Special Project Award <i>Development of Outcome Evaluation Framework for Diversity-Related Projects in Genetic Counseling</i>
2017	NSGC Student Research Project Award <i>Genetic counselors' comfort and knowledge of cancer risk assessment for transgender patients</i>