



## WEBINAR SERIES

### “Pharmacogenetic influences on sertraline exposure and tolerability in children and adolescents”



### Laura Ramsey, PhD

Section Chief of Individualized Therapeutics  
Children's Mercy

Dr. Ramsey recently joined Children's Mercy as the Section Chief of Individualized Therapeutics in the Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Toxicology and Therapeutic Innovation. In her new role at Children's Mercy she is leading the implementation of a pharmacogenomics program that is fully integrated with the electronic health record, developing model-informed decision support for several medications, and co-director of their Clinical Pharmacology fellowship program. Before joining Children's Mercy, Dr. Ramsey was an Associate Professor and co-director of the Genetic Pharmacology Service at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. She completed her postdoctoral fellowship in Pharmacogenetics at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and received her PhD in Molecular, Cellular, Developmental Biology and Genetics from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities. Dr. Ramsey is interested in all aspects of pharmacogenetics, from basic research to implementation in patient care. She has led projects to study pharmacogenetic variants that influence response, toxicity, and dosing of antidepressants in children. She has authored over 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts, hundreds of abstract presentations, and is extramurally funded, including a National Institutes of Health R01 award for her project, “Improving the Effectiveness and Safety of Escitalopram in Pediatric Anxiety Disorders Using Pharmacogenetically-guided Dosing.”

#### Presentation Summary:

The pediatric population has been excluded from most pharmacogenetic studies of antidepressants, yet millions of youth are prescribed SSRIs like sertraline each year. This webinar will provide an overview of pharmacogenetic studies of SSRIs and address whether and how to adjust dosing recommendations for pediatric patients based on pharmacogenetics.