

Public Health Quarterly

SPRING 2008

WINTER QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

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Health Disparities and Solutions Speaker Series 2008

For two weeks in February (18-28th), the Health Disparities Task Force (HDTF) collaborated a series of lectures by leaders from a variety of health organizations including Sinai Urban Health Institute, Department of Emergency Medicine, PCC Wellness Community Center, Asian Health Coalition of Illinois, Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Internal Medicine at NMFF, National Health Care for the Homeless Council, Diabetes Research and Training Center, and Department of Preventive Medicine.

This year's speaker series were co-sponsored by the Health Disparities Task Force, the FSM Office of Minority and Cultural Affairs, and the Programs in Public Health's Diversity Committee. The annual event attracted a vast audience

(both students and others) and the lecturers inspired very interesting topics of discussion. Week 1 was dedicated to health disparity *issues* and Week 2 was devoted to *solutions*.

"HDTF seeks to raise awareness about and spark student interest in disparities found in healthcare access and quality in the Unites States. HDTF's goal is to educate medical students and other members of the medical community, with the ultimate objective of creating a conscious group of individuals well-versed in the pertinent issues and dedicated to bring about change. An additional goal of HDTF is to promote the incorporation of information about health disparities into the permanent curriculum at NUFSM."

Special points of interest:

- Winter quarter Highlights
- Spring quarter begins Monday, March 31st 2008
- Undergraduate Public Health Education
- Integrating Public Health into a General Surgery Program

Council on Education for Public Health Correspondence

The MPH Program has recently increased the number of required units to 19 effective Fall 2008 to remain compliant with CEPH standards. Below is CEPH's response to the compliance letter:

Excerpt from the CEPH Acceptance Letter...

At its February 9-10, 2008 meeting, the Council on Education for Public Health reviewed the compliance report submitted by Northwestern University MPH Program. The Council found that, based on the information submitted, the MPH Program satisfactorily demonstrated compliance with the substantive changes of the *Accreditation Criteria for Public Health Programs, amended June 2005* at the present time.

SPRING QUARTER 2008

Spring Quarter starts Monday, March 31, 2008

Welcome, new and current students! Spring quarter begins Monday, March 31 and ends Friday, June 13. The Spring 2008 course schedules can be found online:

*[MPH Course Schedule](#); [MSEB Course Schedule](#).

Advance registration for current students is now in progress through CAESAR. Registration for new students and continuing students who have not pre-registered starts 9:00 AM, March 31 and ends April 4. Visit the curriculum page for course info and syllabi.

* For courses requiring permission numbers, please contact Karen Quintana (k-quintana@northwestern.edu).



April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- March 31 - First day of classes
- March 31 - April 4: Change of Registration Period (add/drop)
- April 1 - Tuition due, Spring Quarter
- April 1 - Final draft of CE paper
- April 21 - Public Health Seminar
- May 2 - CE presentations
- May 9 - CE presentations
- May 12 - Final CE paper due
- May 15 - Graduation
- June 7 - Last day of classes
- June 9 - 13: Winter Quarter Examination Week

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Demetrios N. Kyriacou, MD, PhD, is the American Medical Association National Advisory Council on Violence and Abuse Linda E. Salzman Honoree for Research Contributions in Violence Prevention.



Chandra Y. Osborn, PhD is a health services research postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Healthcare Studies and an MPH candidate in our program. Chandra recently accepted an appointment of as an Assistant Professor of Medicine (tenure track) in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Public Health and its Health Services Research Section at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, where she will be an investigator in the Center for Health Services Research, the Institute for Medicine and Public Health, and the Diabetes Center.

PRESENTATIONS

Osborn, C. Y. The Naked Truth: Life After the PhD: Finding and Getting the Job of Your Dreams. (2008, May). Panel presentation at the 19th Association for Psychological Science annual meeting, Chicago, IL.

Matiasek, J. Wynia, M. K., Johnson, M., **Osborn, C. Y.** (2008, April). Using organizational assessment to guide quality improvement in the area of patient centered communication. Poster presentation at the 31st Society of General Internal Medicine research meeting, Pittsburgh, PA.

Dr. June McKoy (member NU osteoporosis and Bone Program) and Dr. Raju Ghate (FSM graduate and orthopedic surgeon specializing in adult reconstruction at NMH) co-taught Mini-Medical School on October 16, 2007. Their presentation entitled Body Works: The Mechanics of Bones and Joints focused on both osteoporosis (Dr. McKoy) and osteoarthritis (Dr. Ghate).

ALUMNI NEWS

Kelly Culwell (2007) is now Research Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina, School of Public Health, Dept of Maternal and Child Health, assignment to the WHO - Team for Promoting Family Planning, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, Geneva Switzerland.

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out."

DID YOU KNOW???

Undergraduate Public Health Education

The Program in Public Health with partners from Northwestern's Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and School of Communications is actively planning the expansion of public health education for Northwestern undergraduates. This effort is being jointly promoted by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) and the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (ATPR). The premise for this initiative is that all liberal arts students as "educated citizens" should understand basic concepts of public health, epidemiology, and global health.

Northwestern undergraduates currently have the opportunity to minor in Global Health. This program is led by William Leonard, PhD, Professor and Chair of Anthropology and Professor of Preventive Medicine. Professor Leonard teaches the Program in Public Health course on Global Public Health and is Co-Chair with me of a task force charged to create and implement new undergraduate public health courses beyond those already offered in the Global Health Minor Program in the Academic Year 2009-10. We are delighted that several Evanston and Chicago Campus faculty are enthusiastic about this effort and are looking forward to their participation in this collaborative venture.

Please let me know if you have any comments on or suggestions for our ongoing efforts.

RWC

Integrating Public Health into a General Surgery Program



Marie Crandall, MD, MPH, FACS received funding for her research entitled *Integrating Population Health, Public Health, and Prevention into the Residency Curriculum*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public health and prevention are, arguably, two of the most salient topics confronting surgeons today. A large percentage of common surgical diseases are directly attributable to preventable causes, including

cancer, and trauma. The mainstay of treatment for cancer is often surgical, and the majority of trauma patients around the country are cared for by surgeons. Strong evidence supports preventive measures improve outcomes in areas such as mammography for cancer and brief alcohol interventions with trauma, yet surgical residents currently receive no formal education in cancer screening and injury prevention.

This grant is a novel, innovative attempt to help residents

understand the basics of population health and prevention as they relate to their surgical patients and as they become better informed global citizens. Our project focuses on five key areas: resident-driven collaborative, e-learning based educational modules on public health topics, journal clubs, research and classroom-related opportunities, local direct community service efforts, and surgical public health electives both locally and globally.

"all liberal arts students as "educated citizens" should understand basic concepts of public health, epidemiology, and global health"

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS *

Griffith JD, Mycyk, MB, **Kyriacou DN**. Metoclopramide versus hydromorphone for the emergency department treatment of migraine headache. *Journal of Pain* 2008;9:88-94.

Kyriacou DN, Yarnold PR, Soltysik RC, et al. Derivation of a triage algorithm for chest radiography of community-acquired pneumonia in the emergency department. *Academic Emergency Medicine* 2008; 15: 40-44.

Nieman CL, Kinahan KE, Yount SE, Rosenbloom SK, Yost KJ, **Hahn EA**, Volpe T, Dilley KJ, Zoloth L, Woodruff TK. Fertility preservation and adolescent cancer patients: Lessons from adult survivors of childhood cancer and their parents. In: *Oncofertility: Fertility Preservation for Cancer Survivors*; Woodruff TK, Snyder KA, Eds.; New York: Springer Press. 2007.

Hahn EA, Rao D, Choi S, Cella D. Comparability of interview- and self-administration of the Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy-General (FACT-G) in English- and Spanish-speaking cancer patients. *Medical Care*. In press.

Du H, Valenzuela V, Diaz P, Cella D, **Hahn EA**. Factors Affecting Enrollment in Literacy Studies for English- and Spanish-Speaking Cancer Patients. *Statistics in Medicine*. In press.

Rosenbloom SK, Victorson DE, **Hahn EA**, Peterman AH, Cella D. Assessment is not enough: A randomized controlled trial of the effects of HRQL assessment on quality of life and satisfaction in oncology clinical practice. *Psycho-Oncology*. In press.

Davis K, Lai JS, **Hahn EA**, Cella D. Conducting routine fatigue assessments for use in clinical oncology. *Supportive Care in Cancer*. In press.

McKoy JM, Tigue CC, and Bennett CL. Does reimbursement affect physicians' decision making? Examples from the use of recombinant erythropoietin. In *Ethical Issues in Cancer Patient Care*, Second Edition. Editor Peter Angelos. 2008, p. 235-51.

Osborn, C. Y. (in press, Spring 2009). "Fa'asamoa": A Sizeable Health Problem. In E. Mendenhall (Ed.), *Global Health Narratives for Youth: Society, Disease and the Environment*. University of New Mexico Press: Albuquerque, NM.

Bennett CL, Silver SM, Djulbegovic B, Samaras AT, Blau CA, **Gleason KJ**, Barnato SE, Elverman KM, Courtney DM, **McKoy JM**, **Edwards BJ**, Tigue CC, Raisch DW, Yarnold PR, Dorr DA, Kuzel TM, Tallman MS, Trifilio SM, West DP, Lai SY, Henke M. Venous Thromboembolism and Mortality Associated With Recombinant Erythropoietin and Darbepoetin Administration for the Treatment of Cancer-Associated Anemia. *JAMA*. 2008 Feb 27;299(8):914-924. *Based on K. Gleason's MPH culminating experience.*

Culwell K, **Feinglass J**. Changes in prescription contraceptive use, 1995-2002: the effect of insurance status. *Obstetrics & Gynecology* 2007; 110: 1371-1378. *Based on K. Culwell's MPH culminating experience.*



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Culwell K, Feinglass J. The association of health insurance with use of prescription contraceptives. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health* 2007;39:226-230. *Based on K. Culwell's MPH culminating experience.*

WELCOME BRIAN HITSMAN

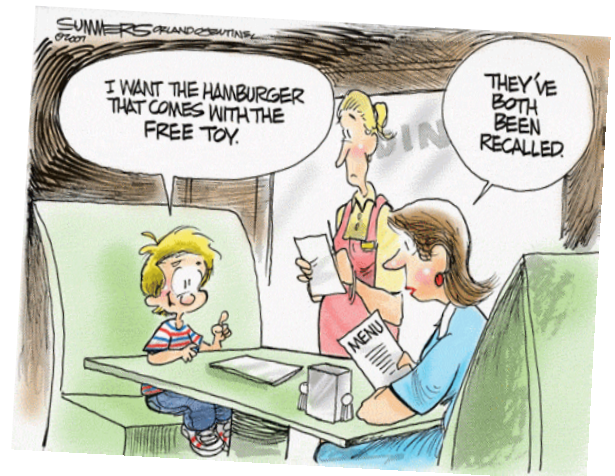


Brian Hitsman, PhD recently joined the Department of Preventive Medicine as an Assistant Professor in the Behavioral Medicine section. He received his B.S. in psychology from Alma College and M.S. and Ph.D. in clinical health psychology from Chicago Medical School, finishing his internship in behavioral medicine at Brown University's Clinical Psychology Training Consortium. He completed a two year fellowship in tobacco addiction in 2004 in the Transdisciplinary Tobacco Use Research Center at Brown Medical School, where he remained as a faculty member.

Dr. Hitsman's program of research incorporates clinical trial, human laboratory, and genetic epidemiologic methods to identify core psychological and biological factors associated with the development and persistence of cigarette smoking and nicotine dependence. The primary goal is to use the knowledge gained from this research to inform the development of innovative psychological and pharmacological therapies.

NEWS WE CAN USE

Do you have info to share in our next newsletter? Please e-mail info to Thongsy Singvongsa (t-singvongsa@northwestern.edu). The Public Health Quarterly is published at the beginning of each academic quarter. Remember to check out "[News and Events](#)" on the Programs in Public Health [homepage](#) for a calendar of events, past issues of the PPH Quarterly, upcoming presentations, and seminars.



Programs in Public Health

680 N. Lake Shore Drive, Suite 1102
Chicago, IL 60611-4546
Phone: 312-908-7914
Fax: 312-908-9588



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