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**Melissa A. Kelly, MS, CGC Receives the 2024
ACMG Foundation Carolyn Mills Lovell Genetic Counselor Award**

BETHESDA, MD – March 13, 2024 | Melissa A. Kelly, MS, CGC is the recipient of the **2024 ACMG Foundation Carolyn Mills Lovell Genetic Counselor Award**. Ms. Kelly received the Lovell award for her platform presentation at the 2024 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, “Integrating genomic medicine into healthcare: Experience disclosing >5,000 clinically relevant results within the Geisinger MyCode Community Health Initiative.”

Ms. Kelly said, “Thank you to the ACMG Foundation. I am humbled and honored to receive the Carolyn Mills Lovell Genetic Counselor Award. Throughout my career, I have seen many ways in which patients and their families interact with and are impacted by genomic information. In prior roles as a clinical and laboratory genetic counselor, I often saw patients undergo genetic testing due to a personal or family history. While such indication-based testing is still a critical component of genomic medicine, we know that such testing fails to identify all individuals with increased risk. I am excited by our current work as it exemplifies the reach and impact of genomic screening at population scale. However, none of this work would be possible without the patients who participate in MyCode, the entire MyCode research team, my Co-Director Juliann Savatt and our amazing Genomic Screening and Counseling team that disclose these results and supports patients, and my co-authors, who laid the strong foundation of our current program.”

Ms. Kelly is a graduate of the Brandeis University Genetic Counseling Program and is a licensed, certified genetic counselor with a range of clinical, laboratory and research experience that has centered around cardiovascular genomics, clinical variant interpretation, and genomic variant pipelines for more than 10 years. Ms. Kelly is Co-Director of the Geisinger MyCode Genomic Screening and Counseling Program (GSC) and Lead for the MyCode Clinical Variant Pipeline, responsible for the identification and review of variants prior to confirmation and disclosure to MyCode participants. She has also been a core member of the ClinGen Cardiomyopathy Variant Curation Expert Panel since its inception in 2014. Her research interests focus on expanding our genomic and phenotypic understanding of actionable genetic conditions, specifically inherited cardiovascular diseases, through population screening and translating this knowledge into clinically meaningful results.

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Nancy J. Mendelsohn MD, FACMG, president of the ACMG Foundation said, “Congratulations to Melissa Kelly, recipient of this year’s ACMG Foundation Carolyn Mills Lovell Genetic Counselor Award. We are pleased to recognize the important role that genetic counselors play in clinical and laboratory genetic and genomic medicine. Her work is unique and provides helpful insights into scaling genomic screening.”

The Carolyn Mills Lovell Award was made possible by a generous donation from former ACMG Medical Director David Flannery, MD, FAAP, FACMG to honor Carolyn Mills Lovell, MAT, MS, CGC, a genetic counselor who continues to provide exemplary service and care to patients and their families at Augusta University, previously known as the Medical College of Georgia (MCG). Dr. Flannery worked with Carolyn Mills Lovell for more than 15 years while he was at MCG. Through this award he also wanted to recognize the contributions and accomplishments of all genetic counselors.

The award includes a cash prize of \$1,000 and will be presented annually through 2024. The recipient is chosen based on the highest rated abstract submitted by a genetic counselor to the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting.

“Congratulations to Melissa A. Kelly, MS, CGC as the recipient of this year’s Lovell award, for the highest scoring abstract by a genetic counselor at the 2024 ACMG Annual Meeting, for her abstract ‘Integrating genomic medicine into healthcare: Experience disclosing >5,000 clinically relevant results within the Geisinger MyCode Community Health Initiative,’” said David Flannery, MD, FAAP, FACMG. “It is especially notable that it will be a platform presentation at the ACMG meeting. Her work exemplifies the important role of genetic counselors in clinical research and improving the delivery of genetic services to populations.”

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ACMG Foundation for
Genetic and Genomic Medicine
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About the ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine

Founded in 1991, the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) is a prominent authority in the field of medical genetics and genomics and the only nationally recognized medical professional organization solely dedicated to improving health through the practice of medical genetics and genomics. The only medical specialty society in the US that represents the full spectrum of medical genetics disciplines in a single organization, the ACMG provides education, resources and a voice for more than 2,500 clinical and laboratory geneticists, genetic counselors and other healthcare professionals. ACMG's mission is to improve health through the clinical and laboratory practice of medical genetics as well as through advocacy, education and clinical research, and to guide the safe and effective integration of genetics and genomics into all of medicine and healthcare, resulting in improved personal and public health. *Genetics in Medicine* and the new *Genetics in Medicine Open*, a gold open access journal, are the official ACMG journals. ACMG's website, www.acmg.net, offers resources including policy statements, practice guidelines, and educational programs. The ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine works to advance ACMG educational and public health programs through charitable gifts from corporations, foundations and individuals.

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Genetics and Genomics are not just in our name, they are part of our mission.