

# HEALTH CARE PRACTICE AND VARIATIONS

SPRING, 2006

## HEALTH SERVICES 249K

Patricia A. Ganz, M.D.

Time: Wednesday, 9:00 AM to 12 Noon

Place: A2-125 CHS, Conference Room

Required readings: are in a course reader available for purchase at Course Reader Material, 1137 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles 90024, phone 310-443-3300, CRM2020@AOL.COM.

### Course objectives:

This weekly seminar will emphasize discussion of primary literature as its major source of material, although videotapes will also be included. The course will emphasize participation of the students in critical review and discussion of the selected literature.

The course will focus on how medical information is accumulated and disseminated, and ultimately utilized by health care providers and organizations in the care of patients. Students will be introduced to the concept of randomized clinical trials and meta-analytic approaches as a source for determining treatment efficacy. Examples of the dissemination of clinical trial results will be explored. The use of consensus development and practice guidelines will be examined as a tool for affecting medical practice. Finally, the seminar will examine variations in patterns of care research as a means of understanding actual medical practice, with a discussion of mechanisms to change physician behavior. At the completion of the course, students should have greater appreciation of the complexities of health care delivery and the variability of service delivery based on provider behavior and characteristics. The implications for health policy will be emphasized.

### Evaluation of Student Performance:

Class participation	20%
Mid-term examination	35%
Class Presentation	10%
Term Paper	35%

## **HEALTH SERVICES 249K**

### Schedule of Topics

1. April 5, 2006  
Introduction to Course  
Video: Temple of Science
2. April 12, 2006  
Randomized Clinical Trials  
Video: Random Cuts
3. April 19, 2006  
Clinical Trials: Dissemination
4. April 26, 2006  
Clinical Trials: Meta-Analysis
5. May 3, 2006  
Consensus Development
6. May 10, 2006  
Mid-Term Examination
7. May 17, 2006  
Diffusion of New Technologies and Therapies
8. May 24, 2006  
Variations in Care  
Guest Lecture, Professor Robert Kaplan
9. May 31, 2004  
Changing Behavior/Practice Guidelines
10. June 7, 2006  
Class Presentations - Term Papers Due

## HEALTH CARE PRACTICE AND VARIATIONS

### HEALTH SERVICES 249K

SPRING 2006

Patricia A. Ganz, M.D.

#### 1. April 5, 2006

#### Introduction to Course Video: Temple of Science

##### Required Reading:

Wennberg JE. Improving the Medical Decision-Making Process. Health Affairs 7:99-106, 1988.

Berwick DM. Health Services Research and Quality of Care: Assignments for the 1990's. Medical Care 27:763-771, 1989.

Kolata G. New Therapies Pose Quandary for Medicare. The New York Times, 17 August 2003.

Abelson R, Petersen M. An Operation to Ease Back Pain Bolsters the Bottom Line, Too. The New York Times, 31 December 2003.

Wennberg, JE. Practice variations and health care reform: connecting the dots. Health affairs, Suppl, VAR140-4, 2004.

#### 2. April 12, 2006

#### Randomized Clinical Trials Video: Random Cuts

##### Required Reading:

Topol EJ, Leya F, Pinkerton CA, et al. A comparison of directional atherectomy with coronary angioplasty in patients with coronary artery disease. New England Journal of Med 329:221-227, 1993.

Adelman AG, Cohen EA, Kimball BP, et al. A comparison of directional atherectomy with balloon angioplasty for lesions of the left anterior descending coronary artery. New England Journal of Med 329:228-33, 1993.

Bittl JA. Directional coronary atherectomy versus balloon angioplasty. New England Journal of Med 329:273-74, 1993.

Hamm CW, Reimers J, Ischinger T, et al. A randomized study of coronary angioplasty compared with bypass surgery in patients with symptomatic multivessel coronary artery disease. New England Journal of Med 331:1037-43, 1994.

King SB, Lembo NJ, Weintraub WS, et al. A randomized trial comparing coronary angioplasty with coronary bypass surgery. New England Journal of Med 331:1044-50, 1994.

Hillis LD, Rutherford JD. Coronary angioplasty compared with bypass grafting. New England Journal of Med 331:1086-87, 1994.

### **3. April 19, 2006**

### **Clinical Trials: Dissemination**

#### Required Reading:

Fisher B, Bauer M, Margolese R, et al. Five-year results of a randomized clinical trial comparing total mastectomy and segmental mastectomy with or without radiation in the treatment of breast cancer. *New England Journal of Med* 312:665-73, 1985.

Lazovich D, White E, Thomas DB, Moe RE. Underutilization of breast-conserving surgery and radiation therapy among women with stage I or II breast cancer. *JAMA* 266:3433-3438, 1991.

Nattinger AB, Gottlieb MS, Veum J, et al. Geographic variation in the use of breast-conserving treatment for breast cancer. *New England Journal of Med* 326:1102-7, 1992.

Hersh AL, Stefanick ML, Stafford RS. National Use of Postmenopausal Hormone Therapy: Annual Trends and Response to Recent Evidence. *JAMA* 291: 47-53, 2004.

Stafford RS, Furberg CD, Finkelstein SN, Cockburn IM, Tseday A, Ma J. Impact of Clinical Trial Results on National Trends in Alpha-Blocker Prescribing, 1996-2002. *JAMA* 291(1):54-62, 2004.

### **4. April 26, 2004**

### **Clinical Trials: Meta-Analysis**

#### Required Reading:

L'Abbe KA, Detsky AS, O'Rourke K. Meta-analysis in Clinical Research. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 107: 224-233, 1987.

Egger M, Ebrahim S, Smith GD. Where now for meta-analysis? *Int J Epid* 31:1-5, 2002.

Oxman AD, Cook DJ, Guyatt GH. How to use an Overview. *JAMA* 272:1367-71, 1994.

Smith GCS, Pell JP. Parachute use to prevent death and major trauma related to gravitational challenge: systematic review of randomised controlled trials. *BMJ* 327:1459-1461, 2003.

Ioannidis JPA, Haidich A-B, Pappa M, et al. Comparison of Evidence of Treatment Effects in Randomized and Nonrandomized Studies. *JAMA* 286:821-830, 2001.

Grodstein F, Clarkson TB, Manson JE. Understanding the Divergent Data on Postmenopausal Hormone Therapy. *N Engl J Med* 348(7):645-650, 2003.

Kryzanowska MK, Pintilie M, Tannock IF. Factors Associated With Failure to Publish Large Randomized Trials Presented at an Oncology Meeting. *JAMA* 290(4):495-501, 2003.

Dickersin K, Rennie D. Registering Clinical Trials. *JAMA* 290(4):516-523, 2003.

## **5. May 3, 2006                      Consensus Development**

### Required Readings:

National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Panel. National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Conference Statement: Breast Cancer Screening for Women Ages 40-49, January 21-23, 1997. *J Natl Cancer Instit* 89:1015-26, 1997.

The Cancer Letter, 23(4):1-11, 1997: "Mammography Screening for Ages 40-49 Not Supported by Data, NIH Panel Says.

Sackett DL. A Science for the Art of Consensus. *J Natl Cancer Instit* 89:1003-1005, 1997.

Woolf SH, Lawrence RS. Preserving Scientific Debate and Patient Choice: Lessons from the Consensus panel on Mammography Screening. *JAMA* 278:2105-2108, 1997.

Kolata G and Moss M. X-ray Vision in Hindsight: Science, Politics and the Mammogram. *The New York Times*, February 11, 2002.

Gotzsche PC, Olsen O. Is screening for breast cancer with mammography justifiable? *The Lancet* 355:129-134, 2000.

Olsen O, Gotzsche, PC. Cochrane review on screening for breast cancer with mammography. *The Lancet* 358:1340-1342, 2001.

Kolata G. The Painful Fact of Medical Uncertainty. *The New York Times*, 10 February 2002.

Berry, DA, Cronin, KA, Plevritis, SK, et al. Effect of screening and adjuvant therapy on mortality from breast cancer. *The New England journal of medicine*, 353(17), 1784-92, 2005.

## **6. May 10, 2006                      Mid-term Examination**

## **7. May 17, 2006                      Diffusion of New Technologies and Therapies**

### Required Readings:

Logorreta AP, Silber JH, Costantino GN, et al. Increased cholecystectomy rate after the introduction of laparoscopic cholecystectomy. *JAMA* 270:1429-1432, 1993.

Steiner CA, Bass E, Talamini MA, et al. Surgical rates and operative mortality for open and laparoscopic cholecystectomy in Maryland. *New England Journal of Med* 330:403-408, 1994.

Fendrick AM, Escarce JJ, McLane C, et al. Hospital adoption of laparoscopic cholecystectomy. *Medical Care* 32:1058-1063, 1994.

Ayanian JZ, Hauptman PJ, Guadagnoli E, et al. Knowledge and practices of generalist and specialist physicians regarding drug therapy for acute myocardial infarction. *New England Journal of Med* 331:1136-42, 1994.

The ESCAPE Investigators and ESCAPE Study Investigators. Evaluation Study of Congestive Heart Failure and Pulmonary Artery Catheterization Effectiveness. *JAMA* 294: 1625-1633, 2005.

Shah MR, Hassleblad V, Stevenson LW, et al. Impact of the Pulmonary Artery Catheter in Critically Ill Patients. Meta-analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials. *JAMA* 294:1664-1670, 2005.

Hall JB. Searching for Evidence to Support Pulmonary Artery Catheter Use in Critically Ill Patients. *JAMA* 294: 1693-94, 2005.

## **8. May 24, 2006                      Variations in Care**

### Required Readings:

McNeil BJ. Shattuck Lecture—Hidden Barriers to Improvement in the Quality of Care. *NEJM* 345:1612-1620, 2001.

Goyert GL, Bottoms SF, Treadwell MC, Nehra PC. The physician factor in Cesarean Birth Rates. *New England Journal of Med* 320:706-9, 1989.

Wennberg JE, Freeman JL, Culp WJ. Are hospital services rationed in New Haven or over-utilised in Boston? *Lancet* May 23, pp 1185-1188, 1987.

Fisher ES, Wennberg DE, Stukel TA, Gottlieb DJ, Lucas FL, Pinder EL. The Implications of Regional Variations in Medicare Spending Part 1: The Content, Quality, and Accessibility of Care. *Ann Intern Med* 138(4):273-287, 2003.

Fisher ES, Wennberg DE, Stukel TA, Gottlieb DJ, Lucas FL, Pinder EL. The Implications of Regional Variations in Medicare Spending Part 2: Health Outcomes and Satisfaction with Care. *Ann Intern Med* 138(4):288-298, 2003.

Phelps CE. What's Enough, What's Too Much? *Ann Intern Med* 138(4):348-349, 2003.

Wilensky GR. The Implications of Regional Variations in Medicare: What Does It Mean for Medicare? *Ann Intern Med* 138(4): 350-351, 2003.

Sirovich, BE, Gottlieb, DJ, Welch, HG, et al. Variation in the tendency of primary care physicians to intervene. *Archives of internal medicine*, 165(19), 2252-6, 2005.

Cowper PA, DeLong ER, Whellan DJ, Allen LaPointe NM, Califf RM. Economic Effects of Beta-Blocker Therapy in Patients with Heart Failure. *Am J Med* 116(2):104-111, 2004.

**9. May 31, 2006**

**Changing Physician Behavior/Practice Guidelines**

Required Readings:

Lenfant C. Clinical Research to Clinical Practice: Lost in Translation? *N Engl J Med* 349(9):868-874, 2003.

Woolf SH. Practice Guidelines, a New Reality in Medicine. II. Methods of developing guidelines. *Arch Intern Med* 152:946-952, 1992.

Sox HA, Woolf SH. Evidence-based practice guidelines from the US Preventive Services Task Force. *JAMA* 269:2678, 1993.

Woolf SH, Grol R, Hutchinson A, et al. Potential benefits, limitations and harms of clinical guidelines. *BMJ* 318:527-30, 1999.

Hersh AL, Stefanick ML, Stafford RS. National Use of Postmenopausal Hormone Therapy: Annual Trends and Response to Recent Evidence. *JAMA* 291(1):47-53, 2004.

Ellrodt AG, Conner L, Riedinger M, Weingarten S. Measuring and improving physician compliance with clinical practice guidelines. A controlled interventional trial. *Annals of Internal Med* 122:277-282, 1995.

Grol R. Improving the Quality of Medical Care: Building bridges Among Professional Pride, Payer Profit, and Patient Satisfaction. *JAMA* 284:2578-2585, 2001.

Cabana MD, Rand CS, Powe NR, et al. Why don't physicians follow clinical practice guidelines? *JAMA* 282:1458-1465, 1999.

Merenstein D. Winners and Losers. *JAMA* 291(1):15-16, 2004.

Berwick DM. Disseminating Innovations in Health Care. *JAMA* 289(15):1969-1975, 2003.

Wennberg JE, Fisher ES, Stukel TA, Sharp SM. Use of Medicare Claims Data to Monitor Provider-Specific Performance Among patients with Severe Chronic Illness. *Health Affairs* October 7, 2004, VAR-5-VAR-18.

Wennberg JE, Fisher ES, Baker L, et al. Evaluating the Efficiency of California Providers in Caring for Patients with Chronic Illnesses. November 16, 2005, W5-526-543.

Knickman JR. The Dartmouth Data: Moving from Analysis to Action. *Health Affairs*, October 7, 2004, VAR-121-123.

**10. June 7, 2006**

**Class Presentations - Term Papers Due**