



# Principal Investigator Candidate Seminar Series For Data Science and Health Research

## **Dr. Jessica Dennis**

*Vanderbilt Genetics Institute  
Division of Genetic Medicine  
Department of Medicine  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center*

**Title:**

### **Genomic and "Big Data" approaches to neuropsychiatric phenotypes**

**Tuesday January 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.**

**Location: Cooper Centre, Level 3  
60 Murray Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor**

**Host: Dr. Ross Upshur**

Dr. Dennis is a genetic epidemiologist with over 10 years of experience cross-training in biomedical informatics, statistical genetics, and human genetics. She completed her PhD in epidemiology at the University of Toronto, where she was also a fellow in the interdisciplinary CIHR STAGE program (Strategic Training for Advanced Genetic Epidemiology), and she is currently a postdoctoral fellow at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, home to one of the largest single-site biobanks in the world. Dr. Dennis' research program is directed towards reducing the burden of psychiatric and neurological disorders, which together account for more years lost to disability and death than either cancer or cardiovascular disease. The overarching goal of her research is to understand how genetic variation contributes to inter-individual differences in disease susceptibility, response to treatment, and recovery, and to translate these discoveries to patient-centered, precision care. She conducts studies in large population datasets, with a major interest in electronic health records and biobanked samples.