

# Maxie M. Blasini

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## Education

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| <b>Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine</b><br><i>Pacific College of Health &amp; Science, San Diego, CA</i>   | Expected December 2021 |
| <b>Functional Training Specialist</b><br><i>American Council on Exercise, San Diego, CA</i>  | December 2019          |
| <b>Certified Health Coach</b><br><i>American Council on Exercise, San Diego, CA</i>  | January 2019           |
| <b>Master of Science in Physiology and Biophysics</b><br><i>Complementary and Alternative Medicine Program</i><br><i>Georgetown University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Washington, DC</i><br>Overall/Science GPA: 3.92/3.95 | August 2016            |
| <b>Bachelor of Science in Biology, Chemistry minor</b><br><i>Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, Metropolitan Campus, San Juan, PR</i><br>Overall/Science GPA: 4.00/4.00  | June 2013              |

## Honors & Awards

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| • Patricia and Paul C. Bragg Global Health Course Scholarship- \$800<br>○ <i>Natural Doctors International brigade to Integrative Clinic in Nicaragua, March 2018</i> | January 2018 |
| • PAINWeek 2017 scholarship recipient - \$239<br>○ <i>PAINWeek 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, USA</i>   | August 2017  |
| • Junior Researcher Travel Grant- €300<br>○ <i>1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Society for Interdisciplinary Placebo Studies, Leiden, the Netherlands</i>               | April 2017   |
| • MASBBM Spring Conference Student Scholarship<br>○ <i>Mid-Atlantic Society for Biofeedback and Behavioral Medicine, MD, USA</i>                                      | April 2016   |
| • Biomedical Graduate Education Merit-Based Tuition Scholarship - \$5,000<br>○ <i>Georgetown University, Washington D.C, USA</i>                                      | August 2015  |

- Summa Cum Laude mention and highest GPA of graduating class June 2013
  - *Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR*
- Extraordinary Scholarship- Full cost of tuition October 2011-May 2013
  - *Interamerican University of Puerto Rico Honors Program*
- Intramural Volleyball Athletic Scholarship - \$500, \$1,500 October 2011-May 2013
  - *Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR*
- Division I NJCAA Volleyball Scholarship- Tuition, R&B, Books August 2010-May 2011
  - *Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne, WY, USA*

## **Publications**

**Blasini M**, Peiris N, Wright T, Colloca L. (2018). The Role of Patient-Practitioner Relationships in Placebo and Nocebo Phenomena. In L. Colloca (Ed.), *Neurobiology of the Placebo Effect Part II* (First), 211-231. Academic Press.

Peiris, N. & **Blasini, M\***. & Wright, T. & Colloca, L. (2018). The Placebo Phenomenon: A Narrow Focus on Psychological Models. *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine* 61(3), 388-400.

\*equal first author contribution

**Blasini, M.**, Corsi, N., Colloca, L. (2018). Placebo and Nocebo Effects. In R. J. Moore (Ed.), *Handbook of Pain and Palliative Care: Biobehavioral Approaches for the Life Course* (Second). SPRINGER. Retrieved from <https://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319953687>

**Blasini, M.**, Movsas, S., Colloca, L. (2018). Placebo hypoalgesic effects in pain: Potential applications in dental and orofacial pain management. *Seminars in Orthodontics*, 24(2), 259–268. <https://doi.org/10.1053/j.sodo.2018.04.001>

**Blasini, M.**, Corsi, N., Klinger, R., Colloca, L. (2017). Nocebo and pain: an overview of the psychoneurobiological mechanisms. *Pain Reports*, 2(2), e585. doi: 10.1097/PR9.0000000000000585

Klinger, R., **Blasini, M.**, Schmitz, J., Colloca, L. (2017). Nocebo effects in clinical studies: hints for pain therapy. *Pain Reports*, 2(2), e586. doi: 10.1097/PR9.0000000000000586

Rush, C., Lobo, T., Serrano, A., **Blasini, M.**, Campos, C., & Graves, K. (2016). Complementary and Alternative Medicine Use and Latina Breast Cancer Survivors' Symptoms and Functioning. *Healthcare*, 4(4), 80. <https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare4040080>

## **Abstracts & Poster Presentations**

Nocebo Effects in Pain Management: psychobiological mechanisms and practical strategies for improving clinical outcomes

Maxie Blasini

PAINWeek 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

September 5-9, 2017

The Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas, NV, USA

Phenotyping Expectancy-Induced Analgesia in Patients with Temporomandibular Disorder

**Maxie Blasini**, Lieven Schenk, Jane Phillips, Claudia Campbell, Nicole Corsi, Roshni Patel, Nandini Raghuraman, Vanessa Benavent, Thelma Wright, Susan Dorsey, Cynthia Renn, Nicholas Ambulos, Christy Chang, David Goldman, Pedro E. Martinez, Joel Greenspan, Luana Colloca

*Presented by Luana Colloca*

10<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Pain Federations (EFIC)

September 6-9, 2017

Copenhagen, Denmark

Placebo Analgesia in Chronic Orofacial Pain Patients versus Healthy Matched-Controls: a cohort study

**Maxie Blasini**, Lieven Schenk, Nicole Corsi, Luana Colloca

Program in Neuroscience (PIN) Retreat

June 2017

Notre Dame of Maryland University, Baltimore, MD

Exploration of Expectancy-Induced Analgesia in Patients with Temporomandibular Disorder: a Cohort Study

**Maxie Blasini**, Nicole Corsi, Lieven Schenk, Luana Colloca

Neuroscience and Cognitive Science Research Day

April 28, 2017

University of Maryland College Park, College Park, MD

Exploration of Expectancy-Induced Analgesia in Patients with Temporomandibular Disorder: a Cohort Study

**Maxie Blasini**, Nicole Corsi, Lieven Schenk, Luana Colloca

First Official Conference of the Society for Interdisciplinary Placebo Studies (SIPS)

April 2-4, 2017

Leiden, the Netherlands

**Oral Presentations**

Nocebo Effects in Pain Management: psychobiological mechanisms and practical strategies for improving clinical outcomes

Maxie Blasini

PAINWeek 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

September 8, 2017

The Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas, NV, USA

Rescue of Impaired mGluR5-driven Endocannabinoid Signaling Restores Prefrontal Cortical Output to Inhibit Pain in Arthritic Rats

Pain Journal Club

University of Maryland Baltimore, Baltimore, MD, USA

March 22, 2017

[Kiritoshi T, Ji G, Neugebauer V. Rescue of Impaired mGluR5-Driven Endocannabinoid Signaling Restores Prefrontal Cortical Output to Inhibit Pain in Arthritic Rats. J Neurosci. 2016;36(3):837-50.]

### Nueva Vida Intervention: Psychosocial Outcomes and Exploration of CAM Use Among Latina Breast Cancer Survivors

Co-Presenter with Kristi Graves, PhD

CAM Program Seminar Series

Georgetown University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Washington, DC, USA

January 26, 2017

### Integrative Approaches in Research: Occupational Health and Military Medicine

CAM Program Seminar Series

Georgetown University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Washington, DC, USA

November 3, 2016

## **Articles & Media**

### **Nocebo Effects: How to Prevent them in Patients**

Maxie Blasini, MS, Luana Colloca, MD, PhD, MS

Practical Pain Management

September 5, 2018

<https://www.practicalpainmanagement.com/resources/clinical-practice-guidelines/nocebo-effects-how-prevent-them-patients>

### **Nocebo Effects May Hold Answers to Numerous Chronic Pain Conditions**

Pain Medicine News

December 11, 2017

<http://www.painmedicine.com/Science-Technology/Article/12-17/Nocebo-Effects-May-Hold-Answers-to-Numerous-Chronic-Pain-Conditions/45406>

### **San Diego Students Raise over \$4K for Puerto Rico Recovery**

Bastyr University, News and Media

December 7, 2017

<https://bastyr.edu/news/general-news/2017/12/san-diego-students-raise-over-4k-puerto-rico-recovery>

## **Clinical and Shadowing Experience**

### **Natural Doctors International, Brigade #65**

Ometepe, Nicaragua

Supervisor: Ann Grimwood, ND

March 31-April 8, 2018

### **Pain Therapy and Pain Psychology, Center for Anesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine**

Department of Anesthesiology, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany

Mentor: Regine Klinger, PhD – Pain Psychologist and Professor

April 2017

### **Pain Management Center**

University of Maryland Rehabilitation and Orthopedics Institute, Baltimore, MD, USA

Mentor: Thelma Wright, MD, JD - Pain Management Center Director and University of Maryland School of Medicine Department of Anesthesiology Assistant Professor  
March 2017

## **Research Experience & Independent Studies**

### **Research Project Coordinator**

July 2016 – July 2017

Department of Pain & Translational Symptom Science, University of Maryland School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD

Principal Investigator: Luana Colloca, MD, PhD

- Chronic Orofacial Pain: Genetics, Cognitive-Emotional Factors, and Endogenous Modulatory Systems
  - Conducted behavioral pain modulation experiments in healthy volunteers and patients with temporomandibular disorder (TMD).
  - Collected, entered and analyzed experimental data.
  - Wrote manuscripts, posters and abstracts for data dissemination and publication
  - Drew blood samples and obtained saliva samples, pre-processed and stored biospecimens
  - Determined participant eligibility and performed phone screenings and experimental procedures.
  - Managed participant recruitment and advertisement.
  - Maintained and organized regulatory and participant binders, as well as other essential documents.
  - Processed participant compensations.
- PCORI: Engagement of Chronic Pain Patients and Stakeholders for Obtaining Critical Feedback for Reducing Opioid Use
  - Conducted interview with chronic non-cancer pain (CNCP) patient with history of use of opioids for pain management.
  - Planed focus groups with CNCP patients who had used opioids.
  - Planed and developed survey for understanding facilitators and barriers for opioid tapering in CNCP patients.
  - Processed participant compensations.
  - Maintained and organized regulatory and participant binders, as well as other essential documents.
- PCORI Funding Announcement Cycle 3 2016: Clinical Strategies for Managing and Reducing Long-Term Opioid Use for Chronic Pain
  - Prepared and wrote grant application with principal investigator.
- Managing Duties
  - Supervised, trained and mentored interns and volunteers
  - Wrote and reviewed manuscripts
  - Assisted PI in writing grant applications

### **Intern**

Samueli Institute, Alexandria, VA

May 2016 – July 2016

Mentors: Bonnie Sakallaris, PhD, RN and Kevin Berry, MD

- Building Healthier Military Communities (BHMC)
  - Active participant of Rapids Needs Assessment, Health Tracking Technologies and Metrics and Evaluation working groups.
  - Performed literature research and developed ideas for study design and future implementation.
  - Investigated feasible health tracking technologies.
- Optimal Healthy Workplaces (OHW)
  - Performed literature research and reviews.
- The Caregiver Companion: Self-Care for Health in Mind, Body and Spirit
  - Wrote one-page summary on *Chiropractic Care* as part of supplemental material of downloadable e-book about military caregiver self-care and healing therapies.

## **Intern**

January 2016 – June 2016

Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Cancer Prevention and Control Program, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Principal Investigator: Kristi Graves, PhD

- Nueva Vida Intervention
  - Scheduled and conducted post-intervention and follow-up participant phone interviews in Spanish and English.
  - Compiled and reviewed qualitative data.
  - Created CONSORT diagram for participant tracking.
  - Wrote and translated part of study's official newsletter.
  - Participated in project-related manuscript publication.

## **Trainee**

February 2016 – May 2016

Center for Functional and Molecular Imaging, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Director: John VanMeter, PhD

- Performed literature reviews and received training on techniques and applications for fMRI research.

## **Teaching Experience**

### **Institute Assistant**

June 2015 – August 2015

Summer Institute Programs, School of Continuing Studies, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

- Facilitated communication between different groups, such as students, directors and administrators.
- Ensured safety of students at all times, both while in-campus and during off-campus activities.
- Led discussion sessions and guided tasks related to daily educational activities.

### **Student Tutor**

October 2014 -May 2015

Think Education Center, San Juan, PR

- Tutored elementary, intermediate and high school students in disciplines such as Algebra, Geometry, Biology, Chemistry, Spanish and English.
- Instructed and mentored students to improve their study, organization and prioritization skills.

### **Student Tutor**

August 2012 -March2013

Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, Metropolitan Campus, San Juan, PR

- Reviewed, explained and clarified class and exam material to college students from the Natural Science and Technology Department.

## **Leadership**

### **Co-Organizer**

Silent Auction Fundraiser for hurricane Maria victims in Puerto Rico, Student Government Association, Bastyr University California

- Approached businesses for donations
- Promoted event with community
- Promoted awareness about post-hurricane crisis in Puerto Rico
- Total raised: \$4,648 – towards Foundation for Puerto Rico and Boricua Barefoot Doctors

### **Academic Chair**

October 2015-May 2016

Complementary and Alternative Medicine Program, Georgetown University

- Advocated for the student body's academic needs by meeting with program faculty and staff.
- Supported the academic success of classmates by providing weekly schedules of assignments, tasks and activities.
- Helped individual students find academic and study resources on campus.

## **Trainings and Certifications**

- Pre- and post-natal wellness & fitness- American Council of Exercise
- Basic Life Support for Healthcare Professionals- American Heart Association
- First Aid – Save a Life Foundation
- Global Health Course- Natural Doctors International
- Restorative Justice Practices– NCRC, Center for Community Cohesion
- Naloxone Administration Training- Baltimore City Health Department
- Human Subject Research Training Certification – CITI
- HIPAA Trainings and Certifications – University of Maryland Baltimore
- Phlebotomy and IV access- Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland Medical Center
- Blood Borne Pathogens Training Certification - University of Maryland Baltimore
- Data Quality Management- NIDCR, CROMS
- Good Clinical Practices Training Certification - NIDA Clinical Trials Network

## **Attended Conferences**

<b>Scripps 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Natural Supplements Conference</b> <i>Paradise Point Resort, San Diego, CA, USA</i>	February 9, 2018
<b>PAINWeek 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting</b> <i>The Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas, NV, USA</i>	September 5, 2017
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Annual Program in Neuroscience (PIN) Retreat</b> <i>Notre Dame of Maryland University, Baltimore, MD, USA</i>	June 5, 2017
<b>Neuroscience and Cognitive Science Research Day</b> <i>University of Maryland College Park, College Park, MD, USA</i>	April 28, 2017
<b>Maryland Neuroimaging Retreat</b> <i>University of Maryland School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD, USA</i>	April 14, 2017
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Society for Interdisciplinary Placebo Studies (SIPS)</b> <i>Leiden, the Netherlands</i>	April 2-4, 2017
<b>Wellness in the Nation (WIN) III Meeting</b> <i>The Westin Alexandria, Alexandria, VA, USA</i>	June 3-4, 2016
<b>International Congress on Integrative Medicine and Health</b> <i>Green Valley Ranch Resort, Las Vegas, NV, USA</i>	May 17-20, 2016
<b>Mid-Atlantic Society for Biofeedback and Behavioral Medicine Conference</b> <i>Loyola University, Columbia, MD, USA</i>	April 16-17, 2016
<b>Center for Innovation and Leadership Education (CENTILE) Conference</b> <i>Georgetown University, Washington, DC, USA</i>	October 18-21, 2015