

Rachel Bender Ignacio, MD, MPH

Dr. Bender Ignacio is a board-certified infectious diseases physician at UW Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center in Seattle and is an assistant professor of allergy and infectious diseases at UW. She received her MD and MPH from the University of Washington and trained at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Her research focuses on the link between immune responses and HIV infections. Dr. Bender Ignacio has also published papers related to co-infections with HIV, including tuberculosis and herpesviruses. As the Associate Director for the UW AIDS Clinical Trials Unit, she has pivoted to lead inpatient treatment trials for COVID-19 as well as speaking to the community and colleagues on the intersection of HIV and COVID-19, for which she is collaborating on epidemiologic studies with colleagues nationally. She is proud to be able to advocate for patients and providers and help guide policy during this public health crisis as a Director on the Board of the national HIV Medical Association. When not working, she enjoys traveling (hopefully again someday), playing ultimate frisbee, Nordic skiing, yoga and spending time in the outdoors with her husband and two daughters.