July 5, 2022

MEMO: NIH Staff Clinician titles of Assistant, Associate, and Senior Research Physician – academic equivalents.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Intramural Research Program (IRP), which consists of 27 Institutes and Centers, established the titles **Assistant, Associate, and Senior Research Physician**. These titles are equivalent to the titles of Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor in the Clinical or Clinician-Educator Tracks at universities. These titles are given to NIH Staff Clinicians. A Staff Clinician is a physician or dentist who spends at least 50% of their time providing patient care services, which includes clinical care, clinical research, and educational activities.

The title of Assistant Research Physician is approved at the Institute or Center level. The titles of or promotion to Associate and Senior Research Physician are peer-reviewed centrally by the Staff Clinician Title Review Committee (SCTRC) within the NIH Office of Intramural Research (OIR) and approved by the Deputy Director of Intramural Clinical Research (DDICR).

For more information regarding these titles: https://oir.nih.gov/sourcebook/personnel/ipds-appointment-mechanisms/staff-clinician

Sincerely,

**Janice S. Lee**  
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