

# Gayun Chan-Smutko, MS, CGC

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[IHP Profile](#)

## EDUCATION

2000-2002 Brandeis University, Waltham, MA  
M.S., Genetic Counseling  
1990-1994 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
B.S., Cellular and Molecular Biology

## CERTIFICATION AND LICENSE INFORMATION

American Board of Genetic Counselors Certification, 2005  
Recertification, 2015

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Board of Registration of Genetic Counselors, License # GC040

## FACULTY APPOINTMENT

2018-present Associate Professor, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston, MA

2014-2018 Associate Professor of the Practice, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

## AWARDS

Recipient of the 2019 National Society of Genetic Counselors Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion inaugural award.

Recipient of the 2019 *CodeTalker* award.

Recipient of the 2021 MGH IHP GC Program Outstanding Faculty award

Co-recipient of the 2021 NSGC Audrey Heimler Special Projects Award

Recipient of the 2022 MGH IHP Pillars of Excellence award

## EXPERIENCE

2018-present Associate Director, M.S. in Genetic Counseling Program  
MGH Institute of Health Professions  
36 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Boston, MA 02129

### Courses:

- GC602, Introduction to Counseling Techniques (Semester II)
- GC701, Justice, Culture and ELSI for Genetic Counselors

### Administrative:

- Admissions Committee
- Faculty Search Committees
  - Director of Clinical Education
  - Director of Student Research

- Associate Director, Accessibility Resources

Advising:

- Serve as faculty advisor for 5-7 students per cohort
- Serve as committee member or advisor on 2 student Capstones per cohort

Service:

- Justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council (ongoing)
- Power, Privilege and Positionality Event Planning Committee (ongoing)
- JEDI Community of Practice (ongoing)
- Strategic Priority 5B, Team 1 (Dean Inez Tuck, Chair)
- DEI Case Studies Subcommittee (Charley Haynes, Chair)
- 2019 DEI Scorecard Taskforce
- IHP Commitment to Diversity and Cultural Competence Taskforce for language revision (Dr. Kim Truong, Chair)
- Racial Equity, Justice and Inclusion “Leading for Change” Taskforce (Dr. Kim Truong, Chair)
- Inter-Program Antiracism Dialogue Series (IPADS – genetic counseling trainees), 2020-present
- Intra-Professional Antiracism Dialogue Series (IPADS – practicing genetic counselors), 2022
- “Safe vs Brave vs Liberating Spaces – A Dialogue” – facilitated dialogue with members of SHRS Leadership, June 2022

2014-2018 Assistant Director, M.S. in Genetic Counseling Program  
Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham, MA 02453

- Course: Introduction to Genetic Counseling I and II. Instructor.
- Course: Fieldwork I and II. Instructor.
- Primary advisor on two student research projects each year.
- Admissions Committee, Faculty Search Committees.

2006-2018 Senior Genetic Counselor, Center for Cancer Risk Assessment  
Massachusetts General Hospital, 55 Fruit St., Boston, MA 02114

Perform all duties of Genetic Counselor. Additional responsibilities include:

- Mentor a growing genetic counseling staff.
- Collaborate with attending physicians to develop two new clinical programs in endocrine tumor genetics and neuro-oncology genetics.
- Evaluate health information technology platforms.

2002-2006 Genetic Counselor, Center for Cancer Risk Assessment  
Massachusetts General Hospital, 55 Fruit St., Boston, MA 02114

- Provide cancer genetic counseling services in hereditary breast/ovarian, gastrointestinal, renal cell carcinoma/von Hippel-Lindau disease programs.
- Carry out research responsibilities in each cancer genetics program.
- Supervise genetic counseling masters-degree program students.

- Provide outreach services, including clinician education and cancer genetic counseling in the outpatient setting.
- Develop and maintain standard operating procedure for data entry into Progeny database.

#### RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1994-2000 Senior Research Associate, Human Genetics/Genotyping Department  
Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Cambridge, MA

- Supervised and led a four-person R&D team focused on SNP development for fine mapping and association studies.
- Focused on building infrastructure to migrate from microsatellite to SNP typing.
- Evaluated dHPLC technology for mutation detection and SNP development.
- Established a robust set of microsatellite markers for genome-wide scans and linkage analysis of complex disease traits.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

##### *Category 1 CEU Eligible*

American College of Medical Genetics Annual Conference, 2019  
Association of Genetic Counseling Program Directors Biennial Retreat, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020  
National Society of Genetic Counselors Annual Conference, annually 2001-2021  
New England Regional Genetics Group Annual Conference, 2001, 2018  
American Society of Human Genetics Annual Conference, 1996-99, 2001  
MGH IHP Genetic Counseling Program Annual Conference, 2019, 2020, 2021

##### *Non-Category 1 CEU Eligible (partial listing)*

CMS Online Feedback Course (5 sessions, Fall 2018)  
MGH IHP Course Design Institute (3 sessions, Summer 2019)  
Gardner Institute, "The Humanity of Inclusive Practices" (4 session course, July 2020)  
Women of Color in the Academy Annual Conference, 2019, 2020, 2021  
MassGeneral Brigham DEI Summit, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC)  
NSGC Cancer SIG, Education SIG  
New England Regional Genetics Group, Inc. (NERGG)  
Association of Genetic Counseling Program Directors (AGCPD)

#### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

NSGC J.E.D.I. Action Plan Task Force (current)  
AGCPD DEI Task Force, *Chair* (current)  
AGCPD Code of Conduct Task Force, *Chair* (2019-2021)  
AGCPD Match Policies and Procedures Subcommittee (2017)

### VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Volunteer instructor/discussion leader (1 day events)

7th Grade Science, Pollard Middle School in Needham (2016 – 2018)

AP Biology, Wellesley High School (2017, 2018, 2020, 2021)

Bio 274 Genetics, Suffolk University (2021)

Career Representative at the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), MA Chapter Conference (2016)

VHL Alliance Kid's Book Workgroup (2005-2007)

Asian Women for Health, Genetic Counseling 101 (2021)

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Cahn, P. S., Makosky, A., Truong, K. A., Young, I., Boutin, E. R., Jr., Chan-Smutko, G., Murphy, P., & Milone-Nuzzo, P. (2022). Introducing the language of antiracism during graduate school orientation. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, 15(1), 1–6. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dhe0000377>

Sheehan E, Bennett RL, Harris M, **Chan-Smutko G**. Assessing transgender and gender non-conforming pedigree nomenclature in current genetic counselors' practice: The case for geometric inclusivity [published online ahead of print, 2020 Mar 30]. *J Genet Couns*. 2020;10.1002/jgc4.1256. doi:10.1002/jgc4.1256

Berro T, Amir F, **Chan-Smutko G**, Lawrence J, Channaoui N. Creation and utility of 'Boston Minority Genetic Counselors'. *J Genet Couns*. 2020;29(2):206-211. doi:10.1002/jgc4.1268

Bao AK, Bergner AL, **Chan-Smutko G**, Villiers J. Reflections on diversity, equity, and inclusion in genetic counseling education. *J Genet Couns*. 2020;29(2):315-323. doi:10.1002/jgc4.1242

Schneider M, Dinkelborg K, Xiao X, **Chan-Smutko G**, Hruska K, Huang D, Sagar P, Harisinghani M, Iliopoulos O. Early onset renal cell carcinoma in an adolescent girl with germline FLCN exon 5 deletion. *Fam Cancer*. 2018 Jan;17(1):135-139.

**Chan-Smutko G**. Genetic Counseling in Von Hippel-Lindau Disease: Navigating the Landscape of a Well-Established Syndrome. *Current Genetic Medicine Reports*. 2017:1-9.

Billir JA, Butros SR, **Chan-Smutko G**, Abrams AN, Chung DC, Hagen CE. Case records of the Massachusetts General Hospital. Case 6-2016. A 10-year-old boy with abdominal cramping and fevers. *N Engl J Med*. 2016 Feb 25; 374:772-81.

Alexander EK, **Chan-Smutko G**, Saksena MA, Popa I. Case records of the Massachusetts General Hospital. Case 19-2013. A 35-year-old woman with recurrent goiter and ductal carcinoma of the breast. *N Engl J Med*. 2013 Jun 20; 368(25):2416-24.

**Chan-Smutko G**. Genetic testing by cancer site: urinary tract. *Cancer J*. 2012 Jul-Aug;18(4):343-9.

Shannon KM, Rodgers LH, **Chan-Smutko G**, Patel D, Gabree M, Ryan PD. Which individuals undergoing BRCA analysis need BART testing? *Cancer Genet*. 2011 Aug;204(8):416-22.

Wham D, Vu T, **Chan-Smutko G**, Kobelka C, Urbauer D, Heald B. 2010. Assessment of clinical practices among cancer genetic counselors. *Fam Cancer*. 9(3):459-68.

**Chan-Smutko G**, Patel D, Shannon KM, Ryan PD. 2008. Professional challenges in cancer genetic testing: who is the patient? *Oncologist*. 13:232-38.

Herraiz M, Barbesino G, Faquin W, **Chan-Smutko G**, Patel D, Shannon KM, Daniels GH, Chung DC. 2007. Prevalence of thyroid cancer in familial adenomatous polyposis syndrome and the role of screening ultrasound examinations. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 5(3):367-73.

Shannon KM, Muzikansky A, **Chan-Smutko G**, Niendorf KB, Ryan PD. 2006. Uptake of BRCA1 rearrangement panel testing: in individuals previously tested for BRCA1/2 mutations. *Genet Med*. 8(12):740-5.

Iliopoulos O, **Chan-Smutko G**, Gonzalez RG, Louis DN, Stone JR. Case records of the Massachusetts General Hospital. Case 23-2006. A 36-year-old man with numbness in the left hand and hypertension. *N Engl J Med*. Jul 27;355(4):394-402.

Jo WS, Bandipalliam P, Shannon KM, Niendorf KB, **Chan-Smutko G**, Hur C, Syngal S, Chung DC. 2005. Correlation of polyp number and family history of colon cancer with germline MYH mutations. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 3(10):1022-8.

Parker A, Meyer J, Lewitsky S, Rennich JS, **Chan G**, Thomas J, Orho-Melander M, Lehtovirta M, Forsblom C, Hyrkkö A, Carlsson M, Lindgren C, Groop LC. 2001. A gene conferring susceptibility to type 2 diabetes in conjunction with obesity is located on chromosome 18p11. *Diabetes*. 50(3):675-80.

Ekelund J, Hovatta I, Parker A, Paunio T, Varilo T, Martin R, Suhonen J, Ellonen P, **Chan G**, Sinsheimer JS, Sobel E, Juvonen H, Arajärvi R, Partonen T, Suvisaari J, Lonngvist J, Meyer J, Peltonen L. 2001. Chromosome 1 loci in Finnish schizophrenia families. *Hum Mol Genet*. 10:1611-7.

Chen H, Jawahar S, Qian Y, Duong Q, **Chan G**, Parker A, Meyer JM, Moore KJ, Chayen S, Gross DJ, Glaser B, Permutt MA, Fricker LD. 2001. Missense polymorphism in the human carboxypeptidase E gene alters enzymatic activity. *Hum Mutat*. 18: 120-31.

Faraone SV, Meyer J, Matise T, Svrakic D, Pepple J, Malaspina D, Suarez B, Hampe C, **Chan G**, Aelony A, Friedman JH, Kaufmann C, Cloninger CR, Tsuang MT. 1999. Suggestive linkage of chromosome 10p to schizophrenia is not due to transmission ratio distortion. *Am J Med Genet*. 88:607-8.

Mahtani MM, Widen E, Lehto M, Thomas J, McCarthy M, Brayer J, Bryant B, **Chan G**, Daly M, Forsblom C, Kanninen T, Kirby A, Kruglyak L, Munnely K, Parkkonen M, Reeve-Daly MP, Weaver A, Brettin T, Duyk G, Lander ES, Groop LC. 1996. Mapping of a gene for type 2 diabetes associated with an insulin secretion defect by a genome scan in Finnish families. *Nat Genet*. 14(1), 90-4.

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

Shannon K and Chan-Smutko G. "Medical Genetics". *Psychiatric Care of the Medical Patient*. 3rd Edition. Eds. Fogel BS and Greenberg DB. Oxford University Press, 2015. Chapter 64.

Chan-Smutko, G. "Genetic testing by cancer site: urinary tract". *CANCER: Principles and Practice of Oncology*, 10th edition, Eds. Vincent T. DeVita, Jr., Theodore S. Lawrence, and Steven A. Rosenberg. Wolters Kluwer, 2014.

Chan-Smutko G and Iliopoulos O. "Familial Renal Cell Cancers and Pheochromocytomas". *Principles of Clinical Cancer Genetics*. Eds. Chung DC, Haber DA New York: Springer, 2010. 109-128.

Hulick P, Chan-Smutko G, Zimmer M, Iliopoulos O. "Genetic Counseling for Inherited Forms of Kidney Cancer." *Renal Cell Cancer: Diagnosis and Therapy*. Eds. De La Rosette JJMCH, Sternberg CN, van Poppel HPA. New York: Springer-Verlag, 2008. 161-172.

#### PATIENT RESOURCES

Kruger M, Chan-Smutko G, Eckerman A, Doyle C. *VHL Handbook Kid's Edition: A Handbook for Parents and Kids Living with von Hippel-Lindau*. VHL Family Alliance, May 1 2009.  
<https://www.vhl.org/product/vhl-handbook-kids-edition/>

#### ON-LINE RESOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Chan-Smutko G, Plon SE, Iliopoulos O. "Clinical features, diagnosis, and management of von Hippel-Lindau disease." *Dep. Ed. Michael E. Ross. UpToDate Online*. 18 Dec. 2007-2013.

Chan-Smutko G, Plon SE, Iliopoulos O. "Molecular biology and pathogenesis of von Hippel-Lindau disease." *Dep. Ed. Michael E. Ross. UpToDate Online*. 24 July 2008-2013.