

Empire State Opioid Epidemic Innovation Challenge

September 28-30, 2018

Columbia University Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science



Benjamin Bearnot, MD is a Kraft Fellow in Community Health at Massachusetts General Hospital, and Instructor in Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Originally from Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, Ben attended Amherst College in Massachusetts, received his medical training at New York University School of Medicine, and then completed residency in internal medicine and primary care at the Massachusetts General Hospital. He now practices as a primary care and addiction medicine doctor at the MGH Charlestown community health center, and attends on the hospital's addiction consult service.

Trained as a clinician-investigator, Ben is developing studies to better understand and improve care for those with severe substance use disorders, who suffer similar stigma to the HIV-infected and at-risk populations he previously worked with in New York City and Durban, South Africa as a Fulbright-Fogarty Fellow. His current projects include geospatial mapping to identify areas of

high-risk substance use and mixed-methods approaches to evaluating care for individuals with severe bacterial infections related to injection drug use.

During his fellowship training, Ben co-founded We Are Allies, an innovative public health campaign to fight the stigma of addiction and make the opioid overdose reversal agent naloxone more visible and available in communities. When not practicing medicine or doing research, Ben loves to play pick-up basketball and run, cook elaborate meals with his friends, and spend time with family.