

Health Care Systems Research Network

NEWSLETTER

2023 Volume 2

Staff Transitions

Welcome, Yonah Karp!



Yonah Karp joins HCSRN as the new VDW Technical Lead.

Yonah is the Manager of Data Projects & Programs at the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI). In her 30+ year career, she has worked under, over, and inside data, as a data engineer and programmer, systems engineer, analyst, and data integrator, and has served on multiple non-profit boards. Data contexts she has worked in, in addition to research and healthcare, include digital marketing and finance. Her academic background includes mathematics, mathematical statistics, and English. She has worked in multiple research institutions and corporate settings, including the Universities of Wisconsin and Washington, JP Morgan Chase, Qualex Consulting, and General Motors Technical Center. She is taking over the role of VDW Technical Lead when Reesa Laws retires in August.

Thank you, Reesa!

Reesa Laws is retiring from Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research (CHR) in August

2023. She has been the HCSRN VDW Technical Lead since 2018 and was involved in the VIG since 2009. Reesa is the Research Data & Analytics Manager and leads the Coordinating Center and Data Coordination departments at CHR. Over her 39 years at CHR, she has been involved in multiple large data warehouse networks as well as led technical operations for many clinical trials as a Coordinating Center co-investigator and Technical Director. As a member of the VDW Operations Committee, Reesa has worked with Mark Jurkovich and Celeste Machen to coordinate the various activities of the VIG. Reesa noted that she really enjoyed getting the opportunity to work with such a dedicated group of people who continually strive to enhance the availability and the quality of EHR data for research.



HCSRN wants to express its deep appreciation to Reesa for her many contributions to the VDW, and the organization as a whole, recognizing her leadership, collaboration and technical expertise. Her accomplishments leave the VDW on a solid foundation, enabling continued growth of this important resource. We wish you well Reesa as you embark on this new chapter.

Rick Krajenta Joins HCSRN



HCSRN is pleased to welcome Rick Krajenta as a consultant to the Lab Workgroup. Rick, Sr. Performance Analyst in the department of Public Health Sciences at Henry Ford Health Systems, is an experienced VDW and Epic programmer. He has over 20 years of programming experience and expertise in VDW data content having begun his lab career in 1974, when he became an ASCP accredited technologist, having previously spent time as a bench technologist. He has worked in many different lab departments from basic chemistry to special hematology. In 2000, he transferred to Public Health Sciences. Rick earned graduate certificates in Molecular Laboratory Diagnostics and Immunodiagnosics from Michigan State University.

Having worked with the Lab Workgroup since its inception, Rick will focus his time on doing a systematic review and updating of the lab tables and definitions which are key components for many research projects. He will work collaboratively with the workgroup to maintain the streamlined and efficient process already in place for lab, enhance the overall quality of the lab data and maintain its currency, which is critical for research integrity.



While HCSRN 2024 Annual Conference is still nine months away, planning is already underway. The conference is being held April 9- 11, 2024 in Milwaukee, WI. This year's theme is *Advancing High Quality, Equitable Research in the Age of New Health Care Technologies*. Tentatively, the abstract submission system is slated to open in early September and registration will open in December, if not before. Below is the list of committee members working hard on your behalf to bring you another exciting, education-packed meeting with plenty of networking and collaboration opportunities.

2024 Annual Conference Planning Committee

Denise Angst Co-Chair	Advocate Aurora Research Institute
Karen Coleman Co- Chair	Kaiser Permanente Southern California
Corinna Koebnick	Kaiser Permanente Southern California
Leslie Hinyard	Advanced HEAlth Data (AHEAD) Institute
Stephanie Hooker Showalter	HealthPartners
Claudia Steiner	Kaiser Permanente Colorado
Ivana Vaughn	Henry Ford Health System
Dea Papajorgji-Taylor	Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research
Kanetha Wilson	Kaiser Permanente Georgia
Veronica Fitzpatrick	Advocate Aurora Research Institute
Eva Chang	Advocate Aurora Research Institute
Apoorva Pradhan	Geisinger

Anthony Olson	Essentia
Inih Essien	HealthPartners

SDRF August 8 4:00 - 5:00 PM ET Speaker Yonah Karp

**Manager of Data Projects & Programs at the Kaiser Permanente
Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI)**



Yes, We Have the Data You Need: Challenges and Solutions for Communicating Research Data to Faculty

This presentation will focus on how the KPWHRI Research Data Warehouse is working to solve the ongoing challenge of communicating specifics about an increasingly complex and ever-changing research data landscape to investigators and collaborators. Data dictionaries, subject areas, availability and specific features of the well-curated data we build for the HCSRN VDW and other models, as well as research data policies and tools, are now available at a one-stop shop which allows scientists and PMs quickly get the information they need.

We will start with the small grant received in 2021 that allowed us to pin down data-related communication gaps and opportunities and walk through our evolving SharePoint solution dedicated to research faculty and staff understanding of all we offer.

Recruitment of Adolescents with Mild Depression from Primary Care Settings: Lessons Learned from a Multi-Site Comparative Effectiveness Trial



Cheryl Lefaiver, PhD, RN



Tracy Gladstone, PhD

This article is based on the April 11 presentation by Tracy Gladstone, PhD and Cheryl Lefaiver, PhD, RN.

Depression afflicts young people from all racial and ethnic backgrounds. While rates of depression have been increasing since long before the COVID-19 pandemic, it seems that the pandemic increased symptoms of depression and anxiety for many young people, especially girls, as shown by several longitudinal studies. Though more treatments for depression are available than for many other forms of mental illness, even when adolescents are able to access those treatments and recover fully, about 40% of those teens relapse within 2 years, and 75% of adolescents who recover relapse within 5 years.

Since it is estimated that over 90% of children visit a pediatrician in any given year, primary care visits may serve as a critical opportunity to identify mental health risk and intervene early. Optimally, pediatricians would be equipped with an intervention to help prevent depression in their teenage patients and be confident about how to deploy it to those patients.

PATH 2 Purpose (P2P) is a multi-site, randomized clinical comparative effectiveness trial designed to evaluate the effectiveness of two empirically supported cognitive-behavioral interventions targeting adolescents at-risk for depression. After cluster randomization, each of the primary care clinics is assigned to offer one of the two different study interventions – a self-guided internet program or facilitated virtual skills training groups. Participants are recruited after either screening at their primary care office, identification of elevated depressive symptoms through review of Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) data from the medical record, and/or calling the study team in response to community outreach efforts. Recruitment is ongoing until December 2023 within 23 clinic sites across four health systems serving patients in urban, rural, and suburban areas in Illinois and Kentucky.

The present study evaluates the implementation of recruitment for P2P into primary care settings, using a formal implementation framework (Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research, CFIR). We conducted qualitative interviews with key stakeholders (n=39) involved with recruitment for the P2P adolescent depression prevention trial. Our primary objectives were to identify barriers and facilitators to implementation and integration of primary care-based recruitment and develop data-driven “best practices”.

Recorded interviews were transcribed and then coded using the five CFIR domains for organization. Main themes are included in Figure 1.

Key Themes by CFIR Domains & Constructs



Our findings validate the amalgamation of factors that can impact implementation of a study within a primary care setting. When implementing a large-scale innovation, the intentional cultivation of inclusive team structures that consider and encourage the perspectives of organizational staff in various roles should be prioritized. In the present study, active, 'on-the ground' site champion engagement was perceived as essential to the successful implementation of recruitment strategies and maintaining stakeholder buy-in. Specific strategies, such as the use of embedded site champions, to maintain motivation or buy-in throughout the lifetime of a project will require repeated collaborative planning discussions, repeated assessment of stakeholders' goals and interests, and flexibility for necessary changes. Incorporating the time and effort to respond to the evaluation of readiness using a formal implementation framework at the beginning and throughout the study duration is critical to success.

New open access issue of JPCRR now published, includes conference proceedings for HCSRN 2023

JPCRR

Journal of Patient-Centered
Research and Reviews



HCSRN is pleased to announce that the latest issue of Advocate Aurora Research Institute's [Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews \(JPCRR\)](#), Volume 10, Issue 3, is now available for viewing.



In addition to several novel research articles, this issue offers published proceedings from the HCSRN Annual Conference, including a recap of events authored by HCSRN leaders Michael Horberg and Suzanne Simons as well as more than 100 abstracts accepted for presentation.

The plenary paper can be downloaded [here](#). The abstract supplement [here](#). All content published in JPCRR is free to read, and we encourage you to search the journal archive for prior HCSRN-authored publications.

Published quarterly by Advocate Aurora Research Institute, JPCRR is a PubMed-indexed, peer-reviewed medical journal devoted to advancing patient-centered care practices, health outcomes, and patient experiences.

Be sure to check out this new issue today!



We list faculty and staff positions at HCSRN research centers and academic institutions as a service to the research community.

[Executive Scientific Director of Research, Department of Research & Evaluation, Kaiser Permanente Southern California](#)

The Department of Research & Evaluation (R&E) of Kaiser Permanente Southern California (KPSC) is recruiting candidates for an Executive Scientific Director of Research. This position is an ideal opportunity for a renowned, visionary, and collaborative leader to work with the Department and KPSC leadership to stimulate innovation, promote a culture of excellence, and generate research that can be translated into clinical practice, health promotion, and policies to enhance the health of individuals and populations.

The Director leads and supports strategic planning, policy formation, investigator development, and management and oversight of all research activities within the KPSC region. The Director will lead a well established and highly regarded research group embedded within a prominent integrated health care system that serves over 4.8 million diverse members in Southern California. The organization is a learning health system that continuously translates research into practice to address questions of effectiveness, safety, quality, affordability, access, and

population health.

Authorities and Principal Responsibilities

- Leads a team of 30+ research scientists and post-doctoral fellows, 400+ staff, \$100M+ research portfolio
- Responsible for providing strategic vision and leadership, operational, and administrative oversight of the research activities conducted in KPSC including grant/contract submission, research activities, and report writing and publication, and oversees administration of research budgets.
- Works with Scientists, Physician Investigators, and Administrators to manage projects and ensure compliance with
- timelines, protocols, and financial and sponsor regulations.
- Serves as KPSC research's primary spokesperson in organizational and national committees and other leadership groups.
- Fosters and sustains collaborative relationships with local, state, and national opinion leaders and funders.
- Grow and diversify the Department's research agenda, as well as its external partnerships and funding streams
- Foster and maintain a culture of mentorship.
- Identify infrastructure (shared resources) and facility needs to foster innovation and efficiencies
- Set direction with high standards of scientific rigor and integrity to help solve critical quality of care delivery gaps
- Partner with the medical group leadership to cultivate and maintain collaborative relationships
- May serve on the faculty of the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine.
- Maintain a personal portfolio of nationally recognized research.

Minimum Qualifications

- An advanced degree (e.g., PhD, MD, or equivalent doctoral degree).
- Minimum eight (8) years of research leadership experience in a healthcare setting required, preferably experience in a complex, multi-faceted health care system and multi-service provider setting.

A description of the Department of Research & Evaluation is available on the web at <http://kp.org/research>. The Department is located in Pasadena, California, a community of 140,000 residents and the home of the California Institute of Technology, Rose Bowl, Jet Propulsion Lab, and other historical and cultural sites. Information about the community can be found at <https://www.visitpasadena.com>.

Interested candidates should submit their letter of interest and CV to Research-Recruitment@kp.org and for further inquiries regarding this position, you can also contact Laura Cardoza, Leadership Search Consultant, at 503-347-7110 or via email at laura.cardoza@kp.org.

KPSC is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and offers a comprehensive compensation package, including employer-paid medical, dental, and coverage for eligible dependents. Competitive wages, generous paid time-off, and a comprehensive retirement plan are just part of the exceptional benefits offered to Kaiser Permanente employees.

[Associate Investigator, Kaiser Permanente Colorado \(KPCO\) Institute for Health Research](#)

Description:

The Institute for Health Research (IHR) is seeking an associate investigator / professor to serve as the investigator or co-investigator on major projects for the Kaiser Permanente Colorado (KPCO) Institute for Health Research (IHR). The position requires Doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, PharmD) in a social sciences, medicine, health care discipline, or other relevant field and a minimum seven (7)

years of experience as co- or principal investigator in conducting research and research experience as an investigator.

The IHR is seeking a scientist with interest, demonstrated expertise and funding in one of the following content areas: Mental Health, Maternal and Child Health, or Geriatrics with demonstrated experience working closely with care delivery using research to test and evaluate programs and clinical approaches, and demonstrated interest in social determinants of health, disparities, or digital health as part of research.

The Kaiser Permanente Colorado Institute for Health Research (IHR) is an innovative, integrated department that conducts, publishes, and disseminates epidemiologic, behavioral, health services, implementation and clinical research. The organization has a specific focus on conducting research that can be translated into clinical practice, health promotion, and policies to influence the health of individuals and populations. Established in 1992, the IHR is responsible for many landmark findings. Among the most notable are recent studies about opioid overdose prevention, vaccine safety, food insecurity, genomics, and cancer screenings.

<https://www.kaiserpermanentejobs.org/job/aurora/associate-investigator-associate-professor-geriatrics-mental-health-maternal-and-child-health-resea/641/50338193232>

[Vice President, Center for Health Research, Kaiser Permanente's Northwest Region](#)

Primary Location Portland, Oregon

Job Number 1173206

Date posted 04/20/2023

Description:

This position is accountable for all aspects of health research, policy, and research compliance in the Northwest region and is responsible for the business success of the research enterprise in this region. This position will have the ability to lead a 59-year old research center within a health care system focused on solving critical care delivery issues and improving health care outcomes not only for over 600,000 members of Kaiser Permanente's Northwest Region, but for the general public on a local, national, and international level. In doing so, this position will help enhance Kaiser Permanente's reputation as a health care system of choice. This position is an active member of Kaiser Permanente's national research community (National Research Council), and is an acknowledged leader in developing research as a strategic asset for the national Program.

<https://www.kaiserpermanentejobs.org/job/portland/vice-president-center-for-health-research-nw/641/47719889760>

[Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Point32Health, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care](#)

Who We Are

Point32Health is a leading health and wellbeing organization, delivering an ever-better personalized health care experience to everyone in our communities. At Point32Health, we are building on the quality, nonprofit heritage of our founding organizations, Tufts Health Plan and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, where we leverage our experience and expertise to help people find their version of healthier living through a broad range of health plans and tools that make navigating health and wellbeing easier.

We enjoy the important work we do every day in service to our members, partners, colleagues and communities. To learn more about who we are at Point32Health, [click here](#).

Job Summary

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute is currently seeking highly motivated

individuals to join our organization as Postdoctoral Fellow. The Postdoctoral Fellow will perform and manage research projects from their initial development through publication of study findings.

Key Responsibilities/Duties – what you will be doing

- Analyze large, complex data from multiple sources, such as survey data, claims data, and administrative data
- Make effective presentations of the analysis results to both technical and non-technical audiences
- Prepare articles for peer-reviewed publications, as well as reports and presentations
- Participate in team meetings to help shape the direction of the existing research projects
- Develop new research ideas or help prepare proposals
- Perform out-of-the-box thinking, collaborate with others, and make a difference every day!
- Other duties and projects as assigned

Qualifications – what you need to perform the job

- Doctoral degree, such as an MD, PharmD, or PhD in Health Services Research, Public Policy, Economics, Sociology, Statistics, or related quantitative research field
- Quantitative analytical skills and experience analyzing large data to answer complex questions
- Proficiency in at least one programming language
- At least one first author publication preferred
- Specialization in health disparities and equity, health insurance, and or health policy
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Resilient, collaborative, flexible, innovative

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) and Health Equity

Point32Health is committed to making diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility and health equity part of everything we do—from product design to the workforce driving that innovation. Our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) and Health Equity team's strategy is deeply connected to our core values and will evolve as the changing nature of work shifts. Programming, events, and an inclusion infrastructure play a role in how we spread cultural awareness, train people leaders on engaging with their teams and provide parameters on how to recruit and retain talented and dynamic talent. We welcome all applicants and qualified individuals, who will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status.

https://tuftshealthplan.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/THP/details/Postdoctoral-Research-Fellow_R6151?locations=8ff8295306890178bb6626e2270178af



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