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22 de abril de 2026

Comunidad Universitaria
Recinto de Ciencias Médicas

GANADORES PRESENTACIONES ORALES Y CARTELES Y CEREMONIA DE PREMIACIÓN DEL 46^{TO} FORO ANUAL DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y EDUCACIÓN DEL RECINTO DE CIENCIAS MÉDICAS

Reciban un cordial saludo. Me complace anunciar los ganadores de las presentaciones orales y de carteles científicos realizadas por estudiantes y médicos residentes en el 46^{to} Foro Anual de Investigación y Educación del Recinto de Ciencias Médicas, celebrado con gran éxito del 25 al 27 de marzo de 2026.

Este Foro, bajo el lema *“Innovating Together for Healthier Futures”*, constituyó una destacada demostración del talento, la creatividad y el rigor científico de nuestra comunidad académica. Las presentaciones premiadas representan aportaciones significativas al avance del conocimiento en las ciencias de la salud y reflejan el compromiso de nuestros estudiantes y residentes con la investigación de excelencia.

Extendemos nuestras más sinceras felicitaciones a todos los ganadores, así como a sus mentores, cuyo acompañamiento y dedicación resultan fundamentales en la formación de las nuevas generaciones de investigadores. La lista completa de los trabajos premiados se incluye en el documento adjunto.

De igual manera, expresamos nuestro más profundo agradecimiento al panel de jueces, compuesto por facultad de todas las escuelas del Recinto de Ciencias Médicas y por distinguidos colaboradores de otras instituciones. Su valiosa participación hizo posible la rigurosa y cuidadosa evaluación de las presentaciones, garantizando la calidad y transparencia de este proceso.

La **Ceremonia de Premiación** se llevará a cabo el **martes 12 de mayo de 2026**, a las **4:00 p.m.**, en el **Anfiteatro Don Jaime Benítez**. Invitamos cordialmente a toda la comunidad universitaria a acompañarnos en este acto de reconocimiento a la excelencia académica y científica.

Agradecemos nuevamente a todos los participantes por su contribución al éxito de este importante evento institucional.

Cordialmente,

Yasmín Pedrogo Rodríguez, MD, FAAP, MSc MEDL
Decana de Asuntos Académicos
Presidenta, Comité Organizador

Anejo.

GANADORES PRESENTACIONES ORALES

Estudiantes subgraduados

1^{ER} LUGAR

Mental Health Problems in Adults from Puerto Rico Living with Arthritis During the COVID-19 Pandemic. José O. Negrón-Cruz, HSDG; Eduardo Cumba-Avilés, PhD; Marleana M. Rolón-Sanfeliz, BA; Gabriela Cacho Pérez, HSDG. University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, College of Social Sciences, Institute for Psychological Research, San Juan, PR.

2^{DO} LUGAR

Health and Well-Being of Sexual and Gender Minorities in Puerto Rico. María E. Ayala Tirado¹, Luis A. Arroyo-Andújar, MPH, MA²; Iliá M. Otero-Cruz, MPH²; Souhail M. Malavé-Rivera, PhD, MSc²; Edda I. Santiago-Rodríguez, DrPH, MPH, MA²; Carlos E. Rodríguez-Díaz, PhD, MPHE, MCHES^{2,3}. ¹George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health; ²University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, School of Public Health; ³Boston University School of Public Health.

3^{ER} LUGAR

Preventive Health Education for Children and Adolescents in Vulnerable Communities: A School and Community-Based Outreach Initiative in Puerto Rico. Kamila López Díaz¹, and Manuel Reyes Guzmán². ¹University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Chemistry, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Faculty of General Studies, Department of Physical Sciences, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Estudiantes graduados

1^{ER} LUGAR

¿Qué Será de las Mujeres Cuando Llegue el Temporal? Análisis de la Política Social sobre Violencia Doméstica en Puerto Rico Durante Desastres Socionaturales. Ileana M. Ayala Fontáñez. Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, Escuela Graduada de Trabajo Social Beatriz Lassalle, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

2^{DO} LUGAR (EMPATE)

Ecofeminismo y Justicia Climática: Luchas Entrelazadas. Alejandra M. Figueroa Huertas^{1,2}. ¹Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, Facultad de Educación, Departamento de Estudios Graduados, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²Escuela Especializada en Idiomas Padre Rufo, Región Educativa de San Juan, Departamento de Educación de Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Environmental Health in Child Care: Local Lessons of a National Program. Hester Paul¹, Jessica Price¹, Elisabeth Repp¹, Blean Girma², Dianivette Rolón-Cruz¹. ¹Children's Environmental Health Network, ²University of Maryland.

3^{ER} LUGAR (EMPATE)

Estudio de Percepción de Riesgo al Calor Extremo entre Personas Adultas Mayores en Puerto Rico: Impactos y Adaptaciones. Mónica V. Sánchez-Sepúlveda¹, Frances M. Aponte Caraballo¹, Laura T. Cabrera Rivera¹, Manuel Heredia Morales¹, Valeria M. Casellas-Pérez¹, Jimena Pérez¹, Pablo A. Méndez Lázaro^{1,2}. ¹Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Ciencias Médicas, Escuela

Graduada de Salud Pública, Departamento de Salud Ambiental, San Juan, Puerto Rico; 2UPR-Centro Comprensivo de Cáncer, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Frequency and Causes of Visits to the Emergency Departments by People with Dementia in Puerto Rico. José Carrión Baralt, PhD, MPH¹; Carmen Maldonado Andino, MPH(c)¹; Alexis Rodríguez Ramos, PhD, MPH(c)¹; Giselle Vázquez De Jesús, MPH(c)¹; Pedro J. Castro Peláez, PhD, MSc². ¹Gerontology Program, Graduate School of Public Health, UPR MSC; ²The Alliance for Clinical & Translational Research, UPR MSC.

Estudiantes profesionales (MD, DMD, PharmD, etc)

1^{ER} LUGAR

The Impact of Immune Surveillance on Tumor Growth in Aged, Genetically Matched Oral Cancer Models. Ricardo M. Cruz Sánchez BS¹; Roberto Rangel PhD²; Jeffrey Myers, MD/PhD². ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Department of Medicine, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Department of Head and Neck Surgery, Houston, Texas, United States of America.

2^{DO} LUGAR

The Relationship Between Hand Dominance and ACL Tears in Competitive Volleyball Athletes. Félix Rivera Troia¹, Arlene Pérez Zierenberg², Gerardo Pérez Román³, Carlos Pérez López¹. ¹Ponce Health Sciences University, School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Section of Orthopaedic Surgery, Ponce, PR; ²University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, San Juan, PR; ³Hospital Auxilio Mutuo, San Juan, PR.

3^{ER} LUGAR (EMPATE)

Community Participation in Correctional Reform: A Public Health Approach from Puerto Rico. Ángel R. Ocasio Gracia^{1,2,4}, Victoria Finkel Aguilar⁴, Mariana T. Torres Mulero^{3,4}, Ian González Montañez^{1,4}, Gabriel Santiago Bibiloni⁴. ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, School of Law, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Graduate School of Public Health, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ⁴Coalition for the Transformation of the Correctional System of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Safety of Hand Surgery in the Procedure Room without Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) Stay. Benjamín Nieves-López¹; Keith T. Aziz, MD²; Peter M. Murray, MD². ¹University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus; ²Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Mayo Clinic in Florida.

Residentes

1^{ER} LUGAR

Tumor Grade and Survival Outcomes in Penile Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A Puerto Rican Cohort Study. Ariel Barbosa-Ruiz¹, María M. Sánchez-Vázquez², Andrés E. Hernández-González³, Carlos A. Rivera-López¹, Naydi Pérez Ríos², Tatiana Pérez Rodríguez⁵, María J. Marcos-Martínez⁴, Eduardo Canto¹, Antonio Puras-Báez¹, Magaly Martínez-Ferrer^{2,3}. ¹University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Urology Division; ²University of Puerto Rico Comprehensive Cancer Center, Division of Clinical and Translational Cancer Research; ³University of Puerto Rico School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; ⁴University of Puerto

Rico School of Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; ⁵Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD) Core, The Alliance for Clinical and Translational Research.

2^{DO} LUGAR

MRI Non-Enhancing Intracranial Meningiomas: Literature Review and Case Series. Adriana Vázquez Medina, MD; Orlando De Jesús, MD. Department of Surgery, Section of Neurosurgery, University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, San Juan, PR.

3^{ER} LUGAR

Traumatic Gluteal Compartment Pathology and Hematomas: A Three-Case Series Highlighting Diagnostic and Surgical Challenges. Carlos Díaz-Rivera¹, Juan Bonilla-Robles¹, Ian Cummings-Ruiz², Juan Berríos Cordero³, José Rosario-González³, Nydia De Soto-Cordero¹. ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine; ²St. Luke's Episcopal Medical Center, Department of Surgery, Ponce, Puerto Rico; ³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

GANADORES PRESENTACIONES DE CARTELES CIENTÍFICOS

Estudiantes subgraduados

1^{ER} LUGAR

Phentermine Use Prior to Surgery and Intraoperative Hemodynamics: Evidence from a Multisite Retrospective Cohort. María F. Acevedo Kury¹, Valentina Hernández Romero², Zulma D. Sosa Cárcamo², Ridwan Ahmad², Adam Jacob, MD³, Joan Irizarry Alvarado, MD². ¹University of Puerto Rico, Cayey Campus, Department of Biology, Cayey, Puerto Rico; ²Mayo Clinic, Division of General Internal Medicine, Jacksonville, Florida, United States; ³Mayo Clinic, Division of Anesthesiology, Rochester, Minnesota, United States.

2^{DO} LUGAR

Biochemical and Molecular Identification of *Escherichia coli* Isolates from Milk Samples from Cows with Subclinical Mastitis in Puerto Rico. Gloribel Seguí Méndez¹, Zaidlys Hernández Vargas¹, Alanis Rosa González¹, Gabriela Méndez Ríos¹, Guillermo Ortiz-Colón², Juliana Pérez-Laspiur¹. ¹University of Puerto Rico in Aguadilla, PR; ²University of Puerto Rico in Mayagüez, PR.

3^{ER} LUGAR

Regional Morphological Plasticity Associated with Dietary Change in Rhesus Macaque Mandibles. Geraldine Serrano Cignarella¹, Catalina Villamil Ríos². ¹University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Department of Biology; ²Carribbean Primate Research Center, UPR-RCM.

Estudiantes graduados

1^{ER} LUGAR (TRIPLE EMPATE)

Clinical Course of PICU Patients After Spinal Fusion: Associations Between Blood Loss-Related Complications and Opioid Dosing. Luis A. Rodríguez González BS¹; Nicole A. Martínez Martínez²; Natasha L. Pérez Nieto BS¹; Anabel Puig Ramos PhD³; Ricardo García de Jesús MD³; Humberto Guzmán Pérez, MD⁴. ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, San Juan, PR; ²University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Biology Major, San Juan, P.R;

³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Department of Pediatrics, University Pediatric Hospital, San Juan, PR; ⁴University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, San Juan, PR.

Improving Postoperative Pain Management in Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA): An Evidence-Based Implementation of Adductor Canal and IPACK Nerve Blocks. Lina Marcela Borrero González, Pamela J. Cabrera Pérez, Valentina Monroy, Zulma C. Peña Cordero, Francisco Sampedro, Juan Rodríguez, Milagros Figueroa. University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Nursing- Department of Graduate Studies, Nurse Anesthesia Program, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Impact of Cumulative Stressful Life Events on Suicidal Behavior in a Representative Sample of 6th-12th Grade Students in Puerto Rico, 2022-24. Linnette Rodríguez-Figueroa¹, Abdiel D. Soto-Colón¹, Margarita R. Moscoso-Álvarez², Juan C. Reyes-Pulliza¹, Héctor M. Colón¹. ¹University of Puerto Rico, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²Universidad Central del Caribe, School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine, Bayamón, Puerto Rico.

2^{DO} LUGAR

Outdoor Bioallergens and Maternal Health after Natural Disasters: A Scoping Review. Eduardo Llegus Santiago¹, Andreliz Matos Álvarez², Mairim Soto Ortiz², Claudia P. Amaya Ardila³, Evangelia Morou Neofotistou², Karen Martínez González⁴, Benjamín Bolaños Rosero⁴, Luis Bonilla Soto¹, Carmen Buxó Martínez². ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Environmental Health; ²University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Dental Medicine; ³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology; ⁴University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine.

3^{ER} LUGAR (EMPATE CUÁDRUPLE)

Clinical and Surgical Relevance of Radial Nerve Variability in its Localization and Innervation of the Brachialis Muscle: A Cadaveric Study. Ian Toro Grafals, Humberto Roura-Rovira, Ángel Cintrón Stuart, Ángel Pérez, Joann Guzmán-Vázquez, Jorge Carrillo. San Juan Bautista School of Medicine, Caguas, Puerto Rico.

Suppression of Sustained Proliferative Signaling in Highly Aggressive Prostate Cancer Cells by 5-Azacytidine-Induced Epigenetic Reprogramming. Daniela M. González Alvarado¹, Gabriela Castro², Ralphdy Vergne¹, Stephanie Montalvo³, Caleb Santiago¹, Lenin Godoy¹, Carmen Ortiz, PhD¹. ¹Ponce Health Science University, Ponce PR; ²Pontificia Universidad Católica de Puerto Rico, Ponce PR; ³Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Mayagüez.

Sedentary Behavior and Depressive Symptoms in Young Adults: Sex at Birth as a Potential Modifier. Christian A. Torres-Franqui¹, Rosa V. Rosario-Rosado¹, Angélica M. Rosario-Santos¹, Farah A. Ramírez. Marrero², Milagros C. Rosal³, Cynthia M. Pérez-Cardona¹. ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Department of Exercise Physiology, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ³University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA.

A Medical Program to Provide a Medical Examination for Individuals that May Have Been Exposed to Asbestos in a Non-Industrial Setting. Angélica M. Mulgado-Nieves¹, José A. Norat Ramírez¹, Edgar Pérez Matías¹, Linnette Rodríguez Figueroa², Hernando Mattei³. ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Environmental Health, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Graduate School of Public Health, Department of Social Sciences, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Estudiantes profesionales (MD, DMD, PharmD, etc.)

1^{ER} LUGAR

Assessing Factor Stability of Beliefs and Clinical Concerns in a DoxyPEP Survey Instrument: An Exploratory Factor Analysis Among Pharmacists in Puerto Rico. Sayel Rivera, Emily Álvarez, Ana M. Figueroa, Yanitza M. Díaz. University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Pharmacy, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

2^{DO} LUGAR

Epidemiology and Age-Related Patterns of Genitourinary Trauma in Puerto Rico. Roberto C. Matos Figueroa, BS^{1,2}; Carlos R. Garriga-Santiago, BS^{1,2}; Ediel O. Ramos-Meléndez, MPH, DrPH²; Lourdes Guerrios Rivera, MD, MSc²; Pablo Rodríguez-Ortiz, MD, FACS, FCCM, FACP, FCCP^{2,3}. ¹University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine, Medical Sciences Campus, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ²Department of Surgery, Trauma Research Program, Medical Sciences Campus, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico; ³Puerto Rico Trauma Hospital, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

3^{ER} LUGAR (EMPATE)

Impact of Power Outages on Health Care for Adults with Chronic Diseases in Puerto Rico. Emmanuel J. Santiago-González¹, Enid J. García-Rivera², Marielis Colón-Ramos², Fabiola N. González-Díaz³, María C. González-Prieto², Yaritza Rivera-Pizarro², Guillermo J. Vázquez-Fernández¹, Pilar D. Cardona-Del Valle⁴. ¹School of Medicine- University of Puerto Rico; ²Endowed Health Services Research Center, School of Medicine-University of Puerto Rico; ³Family Medicine Residency Program, School of Medicine-University of Puerto Rico; ⁴Carlos Albizu University.

A Descriptive Analysis of Pregnancy Outcomes in Women with Type 1 Diabetes at the UPR University District Hospital in 2024. Karla S. Lugo López, BS¹; Priscilla Rodríguez Torres, MD²; Verónica R. Dávila Padilla, BS³; Ana G. López Rexach, MD²; Vivian A. Vázquez Román⁴; Josefina Romaguera Agrait, MD²; Ana Muñoz Matta, MD². ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine; ²University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology Department; ³Universidad Central del Caribe School of Medicine; ⁴University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.

Residentes

1^{ER} LUGAR

Scleromyxedema Following PD-1 Inhibitor Therapy: A Rare Immune-Related Adverse Event Associated with Dostarlimab. Lilliana Serrano-Arroyo, MD, MPH¹; Verónica Vestal, MD²; Marelly Santiago, MD³; Salvador Vilá Pérez, MD¹. ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, Department of Rheumatology, San Juan, PR; ²University of Puerto Rico,

Comprehensive Cancer Center, San Juan, PR; ³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, Department of Dermatology, San Juan, PR.

2^{DO} LUGAR

Prenatal Detection and Postnatal Challenges in a Complex Neonatal Renal Case: A Multidisciplinary Approach. Dianiris Astacio Rodríguez, MD, PGY1¹; Claudia Sotomayor Rivera, MD PGY2²; Luis Vélez Lozada, MD, PGY1³; Belinda Beauchamp, MD¹; Wilma Rodríguez, MD². ¹University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, San Juan, PR; ²University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, Department of Radiological Sciences, San Juan, PR; ³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics & Department of Internal Medicine, San Juan, PR.

3^{ER} LUGAR (TRIPLE EMPATE)

Beyond the Scan: Lessons from Four Remarkable Nuclear Medicine Cases. Nicole Febles-Sierra, MD; Christian Irizarry-Cruz, MD; Frieda Silva-Hernández, MD. University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, Department of Radiological Science, Nuclear Medicine Section, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Use of Aspirin Prophylaxis During Pregnancy to Prevent Risk of Preeclampsia in Puerto Rico: A Seven-Year Observational Study. Marianna Martini, MD¹; Fabiola Lebrón²; Michael Cruz²; Arianna Robles²; Lydia Figueroa, MD³; Israel Matías, MD³; Norma Claudio, MD³; Lourdes García, MD³; Inés García, MD³. ¹San Juan City Hospital; ²UPR School of Medicine; ³UPR School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Neonatology Section.

Breastfeeding Practices and Challenges during the First 6 Months of Life. Vicente Jiménez Llovera, MD¹; Laura Geroy Fleites, MD¹; Brianelle García Fuentes²; Marinielis Rosado Méndez²; Carelisse Crespo Gayá²; Jessilú Álvarez Marrero²; Alejandra Álvarez Rivas²; Israel Matías González, MD³; Zayhara Reyes-Bou, MD³; Norma Claudio Figueroa, MD³; Lourdes García Fragoso, MD³; Ines García García, MD³. ¹Department of Pediatrics, San Juan City Hospital; ²University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus; ³University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus.