

UCLA Family Medicine Grand Rounds

Bridging Research, Education, and Art to Strengthen Communities

Micah Johnson, PhD

Associate Professor

UCLA Department of Family Medicine



Dr. Micah Johnson, PhD, a medical sociologist, received his doctorate degree from the University of Florida. His research and leadership made significant contributions to understanding trauma and behavioral health outcomes. His NIH-funded research focuses on advancing projects on stress, addiction, and violence. Funded by a \$907,742 grant from NIH, Dr. Johnson is conducting a study titled Examining the Stress Process of Recovery and Engagement in Substances and Service Outcomes (ESPRESSO). The ESPRESSO project quantitatively and qualitatively investigates the mechanisms by which stress impacts drug use trajectories and treatment services among adolescents involved in the justice system. The study examines the factors that can affect risk, recovery capital, access to services, and the quality of services. Beyond his research, Dr. Johnson is deeply committed to mentorship.

He has founded several innovative research education programs, the Substance Misuse and Addiction Research Traineeship (SMART), which specifically trains undergraduate students in addiction research. SMART has trained over 100 students, many of whom are on track to earn MDs and graduate degrees at dozens of universities across the country. He also leads the Scientific Training in Addiction Research Techniques (START) Program, a comprehensive research education program dedicated to supporting junior scholars. START specifically prepares investigators to access, analyze, and disseminate data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) study at University of Vermont. His dedication to mentoring future generations of scholars reflects his passion for education and workforce development. His teaching interests include research methods and behavioral health services delivery. He also founded the Community and Art-based Research, Dissemination, and Interventions (CARDI) initiative, enhancing community health through performance interventions and creative outreach.

**Friday,
Oct 24,
2025**

**12:00 -1:00 pm
(PST)**

Scan QR code to register:



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