



Seattle Institute for Biomedical and Clinical Research

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

January - March 2021

ERIC PETRIE, MD, MS



Eric Petrie, MD, MS, is a psychiatrist and the principal investigator on a recently funded three-year, SIBCR-administered contract from the Department of Defense (DoD) to develop a radiolabeled compound (“radiotracer”) that will allow PET imaging of alpha1A subtype receptors for the brain chemical messenger, norepinephrine, in living persons. The overall goal of the project is to develop a PET imaging “assay” that would allow the screening of novel alpha1A-receptor antagonist drugs, so as to identify new compounds with the efficacy of prazosin but possessing more desirable clinical characteristics (e.g., no first-dose hypotension, dosing once vs. multiple times per day, and a narrower range of effective doses). This contract extends work Dr. Petrie performed under a previous DoD grant funded in 2010. Co-Investigators on the new contract include VA Puget Sound Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC) investigators Garth Terry, MD, PhD, and Murray Raskind, MD, VA Puget Sound R&D Mass Spectrometry Core director Alvin Matsumoto, MD, and multiple collaborators in the UW Department of Radiology.

Dr. Petrie is currently Associate Professor, Emeritus, in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington and Research Associate with the VA Puget Sound MIRECC. He received his MS degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and his MD degree from the University of Washington and completed his psychiatry residency at Stanford. After serving as an inpatient attending on the Psychiatry Service at VA Puget Sound for 15 years, he received a five-year career development award from the National Institute on Aging in 2005 to train in PET brain imaging and its applications in studies of neurodegenerative dementias, under the supervision of Dr. Raskind and then-UW Radiology faculty member Satoshi Minoshima, MD, PhD. He subsequently collaborated on PET and MR neuroimaging studies funded by a VA Merit Review grant titled “Mild TBI and Biomarkers of Neurodegeneration” under the direction of Elaine Peskind, MD. He has also received research funding from the UW Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center and the Washington State Eagles. Dr. Petrie’s other research interests include assessments of the diagnostic sensitivity and specificity of the Clinician Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS) and characterization of neuroimaging biomarkers of cognition and chronic postconcussive symptoms in individuals who have sustained mild traumatic brain injuries (mTBIs).

NEW HIRING PROCEDURES!

SIBCR became a federal contractor in September 2020 and must follow new federal requirements regarding recruiting and hiring. ***It is very important that you contact SIBCR HR when you need to post a job ad.*** Some hiring changes include:

- **E-Verify:** SIBCR is now an E-Verify employer, which means that all new hires must be verified for eligibility through a system that compares an employee’s I-9 form to records available to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration.
- **Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO):** SIBCR is required to post specific EEO language on all job postings and must comply with other EEO rules and regulations.
- **Affirmative Action Plan (AAP):** SIBCR is now required to have an AAP. A new applicant tracking system will be implemented in the early part of calendar year 2021 to facilitate compliance with this requirement. More information will be forthcoming.

SIBCR also welcomed a new staff member, Sarah Pettitt, who will lead the recruiting process as well as help with general HR questions alongside Susan Lim and Annette Coder. We will continue to strive to make the SIBCR hiring process as streamlined as possible despite these changes. If you have any questions, please contact hr@sibcr.org.