

Weekly Newsletter September 5 - 8, 2023

PQHS NEWS

UPCOMING EVENT

Wednesday, September 6 – 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Research Meeting – Presenters: Arlene Ash, PhD and Meagan Sabatino, PhD candidate, PQHS, UMass Chan Medical School

Title: Making Capitated Payments to Primary Care Practices Conform to Expected Differences in Resource Needs

Brief Description: We will discuss work performed in partnership with the Massachusetts Medicaid program (MassHealth) to develop a model for risk-adjusting payments to primary care practices using administrative data. Building on work originally published in 2012 by Drs. Ash and Randall Ellis (at BU), we will describe the rationale for, and methods used, to develop a Primary Care Activity Level (PCAL) model for MassHealth that uses 2019 data selectively to infer the expected cost of an expansive set of primary care activities that we want primary care practices to deliver. MassHealth has already proposed this model for steering capitation dollars to primary care practices when they manage more medically and socially complex patients.

Click [here](#) to join or call 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 937 1668 5400 password: 492717

PQHS HOT TOPICS



September 5 – 8, 2023

As part of an NIH-funded research training grant, PQHS will be hosting an exchange program with several senior clinical faculty and a number of clinical scholars from Vietnam during September. This training program was established in 2019 with the purpose of giving clinicians at Hanoi Medical University the opportunity to obtain Post-Doctoral and Master's degrees in Epidemiology and in the Design and Conduct of Clinical Research.

From September 5th – September 8th, we are particularly pleased to welcome two Vietnamese dignitaries, Dr. Hung Doan and Dr. Hieu Nguyen from Hanoi Medical University and Hanoi Medical University Hospital. Dr. Doan is Vice President of the University and Chair of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Nguyen is Director of Hanoi Medical University Hospital, Vice Chair of the Department of Cardiology. Dr. Nguyen also serves in the distinguished role of Congress Person in the Vietnamese Socialist Party. All PQHS faculty are welcome to attend their lectures and are encouraged to attend (please keep an eye out for details in next week's newsletter).

The 14 clinical research trainees and 4 faculty members from Hanoi Medical University will be staying for 3 weeks, where they will be attending lectures, giving presentations on their research, and working with our faculty with compatible research interests to develop their peer reviewed manuscripts. They will be sharing some cubicle space in PQHS so please feel free to stop by and say hello!

Wednesday, September 6, 2023, AS6.2072 or [zoom](#)

Special Vietnam Presentations



“Hanoi Medical University and Prioritized Areas for Development” Presented by Professor Hung Doan, MD, PhD, Vice President of Hanoi Medical University



“Hanoi Medical University Hospital and Potential Projects”, presented by Associate Professor Hieu Nguyen, MD, PhD, Director of Hanoi Medical University Hospital

Research Meetings

Click [here](#) to view the PQHS Research Meeting Site for schedules, slides, references and a blog.

Organizers: Drs. [Arlene Ash](#) and [Jonggyu Baek](#) in Division of Biostatistics, PQHS

What are our goals? Broadly, to help local researchers learn how to conduct research better.

When do we meet? Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 am EST via Zoom (September 2023 to July 2024)

What do we discuss in the meetings?

We use these weekly research meetings in various ways, e.g., to

- Tell people about a newly funded or ongoing project, and possibly identify interested collaborators or learn about related work
- Present an underused research method that we hope to encourage people to adopt
- Discuss an idea or set of issues that we are grappling with (like how to measure, define and “pay for” reducing inequities)
- Present and discuss a specific research paper
- Present a research problem that we seek help to resolve, or while developing a research proposal or responding to reviewers' comments

Who is our audience? Attendance is open to anyone interested. Please contact Jonggyu.baek@umassmed.edu to be added to the circulation list for weekly announcements that will contain the zoom link.

<https://www.umassmed.edu/pqhs/research/tuesday-research-meetings/>

PQHS SHOUT OUT



Shout out to [Feifan Liu PhD](#) for his CAPES pilot grant was funded titled “*Multi-site Validation Study for Suicide Risk Prediction: Integrating the OHDSI Research Network*”. It aims to develop a machine learning model for suicide risk prediction which will be leveraging the OMOP common data model to facilitate the multi-site validation study within OHDSI.



A [new study](#) led by PQHS faculty member [Kurt Hager PhD](#) was recently covered in the [Washington Post](#) and on [CBS Prime Time](#). The study found that receiving produce “prescriptions” for an average of 6 months was associated with improvements in blood pressure, glycemic control, and weight among adults with poor cardiometabolic health. The team pooled data on nearly 4,000 people across 12 US states that received electronic cards or vouchers to access free produce at grocery stores. Dr. Hager is also currently serving as a steering committee member at the National Produce Prescription Collaborative, a national network focused on expanding access to similar programs in Medicare, Medicaid, and the Veterans Health Administration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 10:00-11:00AM

Introduction to Rapid Qualitative Methods Workshop - This workshop will give an overview of rapid qualitative methods, delve into the analytic process, and share examples and lessons learned from our team’s work using these methods. Presented by – Grace Ryan, PhD, MPH and Melissa Goulding PhD, MS
Click [here](#) to register, registration is required.





Thursday, September 28, 2023, 11:30AM-1:30PM in the lobby of the Medical School Faculty Affairs Hosting Faculty Resource Fair: For an old-fashioned, in-person resource fair! Access essential information and make in-person contacts with offices that help support faculty endeavors and faculty advancement.



Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 10:00-11:30AM
Leveraging Community Engagement To Address Behavioral Health Disparities In The Deaf Community

Featured Speakers – [Melissa Anderson, PhD, MSCI](#) and [Alexander Wilkins, PhD](#)
 Click [here](#) to register.



**CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND
 TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE**

MASS CHAN REMINDER



NIDDK has issued two RFAs seeking to solicit projects that will form a consortium aimed at using diverse data types to improve subclassification of T2D. These RFAs solicit projects that will make use of large and diverse U.S.-based cohorts with large number of individuals with T2D. More information can be found in the published RFAs here:

RFA-DK-23-019: Integration of Novel Measures for Improved Classification of Type 2 Diabetes

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-23-019.html>

RFA-DK-23-020: Integration of Novel Measures for Improved Classification of Type 2 Diabetes – Biostatistics Research Center

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-23-020.html>

The receipt date for these will be October 26, 2023.



UMass Chan Medical School's [Office of Communications](#) is initiating regularly scheduled opportunities where faculty, staff, and students can have a professional headshot taken. Photos are taken every other Wednesday from 9 AM to 3 PM on the fifth floor of the Sherman Center by the elevators. Each session caps at 50 people. Anyone at UMass Chan can sign up using this document found on the SharePoint site. See updated link for new options: [Photo Sign-Ups \(office365.com\)](#)

PQHS Weekly will be sent to all members of PQHS on Monday mornings. The intent is to provide a snapshot of what is going on that week in PQHS and to share our faculty and staff activities with the department. We depend on you to provide the items we need to share. Please send suggestions of events, faculty invited seminars & talks, honors, student thesis presentations, and news – new babies born! – to Kellie (kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu) & Sarah (sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu) by Friday each week.