



Presenter Biographies

The Power of Partnership in Research: Improving Healthcare Outcomes in the Midwest and Upper Plains

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Jean R. Slutsky, PA, MSPH
Chief Engagement and Dissemination Officer,
PCORI

Jean R. Slutsky is the Chief Engagement and Dissemination Officer at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). She leads PCORI's Engagement Team and PCORI's growing dissemination and implementation planning efforts. She also serves as Director of PCORI's Communication and Dissemination Research Program.

Before joining PCORI, Slutsky directed the Center for Outcomes and Evidence at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, where she conceived and implemented the Effective Health Care program. The Effective Health Care program is an integrated program of research, stakeholder engagement, research training, and dissemination and implementation of comparative effectiveness research. Slutsky is particularly interested in pragmatic user-driven research and its implementation into healthcare decision making.

Slutsky received her baccalaureate degree from the University of Iowa, trained as a Physician Assistant at the University of Southern California, and received a MSPH in health policy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Dave Hickam, MD, MPH
Program Director, Clinical Effectiveness
Research, PCORI

David Hickam is the Program Director of the Clinical Effectiveness Research program at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). He is a specialist in internal medicine and has 30 years of experience as a health services researcher. His past research has focused on strategies for improving health care outcomes among adults with chronic diseases. He is responsible for developing PCORI's research program that evaluates comparisons among alternative clinical strategies in a broad range of clinical domains. He also provides staff support to the PCORI Methodology Committee.

Dr. Hickam previously held the rank of Professor in the Department of Medicine at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU). He also held a joint faculty appointment in OHSU's Department of Medical Informatics and Epidemiology. He was a senior investigator in the Oregon Evidence-based Practice Center at OHSU and also served as Co-Director of the health services research and development program at the Portland VA Medical Center. He has expertise in a broad range of both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies.

In 2005, he became the founding Director of the John M. Eisenberg Clinical Decisions and Communications Science Center, funded by the Agency for

Healthcare Research and Quality. The Eisenberg Center has developed innovative approaches for helping people use evidence-based information to participate in decision making about their health care.

Dr. Hickam received his bachelor's degree from Stanford University, an M.D. degree from the University of California San Francisco, and a Master in Public Health from the University of California Berkeley.



Erik P. Hess, MD MSc
Principal Investigator, Shared Decision-Making in the Emergency Department: The Chest Pain Choice Trial; Shared Decision-Making in Parents of Children with Head Trauma: Head CT Choice
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
Chair, Division of Emergency Medicine Research, Mayo Clinic

Consultant, Department of Emergency Medicine, Mayo Clinic

Erik P. Hess is Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, Research Chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine, and Associate Director for the Healthcare Delivery Research Scholars Program at Mayo Clinic. He is a board-certified academic emergency physician who has completed a fellowship in Critical Care Medicine at Mayo Clinic, a clinical research fellowship at the University of Ottawa, holds a Master's of Science in Epidemiology from the University of Ottawa, and a medical degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine.

Dr. Hess' primary area of academic interest is patient-centered outcomes research and shared decision-making in the acute setting. The author of over 70 peer-reviewed publications, Dr. Hess has presented nationally and internationally and conducted workshops on patient centered outcomes research in the acute setting. He has also recently obtained peer-reviewed funding to conduct 2 multicenter shared-decision making randomized clinical trials from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute: (1) Chest Pain Choice and (2) Head CT Choice.



Joel Anderson
Research Coordinator, Emergency Department, Mayo Clinic

Joel Anderson is a research coordinator in the Emergency Department at the Mayo Clinic. He graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Science degree.

He comes from a background with experience in research in Academic Bariatric Surgery and the medical device industry in addition to experience as a paramedic for 5 years. He is currently the lead coordinator for the PCORI

funded Chest Pain Choice trial and assists with recruitment in the Pediatric Head CT Choice Trial.



Michel Demers

Co-Investigator, Shared Decision-Making in the Emergency Department: The Chest Pain Choice Trial

Michel Demers is a French Canadian, Architectural Technician, husband, and father of two, now a stay-at-home dad. He is currently co-investigator on a PCORI grant representing the perspective of patients presenting to the emergency department for chest pain.



Gretchen Heidorn

Lead Coordinator, Shared Decision-Making in Parents of Children with Head Trauma: Head CT Choice

Research Coordinator, Department of Emergency, Mayo Clinic

Gretchen Heidorn is a research coordinator in the Department of Emergency Department at the Mayo Clinic. She graduated from Carthage College with a degree in Neuroscience/Biology and has six years of experience in academic research.

Currently, she is the lead coordinator for the PCORI-funded pediatric head injury trial and assists in recruiting for the Chest Pain Choice trial of low risk cardiac patients.



Melissa M. Kuntz, CCRP

Senior Program Coordinator

Melissa is the Senior Program Coordinator for the Surgical and Medical Acute Care Research Program at Mayo Clinic. Melissa has extensive clinical research experience with federal and industry multi-institutional drug and device studies with the Departments of Emergency Medicine and Surgery.

She is a graduate of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in biology and a certified clinical research professional. Currently, she is the study manager for the PCORI funded pediatric head injury and chest pain choice trials.



Annie LeBlanc, PhD

Co-Investigator, Shared Decision-Making in the Emergency Department: The Chest Pain Choice Trial

Assistant Professor of Health Sciences Research, Mayo Clinic

Annie LeBlanc is Assistant-Professor of Health Services Research at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.

She is currently co-investigator on a PCORI grant representing the perspective of caregivers' engagement in the decision making process regarding their loved one's management options following a chest pain episode in the emergency room



Marc Olive

Study Coordinator, Shared Decision-Making in the Emergency Department: The Chest Pain Choice Trial; Shared Decision-Making in Parents of Children with Head Trauma: Head CT Choice

Marc Olive graduated from University of Missouri with a BA in Anthropology and graduated from Mayo School of Health Sciences in the Study Coordinator diploma program. Mr. Olive has been involved in academic research for four years and medical research for one year.

He is currently the study coordinator for an ongoing cardiac biomarker biobank registry and assists in recruitment for two shared decision trials: 1) Chest Pain Choice and 2) Peds Head CT Choice.



Lori Scanlan-Hanson, RN, MS, CSSBB

Patient Advisory Council Member, Shared Decision-Making in Parents of Children with Head Trauma: Head CT Choice

Quality Improvement Specialist, Department of Emergency Medicine, Mayo Clinic

Lori received her Bachelor's degree in nursing at Winona State University followed by a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology and Counseling.

She worked as a staff nurse at a large mid-west hospital in the area of neuro-rehabilitation, Neuro-ICU, Chemical Dependency Detox/Inpatient Treatment & Counseling.

In 2006, she joined the Department of Emergency Medicine at Mayo Clinic, Rochester as the Continuous Improvement Specialist. She is a Certified Six Sigma Black Belt for Quality in Healthcare. She is an AHRQ Master Trainer for TeamStepps and teamwork implementation in healthcare settings. She presented at the 2008 Joint Commission Annual Conference on lean improvements for patient safety in emergency care. She has been a faculty presenter (3 times since 2007) at the Congress for Advances in Emergency

Medicine in Guadalajara. Lori has one daughter in college and together they provide care for Lori's 80-year-old mother.



Jessica Westphal

**Patient Advisory Council Member, Shared Decision-Making in Parents of Children with Head Trauma: Head CT Choice
Data Quality Analyst, Department of Emergency Medicine, Mayo Clinic**

Jessica Westphal is a Data Quality Analyst at the Mayo Clinic. She is also a member of the Clinical Engineering Lab Core Committee. For this study,

Jessica is most importantly a mother of three active sons. Having three children of various ages (17, 13, and 6) active in sports, she has had several experiences in the emergency department with injured children – hockey-related head injuries in particular. Jessica provided the perspective of a parent with limited medical background for the minor head injury shared decision-making study, Head CT Choice.



Ayodola Anise, MHS

Program Officer, Addressing Disparities, PCORI

Ayodola Anise is a Program Officer at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), where she supports the Health Disparities research priority area and the Methodology Committee.

Before PCORI, Anise worked for the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform at the Brookings

Institution, where she managed activities related to the Quality and Equity/Disparities Initiatives. Her work there focused on informing regional, state, and national practices on performance measurement, specifically addressing data collection, data integration/aggregation, patient-centered measurement, and vulnerable populations. Prior to joining Brookings, Anise worked as a senior associate for The Lewin Group, a health care research and consulting firm, and as project coordinator at Georgetown University on a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded longitudinal study of women experiencing intimate partner violence. Anise has experience working with low-income and minority populations, conducting qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, and performing evidenced-based literature reviews.

Anise has a BA in English writing, with minors in chemistry and biology, and a MHS from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Population and Family Health Sciences, with a double concentration in health communication and reproductive, perinatal, and women's health.



Lauren Holuj, MHA
Program Associate, Improving Healthcare Systems, PCORI

Lauren Holuj is a Program Associate for the Improving Healthcare Systems (IHS) team at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). She is responsible for providing coordination support for the IHS program.

Before joining PCORI in April 2013, Holuj completed a two-year fellowship with Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) across Illinois and Wisconsin. While at HSHS, she led on-site project management for a replacement hospital project and also led several system-wide analyses of services across the 13-hospital system, including its associated medical group practices, among other responsibilities. She also worked in the Office of the President at Christian Hospital in St. Louis, part of the BJC Healthcare system, where she focused on Joint Commission survey preparation and other patient-centered quality improvement initiatives. Holuj brings both hospital management perspectives and research experience.

Holuj received her BS in healthcare management from Southern Illinois University, and her MHA in health management and policy at Saint Louis University.



Elizabeth Cox, MD, PhD
Principal Investigator, Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources

Department of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Elizabeth Cox is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and affiliate faculty with the Department of Population Health Sciences and the Health Innovation Program. As a pediatrician and

health services researcher, Dr. Cox is motivated to see the healthcare system serve the needs of each child and family as unique individuals. Having grown up in rural West Virginia, she also has a special interest in improving healthcare for "seldom heard" populations.

Dr. Cox has been the principal investigator (PI) of multiple research awards that leverage the voices of children and their families to deliver safe, high quality pediatric care. These efforts have centered on 1) developing novel measures to assess patient and family engagement in healthcare encounters and 2) using family perspectives to inform and evaluate family-centered redesign of children's healthcare systems. Currently, Dr. Cox is the PI of a 3-year Patient

Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded multisite trial examining the effectiveness of family-centered interventions for children with type 1 diabetes and their families. In addition, she is currently serving on PCORI's Improving Healthcare Systems Advisory Panel. She is also the PI of a 5-year AHRQ-funded R18 examining family engagement in family-centered rounds as it relates to pediatric patient safety. She earned her undergraduate degree in Chemistry and her medical doctorate at West Virginia University. At UW, she completed her residency in pediatrics in 1994 and her PhD in Health Services Research in 2006.



Rosanna Fiallo-Scharer, MD
Co-Investigator, Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Medical College of Wisconsin

Rosanna Fiallo-Scharer obtained her medical degree from the Universidad Nacional Pedro Henriquez Ureña in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic in 1989. She completed her Pediatric residency training in 1995 at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey and her fellowship training in Pediatric Endocrinology at the New York Presbyterian Hospital- Cornell University Medical Center in 1998. At the Barbara Davis Center, Dr. Fiallo-Scharer was the leader of a bilingual and bicultural team that successfully narrowed the gap in diabetes outcomes of the large Hispanic population of the clinic through a patient-centered approach that incorporated families' cultural views of disease.

In November 2012, Dr. Fiallo-Scharer joined the faculty at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW), to serve as the clinical director of the diabetes program at the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW). During her appointment in Wisconsin, Dr. Fiallo-Scharer has worked alongside the CHW diabetes team to expand the insulin pump program and establish a continuous glucose monitoring program. Dr. Fiallo-Scharer has been closely collaborating with adult endocrinologists in the community in an effort to improve the transition of graduating pediatric patients to adult care. Dr. Fiallo-Scharer will function as the PI for the PCORI- funded project "Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources" at the CHW clinical site.



Katie Glass, MA
Youth Advisory Board Facilitator, Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources
Certified Child Life Specialist, American Family Children's Hospital, UW Health

Katie Glass is a Certified Child Life Specialist at the American Family Children's Hospital in Madison, WI. She works primarily in the burn ICU and pediatric intensive care units. She is also the Director of Child

Life at Edgewood College in Madison where she teaches the Child Life course work within the School of Education. She is an active member of the Child Life Council and sits on multiple national committees promoting the profession and national academic standards. Katie graduated with a BS in Child Life from Edgewood College, a Master's in education administration from Norwich University and is currently working on her doctorate in higher education.



Gwen Costa Jacobsohn

**Research Coordinator, Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources
Research Specialist, Department of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health**

Gwen Costa Jacobsohn is a Research Specialist in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin—Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. She holds a Master's Degree in Organizational and Small Group Communication from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and will be completing her Ph.D. in Health Communication this summer. Gwen's doctoral research examines the potential influence of information provided during pediatric well-child visits and parental assessments of provider-parent relationships on child weight-related behaviors (i.e., diet, physical activity, TV viewing) and BMI. Much of Gwen's professional experience has involved coordinating longitudinal multi-disciplinary research projects involving parents and children, developing and implementing data collection strategies, and data management. She also has a background in facilitating multi-level stakeholder groups in for-profit and non-profit organizations.



Betty Kaiser, PhD

**Parent Advisory Board Facilitator, Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources
Community Health Nurse, Wisconsin Network for Research Support**

Betty Kaiser is a community health nurse with experience in teaching, program planning and evaluation, and community-based research. She earned BS, MS, and PhD degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Patient-Centered Interventions. Her research has involved extensive collaboration with communities on health promotion projects. Since 2010, Dr. Kaiser has served as Director of Community Training for the Wisconsin Network for Research Support, where she develops and delivers interactive training programs for community advisory boards.



Kathryn Murphy, BS
Youth Advisory Board Facilitator, Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources

American Family Children's Hospital, UW Health
Kathryn Murphy is the Patient Family Liaison at the

American Family Children's Hospital in Madison, WI. Kathryn is a member of the interdisciplinary team from the Pediatric Specialties Clinics and the Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant Department. She develops and implements patient and family-centered programs and provides much-needed resources, to families of children diagnosed with cancer and other related diseases. Kathryn also co-facilitates the AFCH Parent Family Advisory Group and Open Forum Sessions. She graduated from UW-Eau Claire with a Bachelor of Arts in English and Communications.



Nancy Pandhi, MD, MPH, PhD
Co-Investigator, Family-Centered Tailoring of Pediatric Diabetes Self-Management Resources
Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Nancy Pandhi is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine. Her research program is directed towards effective ambulatory primary care redesign, with a focus on understanding the patient perspective. Recent research has examined the role of easily accessible primary care in preventive screening and the integration of behavioral health and primary care. She leads the Primary Care Academics Transforming Healthcare (PATH) Collaborative whose mission is to communicate UW Health's primary care redesign innovations through scholarly publications.

Dr. Pandhi's clinical practice is with the Access Community Health Centers. She also is faculty coordinator for the second and third year family medicine residency Community Health rotation.



James Hulbert

Pre-Award Manager, Contracts, PCORI

James Hulbert is a Pre-Award Manager for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). He is responsible for designing and implementing training programs for applicants, reviewers, and staff. Hulbert has more than eight years of experience in program development and research administration. Prior to joining PCORI, Hulbert served as a manager at a non-profit foundation supporting military medical research. For more than six years, he worked closely with investigators to develop, apply, and manage federally funded and industry sponsored research programs around the world.

For the past year, Hulbert worked alongside researchers and clinicians at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center to build new research opportunities. Hulbert attended Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, where he received two degrees, in Sociology and Social Work. In his spare time, he enjoys being outdoors and spending time with friends and family.

PCORI Engagement Team Staff

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