

ALEXANDRA W. CAPASSO

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EDUCATION

Keck Graduate Institute (KGI), Claremont, California May 2021
Master of Science in Human Genetics and Genetic Counseling

University of Connecticut (UConn), Storrs, Connecticut June 2016
Bachelor of Science in Business Management

CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

American Board of Genetic Counseling
Board Certified Genetic Counselor, Issued September 2021

California Department of Public Health
Licensed Genetic Counselor, Issued September 2021

POST GRADUATE EDUCATION

Intensive Course on Genetic Cancer Risk Assessment, City of Hope, Duarte, California February 2022

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Society of Genetic Counselors 2020 - Present

Southern California Genetic Counselors 2020 - Present

WORK EXPERIENCE

Genetic Counselor, *City of Hope*, Duarte, CA June 2021 - Present

- Conduct clinical genetic cancer risk assessment appointments and facilitate testing for high-risk patients by outlining the benefits, limitations, possible outcomes and associated implications of genetic testing
- Interpret germline test results, and assist patients in coordinating appropriate management
- Disclose precision medicine results as part of a research protocol and provide appropriate follow up care
- Train staff during onboarding and graduate students and surgical/medical oncology fellows during internships
- Contribute to the planning and implementation of the Precision Medicine Program
- Participate in the curriculum committee, moderate annual workshops, and provide feedback for a genetic cancer risk assessment course tailored to community providers
- Attend City of Hope breast cancer and endocrine tumor boards and provide feedback during case review
- Support several research projects, topics include patient and provider education, cascade testing, and gene characterization and prevalence
- Executed two clinical genomics conferences with over 300 international providers
- Developed an outreach program and partnered with local organizations to increase awareness of genetic services among the unhoused population
- Oversaw four scheduling teams with four different processes as the clinical scheduling lead

Moderator, Intensive Course in Genetic Cancer Risk Assessment, *City of Hope*, Duarte, CA October 2022 – Present

- Participate in the curriculum advisory committee to build educational curriculum and provide feedback for a genetic cancer risk assessment course tailored to community providers
- Develop instrumentation to track educational and career progress during the course and post course
- Field participant questions on educational course discussion forum
- Moderate weekly case conferences and provide presenters with case recommendations
- Monitor and answer participant questions during weekly live education sessions during annual 13-week course

- Led workshops and taught breakout groups during annual weeklong educational workshops
- Coordinate and moderate monthly Topics in Cancer Genomics Research presentations including the development of a series highlighting patient advocacy organizations for community genetics providers

PRESENTATIONS/EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Overcoming Healthcare System Barriers to Genetic Cancer Risk Assessment

Building the Case for Cancer Genetics Services

City of Hope Cancer Genomics Bootcamp: Cutting Edge Updates and Tools to Advance your GCRA Practice, Pasadena, CA, February 2025

Breast Cancer Genetics, Breast Fellow Lecture

City of Hope, May 2022, January 2023, April 2024

Empowering Women's Center Prevention through Genetic Awareness

Union Station Homeless Services, Pasadena, CA, August 2023

Downtown Women's Center, Los Angeles, CA, March 2023

Professional Development Lecture, Licensure and Boards

Keck Graduate Institute Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, March 2022

Precision Oncology Lecture, Putting it All Together, Managing Uncertainty in Clinical Cancer Genomics

John Hopkins University Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, November 2021

Cancer Genetic Counselors and Community Clinicians Opinions on the Importance of Informed Consent and Barriers to Pre-test Counseling and Utility of Educational Tools in Cancer Genetics

Poster Presentation, *National Society of Genetic Counselors Annual Conference, September 2021*

Myriad Oncology Live, March 2021

Identification of High-risk Patients and Genetics Educational Resources for Healthcare Providers

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA, October 2020

MENTORING ACTIVITIES

Thesis Committees

- Abigail Augustine: MS in Genetic Counseling Thesis Advisor, Keck Graduate Institute, *Empowering Early Career Genetic Counselors: Tools for Establishing Cancer Genetics Clinics, 2024*

Clinical Supervisor

- Dr. Anthony Mansour, Hematology Oncology Fellow, *City of Hope, Oct 2025*
- Carissa Correia, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute, May 2025 – Sept 2025*
- (Primary) Gillian Carlos, Genetic Counseling Intern, *University of Washington, July 2024 – Sept 2024*
- Abigail Augustine, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute, May 2024 – June 2024*
- Dr. Hannah Kornfeld, Breast Surgery Fellow, *City of Hope, April 2024*
- Abigail Chisholm, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute, Aug 2023 – Oct 2023*
- Jordan Chillinsky, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute, June 2023 – Aug 2023*
- Olivia Roy, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute, Jan 2023 – Mar 2023*
- Catherine Levy, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute, Jan 2023 – Mar 2023*
- Dr. Natalie Johnson, Breast Surgery Fellow, *City of Hope, Dec 2022 – Jan 2023*
- Chloe Whitten, Genetic Counseling Intern, *University of California Los Angeles, Sept 2022 – Nov 2022*
- Dr. Nicole Lugo Santiago, Gynecology Oncology Fellow, *City of Hope, Dec 2022 – Jan 2023*
- Allana Rosenberg, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute, Sept 2022 – Oct 2022*
- Hanae Sugiura, Genetic Counseling Intern, *University of California Irvine, Sept 2022 – Oct 2022*
- Casey Scherer, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Northwestern, Sept 2022 - Oct 2022*
- Dr. Alexis LeVee, Hematology Oncology Fellow, *City of Hope, Aug 2022*

- Emma Schopp, Genetic Counseling Intern, *John Hopkins*, June 2022 – July 2022
- (Primary) Kaila Wilson, Genetic Counseling Intern, *Keck Graduate Institute*, Mar 2022 – May 2022
- Emma Schopp, Genetic Counseling Intern, *John Hopkins*, June 2022 – Aug 2022
- Dr. Brandon Anderson, Breast Surgery Fellow, *City of Hope*, Apr 2022 – May 2022
- Angelica Smullin, Genetic Counseling Intern, *University of California Irvine*, April 2022
- Dr. Jorge Perez-Ramos, Hematology Oncology Fellow, *City of Hope*, Mar 2022

Mentor

- Danielle Marcelin, *Keck Graduate Institute*, Aug 2025 – Present
- MinHee Yang, *Keck Graduate Institute*, Aug 2024 – Present
- Lindsey Young, *Keck Graduate Institute*, Aug 2023 – May 2025
- Jordan Chillinsky, *Keck Graduate Institute*, Aug 2022 – May 2024
- Clarissa Mejia, *Etiwanda High School*, October 2023 – December 2023

GRANTS

NIH LRP Grant – awarded to support precision medicine and genetic cancer risk assessment education research endeavors, July 2023 – July 2025; renewed July 2025 – July 2027

Kindness Grant – awarded to support project ‘Empowering Women’s Cancer Prevention through Genetic Awareness’ *City of Hope*, Duarte, CA, January 2023

PUBLICATIONS

Publications (peer-reviewed)

- **Capasso, A.**, Nehoray, B., Gorman, N., Quinn, E. A., Bucio, D., & Blazer, K. R. (2024). Genetic counselors' and community clinicians' implementation and perceived barriers to informed consent during pre-test counseling for hereditary cancer risk. *Journal of Genetic Counseling*, 00, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jgc4.1887>

Abstracts

- Wilson, K., Nehoray, B., **Capasso, A.**, Chitre, A., Xiao, Y., Leung, P., Blazer, K.R. Community provider experience and confidence in facilitating precision medicine in oncology care. Poster presentation at the City of Hope Cancer Genomics Bootcamp: Cutting edge updates and tools to advance your GCRA practice, February 27-28, 2025
- Tanna, D., **Capasso, A.**, Luna, J., Blazer, K.R. Intensive Course in genetic cancer risk assessment: Empowering clinicians, expanding clinical knowledge, and elevating care in underserved populations. Poster presentation at the 17th AACR Conference on The Science of Cancer Health Disparities, September 21-24, 2024.
- **Capasso, A.**, Nehoray, B., Gorman, N., Quinn, E., Bucio, D., Blazer, K.R. The University of Chicago Clinical Cancer Genomics Conference. *Genetic Counselors’ Facilitation of Informed Consent and the Utility of Supplemental Education Tools for Alternate Approaches to Pre-test Counseling for Hereditary Cancer Predisposition*. Poster presentation at the 12th International Clinical Cancer Genomics Conference. April 18-21, 2024, Chicago, IL.
- Shehayeb, S., Elfarawi, H., Wilson, K., Park, W., Chitre, A., Shaktah, L.A, Sturgeon, D., McDonnell, K., Hampel, H., **Capasso, A.**, Gray, S. *Prevalence and Penetrance of LZTR1 Pathogenic Variants: To Screen or Not to Screen?* Poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Medical Genetics, March 12-16, 2024, Toronto, Canada.
- **Capasso, A.**, Nehoray, B., Gorman, N., Quinn, E., Bucio, D., Blazer, K.R. *Cancer Genetic Counselors and Community Clinicians Opinions on the Importance of Informed Consent and Barriers to Pre-test Counseling and Utility of Educational Tools in Cancer Genetics*. Poster presentation at the 40th Annual National Society for Genetic Counselors Conference, September 22-26, 2021.

Media

- **Capasso, A.** “Barriers to Ethical Informed Consent with Hereditary Cancer Genetic Testing.” Interview conducted by Stacey Kusterbeck. *Medical Ethics Advisor*, vol. 40, no. 7, 2024, pp. 105-106.