



CENTER FOR HEALTH POLICY/
CENTER FOR PRIMARY CARE AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH

Stanford Health Policy Winter 2010 Newsletter

Updates on new research and center initiatives

February 2010

Dear Stanford Health Policy community,

Happy new year and new academic term! We have quickly settled into the winter quarter and are excited to start off 2010 with our first [George Rosenkranz Award](#). The prize will be awarded to a young Stanford researcher whose work aims to improve health care outcomes in the developing world.

This special award is part of our centers' as well as Stanford's burgeoning [global health initiative](#) and an ever-deepening commitment to [international studies](#). Cultivating junior faculty interest in issues of worldwide importance continues to be a high priority for our centers. At the close of 2009, we were pleased that our demography and aging center, CDEHA, received five years of continued support from the National Institutes of Health. This support provides funding to [pilot projects](#) led by junior investigators with senior faculty mentorship. One new pilot will strive to understand the nature and sources of mortality inequalities across industrialized nations. Recently, core faculty Douglas Owens, faculty fellow Margaret Brandeau and associate faculty Eran Bendavid were selected out of a giant pool of applicants to receive a \$1 million challenge grant for a project that will compare antiretroviral regimen treatments for HIV, and evaluate the impact of these drugs on patients with cardiovascular problems.

While health care legislation has an uncertain future in Washington, our domestic policy work continues. Core faculty member Victor Fuchs joined with the Stanford Institute of Economic and Policy Research (SIEPR) to publish a [collection of his articles](#) on achieving meaningful health care reform. Meanwhile our director Alan Garber has been interviewed by the top national publications about the future of U.S. health care reform and the role comparative effectiveness research will play in it. For his impressive contributions to research and education, Alan was also awarded the Society of Decision Making's [career achievement award](#) this fall.

I close with the exciting news that our core faculty member Paul Wise has started a research program on children in crisis. Paul will be working across many disciplines at Stanford on a groundbreaking effort to elucidate ways to link life-saving child health interventions with the essential political requirements for providing them in the real world. Later this week, Paul will be presenting on his new program in the first of our [Stanford Health Policy in Washington, DC, speakers' series](#). I encourage anyone in Washington February 4th to attend. You can sign up [here](#).

Over the course of 2010, we look forward to bringing you further updates that highlight selected tidbits from our community. Please keep [Teal Pennebaker](#), our Communications Officer, informed, so that we can continue to foster awareness and celebration of each other's work.

Kathryn McDonald
Executive Director, Stanford Health Policy (CHP/PCOR)

Our core faculty's publications, fall 2009

[Health Outcomes and Costs of Community Mitigation Strategies for an Influenza Pandemic in the United States](#)

Clinical Infectious Diseases
[Daniella Perlrath](#), [Alan M. Garber](#), [Douglas K. Owens](#), et al

[Inpatient treatment of diabetic patients in Asia: evidence from India, China, Thailand and Malaysia](#)

Diabetic Medicine
[Jeremy Goldhaber-Fiebert](#), [Karen Eggleston](#), et al

[Comparative Effectiveness Research Essay Introduction](#)

Medical Decision Making
[Kathryn McDonald](#)

[A Public Health Approach to Children's Mental Health Services: Possible Solutions to Current Service Inadequacies](#)

Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research,
[Sarah \(Sally\) M. Horwitz](#), et al

[Confronting Social Disparities in Child Health: a Critical Appraisal of Life-Course Science and Research](#)

Pediatrics
[Paul H. Wise](#)

[Eliminating Waste in Health Care](#)

Journal of the American Medical Association
[Victor R. Fuchs](#)

[Children of the Recession](#)

Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
[Paul H. Wise](#)

[Cost-Effectiveness of Alternative](#)

Paul Wise's new Children in Crisis Program



The Children in Crisis initiative is a Stanford Health Policy program linking life-saving child health interventions with political reform. Almost half of all preventable child deaths in the world occur in areas of unstable governance or civil conflict. However, global efforts to improve child health have largely avoided work in these areas. SHP core faculty Paul Wise started the Children in Crisis program to attack this issue directly by bringing together Stanford's strength in global security, human rights, and democratization studies with the medical school and other Stanford programs focused on the health and well-being of children.

[Find out more.](#)

Scientists consider the limitations and potential of decision modeling in the policy realm

By **Teal Pennebaker**

As computer-based decision modeling has become more sophisticated, policymakers have increasingly incorporated them into their assessment of potential policy measures in public health and medicine. Lead author [Jeremy Goldhaber-Fiebert](#) considers how to evaluate such models to enhance their credibility in the forthcoming *Value in Health* paper "Empirically Evaluating Decision-Analytic Models."

"The models being developed by researchers throughout the country have helped us to assess the long-term effectiveness and costs of various interventions. For example, how HPV vaccination and cervical screening might be used to prevent cervical cancer," Goldhaber-Fiebert said. "But we believe it is

[Imaging Strategies for the Diagnosis of Small-bowel Crohn's Disease](#)

Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology

[Barrett Levesque](#), [Douglas K. Owens](#), [Alan M. Garber](#), et al

[Disparities in Trauma Center Access Despite Increasing Utilization: Data From California, 1999 to 2006](#)

Journal of Trauma

[Olga Saynina](#), [Paul H. Wise](#), et al

[Hormonal Testing and Pharmacologic Treatment of Erectile Dysfunction: A Clinical Practice Guideline From the American College of Physicians](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

[Douglas K. Owens](#), et al

[Insuring the Near-Elderly: How Much Would Medicare Save?](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine

[Jay Bhattacharya](#)

[The Confirmatory Trial in Comparative-Effectiveness Research](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

[Alan M. Garber](#), [Mark A. Hlatky](#)

[Four Health Care Reforms for 2009](#)

New England Journal of Medicine

[Victor R. Fuchs](#)

[Associations Between Intensity of Child Welfare Involvement and Child Development among Young Children in Child Welfare](#)

Child Abuse and Neglect

[Sarah \(Sally\) M. Horwitz](#), et al

[Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Vaccination Against Pandemic Influenza \(H1N1\) 2009](#)

important to carefully review these modeling approaches and to compare them to independent studies. Are the models consistent with real-world study findings? An important question in light of the increasing use of models to inform comparative effectiveness considerations for policymaking." [Read more.](#)

Stanford Health Policy analyses of flu pandemics project savings from earlier vaccinations



By Bruce Goldman

Stanford School of Medicine Science Writer

In a city the size of New York, starting a vaccination campaign a few weeks earlier could save almost 600 lives and over \$150 million, according to a study by scientists at the Stanford Health Policy and Stanford University School of Medicine.

The study-- [Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Vaccination Against Pandemic Influenza \(H1N1\) 2009](#) -- was published online Oct. 6 in the Annals of Internal Medicine, modeled a pandemic in a hypothetical urban area with a population and demographic characteristics mirroring New York City's. [Read more.](#)

Demography and Aging Center receives renewed NIA funding for series of workshops on demography research

By Teal Pennebaker

Stanford Health Policy has received five years of renewed support for its [Center on the Demography and Economics of Health and Aging \(CDEHA\)](#). The National Institute on Aging funding will help expand the center's initiative to inform the academic community about demography and economic research in the area of health and aging.

"Thanks to NIA's continued support, CDEHA will be able to convene a series of training workshops at Stanford on demography research," Stanford Health Policy director and CDEHA principal investigator [Alan Garber](#) said. "Demography underpins research in many disciplines. CDEHA's efforts will help the Stanford research community gain a deeper understanding of population science and enable investigators to learn how demographic analyses can be included in their research." [Read more.](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine
[Nayer Khazeni](#), [Alan M. Garber](#),
[Douglas K. Owens](#), et al

[Effectiveness and
 Cost-Effectiveness of Expanded
 Antiviral Prophylaxis and
 Adjuvanted Vaccination
 Strategies for an Influenza A
 \(H5N1\) Pandemic](#)

Annals of Internal Medicine
[Nayer Khazeni](#), [Alan M. Garber](#),
[Douglas K. Owens](#), et al

[Preferences for Dialysis
 Withdrawal and Engagement in
 Advance Care Planning within a
 Diverse Sample of Dialysis
 Patients](#)

Nephrology Dialysis
 Transplantation
[Mary K. Goldstein](#), et al

[Cost-Effectiveness of a Potential
 Prophylactic Helicobacter pylori
 Vaccine in the United States](#)

Journal of Infectious Disease
[Ross D. Shachter](#), [Douglas K.
 Owens](#), [Julie Parsonnet](#), et al

[Cost Shifting Does Not Reduce
 the Cost of Health Care](#)
 Journal of the American Medical
 Association
[Victor R. Fuchs](#)

New Dr. George Rosenkranz Prize offers young Stanford Researchers \$100,000 for improving health care access

By Adam Gorlick
Stanford News Service Science Writer

Young Stanford researchers focusing on how to improve health care access in developing countries are eligible for a new \$100,000 award.

The [Dr. George Rosenkranz Prize for Health Care Research in Developing Countries](#) will be given to a non-tenured professor, post-doctoral student or research associate during a two-year period.

Rosenkranz, who helped first synthesize Cortisone in 1951 and went on to synthesize progesterin - the active ingredient for the first oral birth control - dedicated his career to improving health care access around the world. Born in Hungary in 1916, the chemist started his career in Mexico and helped establish the Mexican National Institute for Genomic Medicine. He lives with his wife in Menlo Park.

The award is being funded by the Rosenkranz family and administered by Stanford Health Policy, a center within the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies and the Center for Primary Care and Outcomes Research. It also is designed to give its recipients access to a network that will help them develop their careers.

President Emeritus Donald Kennedy, Paul Yock, a professor of medicine and bioengineering, and Alan Garber, director of Stanford Health Policy, will serve on the initial selection committee and will mentor the award winners during their tenure at Stanford.

The application deadline is Feb. 1, and the first winner will be announced in March.

Newsletter compiled by Teal Pennebaker, Communications Officer

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