Acknowledgements

Planning Committee

Leslee Shaw, PhD
Professor of Medicine (Cardiology)
Co-Director, Emory Clinical Cardiovascular Research Institute (ECCRI)

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Vice Chair of Research and Faculty Development, Department of Medicine
Assistant Dean of Faculty Development, School of Medicine
Professor of Medicine (Cardiology)

Ashley S. Freeman
Research Program Coordinator, Department of Medicine

Dana Oliver
Research Coordinator IV, ISCHEMIA Image Coordinating Center, Emory Clinical Cardiovascular Research Institute (ECCRI)

David Howard, PhD
Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management, Rollins School of Public Health

Abhinav Goyal, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Epidemiology
Director of Quality, Division of Cardiology, Emory Healthcare

Special Thanks

Special thanks to Karen Summers, Morgan Taylor, Alia Kamel and Katie Davis for their help.

This event is sponsored by the Woodruff Fund, Inc.

Advancing Healthcare Quality Research at Emory University

Wednesday, May 28, 2014
7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Lawrence P. and Ann Estes Klamon Room
Claudia Nance Rollins Building
1518 Clifton Road, 8th floor, room 8030
7:00 - 8:30 AM  Pre-Program Methods Workshop
Measurement Science
Michael Kutner, PhD (Department of Biostatics & Bioinformatics, Rollins School of Public Health)
Continuous Quality Improvement Methods
Kimberly Applegate, MD, MS (Department of Radiology, School of Medicine)
Effective Planning and Implementation for Comparative Effectiveness Research
Lance Waller, PhD (Department of Biostatistics & Bioinformatics, Rollins School of Public Health)
Cost Efficiency & Effectiveness
Jason Hockenberry, PhD (Department of Health Policy & Management, Rollins School of Public Health)

8:45 - 10:40 AM  Symposium #1
Patient-Centered Outcomes Research
8:45 AM:  Introduction
Nathan Spell, III, MD, Vice Chair of Quality and Clinical Effectiveness (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)
9:00 AM:  Patient-Centered Outcomes Research
Leslee Shaw, PhD (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)
9:20 AM:  I am a Health Services Researcher - What Does This Mean?
Ted Johnson, MD, MPH (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)
9:40 AM:  Defining Patient Centeredness - Quality of Life / Health Status Measurement
Carolyn Reilly, PhD, RN (School of Nursing)
Ruth Parker, MD (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)
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<td>10:10 AM</td>
<td>Addressing Healthcare Disparities</td>
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<td>Rachel Patzer, PhD, MPH (Department of Surgery, School of Medicine</td>
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<td>and Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health)</td>
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<td>10:25 AM</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>Discussants: Neal Dickert, PhD; Douglas Ander, MD; Elizabeth Ofili, MD</td>
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<td>10:40 - 11:00 AM</td>
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<td>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</td>
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<td>Continuous Quality Improvement Research</td>
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<td>Greg Esper, MD, MBA (Department of Neurology, School of Medicine)</td>
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<td>11:15 AM</td>
<td>EQUIPPED: Enhancing Quality of Prescribing Practices for Elderly</td>
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<td>Melissa Stevens, MD (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)</td>
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<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Appropriate Use of Coronary Revascularization - Barriers and</td>
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<td>Hurdles to Optimizing Processes of Care</td>
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<td>Abhinav Goyal, MD, MHS (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)</td>
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<td>Discussants: Greg Esper, MD, MBA; Susan Shapiro, PhD; Tim Buchman,</td>
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<td>MD; Penny Castellano, MD</td>
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Schedule of Events

12:00 - 1:15 PM  Keynote Address and Lunch

12:00 PM:  Lunch

12:30 PM:  Keynote Address: Improving Care Quality through Comparative Effectiveness Research
            Timothy Carey, MD, MPH
            Director, Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research
            Sarah Graham Kenan Professor of Medicine
            Departments of Medicine and Social Medicine
            University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

1:20 - 2:40 PM  Symposium #3: Finance and Delivery System Innovation Research

1:20 PM:  Finance and Delivery System Innovation Research
            David Howard, PhD (Department of Health Policy and Management, Rollins School of Public Health)

1:40 PM:  Leveraging Investments in Clinical Quality into Clinical Research Opportunities
            John Sweeney, MD (Department of Surgery, School of Medicine)

1:55 PM:  Implementation Science
            Anne Tomolo, MD, MPH (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)

2:10 PM:  Improving Resource Utilization in Seven ICU’s Through a Multi-faceted Quality Improvement Program
            David Murphy, MD, PhD (Department of Medicine, School of Medicine)

2:25 PM:  Discussion
            Lead: David Howard, PhD
            Discussants: Jason Hockenberry, PhD; Richard Gitomer, MD, MBA; Victoria Phillips, DPhil

2:45 - 4:00 PM  Poster Session / Networking Opportunities
1. **Arshad Ali, MD**, Clinical Fellow, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
   *A Multidisciplinary Approach is Successful in Improving Vascular Access Outcomes in an Underserved Dialysis Population in a Large Indigent-care Public Hospital*

2. **C. Barrett Bowling, MD, MSPH**, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
   *The Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment for Chronic Kidney Disease (CGA-4-CKD) Program*

3. **Erin Bredenberg**, Graduate Student, Department of Health Policy & Management, School of Public Health
   *Factors Contributing to Falls in an Acute Care Population*

4. **Abhinav Goyal, MD, MHS, FACC** Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
   *Reducing the Rate of “Nonclassifiable” PCI Procedures for Appropriate Use Criteria Reporting in Two Teaching Hospitals*

5. **Sarah Johnson, MD**, Clinical Fellow, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
   *Improving the Quality and Attendance of Outpatient Hemodialysis, Peritoneal Dialysis, and Home Hemodialysis Rotation in the Nephrology Fellowship Program*

6. **Sarah Johnson, MD**, Clinical Fellow, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
   *Using Quality Metrics to Improve In-Training Exam Scores for the Nephrology Fellowship*

7. **Joseph Knapper, MD**, Resident, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
   *Coronary Artery Calcium Scoring for Long-Term Risk Stratification in Patients With & Without a Family History of Coronary Artery Disease*

8. **William Knechtle, MPH**, Research Associate, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine
   *Assessing Surgeon Performance Using Cost-Effectiveness Planes and Risk-Adjustment with NSQIP*

Continued...
9. **Mathu A. Kumarasamy**, Intern, Office of Quality & Risk, Emory Healthcare  
   *Slowing Down the Revolving Door of Rehospitalization from an Academic Skilled Nursing Facility*

10. **Megan M. Lyman, MD**, Resident, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine  
    *A Quality Improvement Approach to Increasing Rate of Discharges Before Noon at the Atlanta VA?*

11. **Megan M. Lyman, MD**, Resident, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine  
    *Do Primary Care Providers Use Blood Glucose Monitoring to Guide Diabetes Management with Insulin?*

12. **Peter F. Lyu, MSPH**, Graduate Student, Department of Health Policy & Management, Rollins School of Public Health  
    *Impact of Financial Incentives and Guideline Discussions on Decreasing Albumin Use in Critical Care*

13. **Andrew M. Pendley, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, School of Medicine  
    *Emergency Department Care Teams: Improving Staff Job Satisfaction While Decreasing ED Length of Stay*

14. **Sebastian Perez, MSPH**, Sr. Research Associate, Department of Surgery, School of Medicine  
    *Visualizing the Relationships Between Post-Operative Complications and 30-Readmissions*

15. **Laura Plantinga, ScM**, Graduate Student, Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health  
    *Comparison of Quality-of-Care Indicators in Patients with End-Stage Renal Disease Due to Lupus Nephritis vs. Other Causes*

16. **Gelareh Sadigh, MD**, Resident, Department of Radiology, School of Medicine  
    *Understanding the Hospitalists’ and Emergency Physicians’ Needs and Preferences from the Radiology Department and Radiology Report*

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**Anne Tomolo, MD, MPH**  
Anne Tomolo, MD, MPH is Chief of Quality for Medical Service at the Atlanta VAMC and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Emory University SOM. After completing her medical degree in 1996 at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Internal Medicine residency and Chief Residency, she completed specialized training in the National VA Quality Scholars Fellowship Program at the Cleveland site. Following her training she served as the Emergency Department Director at the Cleveland VAMC from 2002-2010, until her family relocated to Atlanta. During this time, she successfully led the Cleveland VAMC’s initiative to transform patient care coordination through the development of the Patient Transfer Center and this effort was recognized with a VHA Systems Redesign Champion Award in 2009. Dr. Tomolo’s interests in education and implementation resulted in VA HSRD Merit on the development and evaluation of a Practice-Based Learning and Improvement Tool to assess resident competence and guide curriculum development in this area. Currently, Dr. Tomolo is the Chief of Quality Medicine for the Medical Specialty Care Service Line at the Atlanta VAMC. She is Director and Mentor of the IM Chief Resident in Quality and Safety and the Fellowship Site Director and Senior Scholar for the VA Quality Scholars Advanced Fellowship Program at the Atlanta VAMC. In addition, she is serving as the Co-PI on a VA Office of Nursing Service funded quality improvement project that utilizes decision support and case management to improve diabetes management in primary care.

**Lance Waller, PhD**  
Lance A. Waller is Rollins Professor and Chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University. He received his B.S. in Mathematics from New Mexico State University (1986), and his Ph.D. in Operations Research from Cornell University (1991). He is currently a member of the National Academy of Science Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics.  
His research involves the development and application of statistical methods for spatially referenced data including applications in environmental justice, neurology, epidemiology, disease surveillance, and conservation biology. He has published in a variety of biostatistical and statistical journals and is co-author with Carol Gotway of the text *Applied Spatial Statistics for Public Health Data* (2004, Wiley).
Nathan Spell, III, MD
Dr. Spell is Associate Professor of Medicine at Emory University in the Division of General Medicine and Geriatrics. He was recently appointed as the Vice Chair for Quality and Clinical Effectiveness in the Department of Medicine, prior to which he served with distinction as Chief Quality Officer of Emory University Hospital since 2006.

In addition to numerous awards recognizing his excellence in teaching and service, Dr. Spell’s primary area of interest is in the realm of health care improvement. He is also a fellow of the Woodruff Leadership Academy. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Davidson College and a medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. Dr. Spell also served in the US Air Force Medical Corps. He has previously served as director of the Primary Care Resident Continuity Clinic at 1525 Clifton Road and as associate program director of the J. Willis Hurst Internal Medicine Residency. As Vice Chair for Quality and Clinical Effectiveness, he organizes and supports department activities to achieve high quality and value of clinical care in collaboration with The Emory Clinic, Emory Health Network, Emory Hospitals, the Atlanta VAMC, and Grady.

Melissa Stevens, MD
Dr. Stevens is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Hospital Medicine based at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. In 2012, she was announced as the recipient of the Department of Medicine FAME Grant, which granted her 20% protected time for one year of research on her project. She used her time to develop quality improvement initiatives in the Emergency Department (ED) targeting high risk drug use in vulnerable populations, specifically the elderly. Her interests include medical education, geriatrics, and quality improvement. As an internist working primarily in the VA ED, Dr. Stevens has been working in collaboration with faculty from the Department of Emergency Medicine to develop initiatives aimed at reducing adverse drug events and medication errors in the Emergency Department. Her recent manuscript, written with Dr. Jesse Cannon from the Department of Emergency Medicine, “Pharmacists in the Emergency Department: A Study of Feasibility and Cost” has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Emergency Medicine.

John Sweeney, MD, FACS
Dr. John Sweeney is the Interim Chairman, W. Dean Warren Distinguished Professor of Surgery and Chief, Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery, Department of Surgery, of the Emory University School of Medicine. He is also leading the Quality Improvement Program of the Department of Surgery at Emory.
as a consultant to the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) on research prioritization. He works with medical students, doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows.

Dr. Carey is a Sarah Graham Kenan Professor in the Departments of Medicine and Social Medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill, and was chief of the Division of General Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology at the UNC-CH School of Medicine from 1991-2000. He directs the University’s AHRQ-funded T-32 Pre- and Post-Doctoral Training Program in Health Services Research.

Dr. Carey has published more than 140 peer-reviewed articles and conducted research in numerous content areas, including the epidemiology and utilization patterns in chronic back and neck pain, determinants of work disability, end-of-life issues including utilization of gastric feeding tubes, and health disparities in chronic pain treatment. Dr. Carey has been recognized with the John Eisenberg Award for mentoring from AHRQ, the American College of Physicians’ Laureate Award, and is current chair of AHRQ’s Health Care Effectiveness and Outcomes Research (HEOR) Study Section. He serves on external advisory committees to the Arkansas and New Mexico CTSA sites, as well as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Program at Meharry Medical College.

Douglas Ander, MD

Douglas S. Ander is a Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Emory University School of Medicine. Douglas completed his medical school training at Hahnemann University in Philadelphia. He completed a combined Emergency Medicine and Internal Medicine residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. Recently his scholarly and educational efforts have focused on inter-professional teamwork education and simulation. Douglas also continues with bedside research studying the effects of literacy in emergency department heart failure patients. His current academic roles include Director of Undergraduate Education for Emergency Medicine, Assistant Dean for Medical Education and he directs the Emory Center for Experiential Learning, Emory’s clinical skills and simulation center.

Kimberly Applegate, MD, MS, FACR

Dr. Applegate is a Professor of Radiology and Pediatrics and Director of Practice Quality Improvement in Radiology at Emory University in Atlanta. Dr. Applegate is a leader in radiology—she currently serves as the American College of Radiology Speaker of the Council and President of the Association for University Radiologists (AUR) Research and Education Foundation. She is a member of the National Quality Forum patient safety committee and both the National and

Leslee Shaw, PhD

Leslee J. Shaw is an outcome research scientist with research interests in test accuracy, risk assessment, prognosis, clinical outcome evaluation, and cost-effectiveness with a particular emphasis on the role of diagnostic testing in special populations including gender and ethnic/racial differences in risk detection. Dr. Shaw is a past-president of the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology and is on the Executive Committee (Treasurer) for the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography. In total, Dr. Shaw has published over 450 publications and presented more than 300 abstracts in major scientific meetings in the US, Europe, Australia, and South America. She serves as an Associate Editor for several journals including: the Journal of the American College of Cardiology - Cardiovascular Imaging and the Journal of Nuclear Cardiology. She just finished a 4 year term on Advisory Council for the NIH-NHLBI. She is also on the editorial board and an editorial consultant for the Circulation - Cardiovascular Imaging and Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

Dr. Shaw frequently has and invited presentations at the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology meetings as well as international scientific meetings in Europe, South America, the Middle East, Japan, and Australia. She has authored two books on outcomes assessment and women’s health, and serves on several national committees including two recent taskforces for the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology (Appropriate Use Taskforce). She has participated in several clinical practice guidelines committees including the recently published American College of Cardiology Foundation’s stable ischemic heart disease guideline. Dr. Shaw serves as an abstract grader for the scientific sessions of the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, European Society of Cardiology, World Congress of Cardiology, American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, and Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography. She currently has research funding from the NIH-NHLBI including a grant to define the economic burden of subclinical atherosclerosis and for the International Study of Comparative Health Effectiveness with Medicine and Invasive Approaches (ISCHEMIA) trial.

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the ongoing RaDIANT (Reducing Disparities In Access to Kidney Transplantation) Community Study, which is a randomized, group-level study of 167 dialysis facilities in Georgia that have been randomized to receive a multicomponent intervention developed by the Southeastern Kidney Transplant Coalition members to increase access to kidney transplantation among African American patients with kidney disease.

**Victoria Phillips, DPhil**

Victoria Phillips, DPhil, is an Associate Professor at the Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH) of Emory University in the Department of Health Policy and Management. Her research interests include the provision and financing of health and home care for frail elderly and disabled populations and cost effectiveness analysis of health care programs generally. Dr. Phillips teaches courses on health economics and economic evaluation at the RSPH. She has served as the Associate Director for Health Services Research, Emory Center for Health in Aging and a Guest Researcher/Evaluation Specialist for the CDC, Office of Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services, National Center for Public Health Informatics, Division of Nationally Notifiable Diseases and Surveillance. An Atlanta native, Dr. Phillips earned her undergraduate degree in Economics, summa cum laude with departmental honors, from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. She obtained her DPhil in economics in 1991 from Pembroke College, Oxford England.

**Carolyn Miller Reilly, PhD, RN, CHFN, FAHA**

Carolyn Reilly is an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing, teaching in both the undergraduate and graduate programs as well as researching self-care management and prevention of cardiovascular disease (CVD). The central theme of this research has been to improve clinical, functional, and economic outcomes through the provision of patient education and behavioral strategies to assist patients in their adherence with prescribed treatments and therapies. Recently, she branched into the early detection and prevention of CVD leading an interdisciplinary team to examine subclinical CVD in lymphoma survivors, and another small retrospective case-controlled study to examine the contribution of radiation therapy (RT) on the development of significant CVD events. At present, Dr. Reilly is developing an individualized patient intervention program to help cancer survivors improve their health and prevent CVD.

**Susan Shapiro, PhD, RN, FAAN**

Susan Shapiro has a joint appointment as Corporate Director for Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice at Emory Healthcare, and Clinical Research and Evidence Based Practice at Emory Healthcare, and Clinical

International Councils for Radiation Protection.

Dr. Applegate has published over 150 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters, and presented scientific papers and lectures at medical and scientific assemblies around the world. She has an interest in health services research in radiology. In 2006, she began work on the Steering Committee for the Image Gently Campaign to reduce radiation exposure in children worldwide. The Campaign has received a number of awards for its advocacy, education, and collaboration to change imaging practice.

**Timothy Buchman, PhD, MD**

Dr. Buchman is the founding director of the Emory Critical Care Center, which is integrating ICUs throughout the Emory Healthcare system and bringing together clinicians and investigators from diverse disciplines to conduct research to define best clinical practices and inform public health policy.

To address the widespread closure of ICU facilities and families having to travel far from home seeking increasingly scarce ICU beds, Dr. Buchman spearheaded the formation of the North Georgia Critical Care Collaborative (NGCCC), which received a $10.7 million Health Care Innovations Award from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in May 2012.

Dr. Buchman's research spans the bench-to-bedside continuum, including studies of physiological dynamics, predictive biology, and ICU end-of-life care. He is working towards ICU clinicians being able to predict and plan for the future of each patient. In 2013, Dr. Buchman initiated the evaluation of a new patient monitoring system in the Emory University Hospital ICU that could allow clinicians to acquire, analyze, and correlate medical data at a volume and velocity that has never before been possible. The research application developed by Emory uses IBM's streaming analytics platform InfoSphere Streams with Excel Medical Electronics' bedside monitor data-aggregation application to collect and analyze more than 100,000 real-time data points per patient per second. The software developed by Emory then produces patterns that create an overall picture of the patient's health, and identifies patterns that could indicate serious complications like sepsis, heart failure, or pneumonia, aiming to provide real-time medical insights to clinicians.

**Penny Castellano, MD**

Penny Castellano, MD is the Chief Medical Officer of Clinical Operations, Chief Quality Officer for the Emory Clinic and Emory Specialty Associates. She is a Professor of Gynecology and Obstetrics and continues a clinical practice focused on menopausal medicine. Her current responsibilities include a focus on quality of care and patient safety as well as clinical outcomes and operations. She plays a...
leadership role in the implementation of Emory Healthcare’s electronic health record. Dr. Castellano received her Bachelor of Arts from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey; her Medical Degree from Emory University School of Medicine; and completed her Residency Training in Gynecology and Obstetrics at Emory University Affiliated Hospitals. Prior to joining The Emory Clinic faculty, she worked in private practice in the Atlanta area. Since joining the faculty, Dr. Castellano has served as Division Director for Primary Care Obstetrics and Gynecology, Residency Program Director at Crawford Long Hospital, Section Chief of Primary Care Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Chief Medical Officer for Primary Care. She is a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, a certified provider member of the North American Menopause Society and Chair of that group's consumer education committee, a member of the American College of Physician Executives and she serves on the Governing Board for the University Health Systems Consortium (UHC) and several UHC and AAMC groups.

Neal Dickert, MD, PhD
Neal Dickert, MD, PhD, is Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Cardiology and the Emory Clinical Cardiovascular Research Institute. He holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health, is a senior faculty fellow at the Emory Center for Ethics, and is on staff at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. Additionally, he is associate program director for the cardiology fellowship training program, directing the clinical investigator track. Dr. Dickert joined the faculty in 2012 after completing his cardiology fellowship here. His clinical work focuses on cardiac critical care and echocardiography. Dickert’s research focuses on ethical issues relevant to cardiology practice and clinical research. In particular, he is actively engaged in research related to conducting clinical trials in acute care contexts where informed consent is either impossible or very difficult. Dr. Dickert is also interested in and has published work regarding informed consent and shared decision-making, investigators’ responsibilities to research participants, and the role of incentives in clinical research. He has received funding from NIH and the American Heart Association and is currently a Greenwall Foundation Faculty Scholar.

Gregory Esper, MD, MBA
Gregory Esper, MD, MBA is Associate Professor and Vice Chairman of Clinical Affairs for the Department of Neurology, and he also is Director of General Neurology and Neuromuscular Diseases. He serves Emory Healthcare in the capacity as the Director of New Care Models. He earned his medical degree at Vanderbilt University, completed neurology residency at Washington University St. Louis, and

Ruth Parker, MD
Dr. Ruth Parker is Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics and Public Health at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She is recognized for her research, educational, and advocacy efforts to advance health literacy. She was co-investigator on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation “Literacy and Health Care” project, and helped develop the Test of Functional Health Literacy in Adults (TOFHLA). She co-authored the definition of health literacy used by Healthy People 2010, the IOM, and the NIH, and has authored many scholarly pieces on health literacy. Dr. Parker served in leadership roles as a health literacy advocate for professional societies including the AMA, the ACP Foundation, and consults with federal and state agencies regarding their health literacy efforts. She was a member of the IOM Health Literacy Committee and is currently a member of the IOM Health Literacy Roundtable. Dr. Parker has received national awards in recognition of her work, including the Silver Achievement Award from the AAMC in 2002, the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Award from the ACP in 2005, the Walter C. Alvarez Award from the American Medical Writers Association in 2005, and U.S. FDA Advisory Committee Service Award in 2008. In 2011, she was named National Associate of the National Research Council for the National Academies. Dr. Parker received the Cecilia and Leonard Doak National Health Literacy Champion Award from Health Literacy Missouri in 2012.

Rachel Patzer, PhD, MPH
Rachel Patzer is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Transplantation, Department of Surgery, at Emory University School of Medicine. She is jointly appointed in the Department of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health. Dr. Patzer received her PhD in epidemiology at the Laney Graduate School and Masters in Public Health at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. Dr. Patzer's primary research focuses on geographic, socioeconomic, and racial disparities in access to kidney transplantation. She has additional interests in healthcare quality, community based participatory research, and health outcomes. Dr. Patzer is a steering committee member and data chair of the Southeastern Kidney Transplant Coalition, a coalition of community and academic partners throughout Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina whose mission is to decrease disparities in access to kidney transplantation in the Southeast. She is the Principal Investigator of

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regularly taught graduate level courses in statistical consultation and clinical trials. Dr. Kutner served as the Director of the Biostatistics Consulting Center from 2002-2010. Dr. Kutner is the past-president of the Southern Regional Council on Statistics (2008-2010) and currently serves on the Clinical Advisory Committee of the Shriner’s Hospital.

David Murphy, MD, PhD

David J. Murphy is Assistant Professor of Medicine at Emory University in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Murphy serves as the Director of Quality for the Emory Critical Care Center, Director of Research for the Emory Healthcare Office of Quality, and Director of Critical Care Quality at Grady Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Murphy completed his undergraduate studies at Johns Hopkins University; medical school at Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School; Residency and Chief Residency at Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; and subspecialty training in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Johns Hopkins University. Prior to joining the Emory faculty, he completed his doctoral training in Clinical Investigation from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health through the Graduate Training Program in Clinical Investigation (GTPCI).

An active intensivist and pulmonologist, Dr. Murphy develops and applies rigorous yet feasible methods to advance healthcare quality and patient safety within and across organizations. His primary research areas include eliminating preventable healthcare associated infections, employing evidence based transfusion practices, and improving the care of patients with sepsis and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

Elizabeth Ofili, MD, MPH

Elizabeth O. Ofili is Professor of Medicine at Morehouse School of Medicine. She serves as the Associate Dean for Clinical Research, the Director of the Clinical Research Center, and the Chief of the Section of Cardiology at Morehouse School of Medicine as well as the Senior Co-Principal Investigator for Morehouse School of Medicine in the Atlanta Clinical and translational Science Institute (ACTSI).

A national and internationally recognized expert in the field of echocardiography, Dr. Ofili continues to actively evaluate the role of echocardiography in clinical and population-based trials of hypertension and heart failure with particular relevance to health disparities. Her collaborative research efforts helped to establish several major research centers of excellence and training programs at Morehouse School of Medicine. Dr. Ofili has received numerous grant awards from the NIH, NASA, medical foundations and the pharmaceutical industry totaling over $56 million.

Richard Gitomer, MD, MBA, FACP

Dr. Gitomer is a general internist and currently serves as the President and Chief Quality Officer for the Emory Healthcare Network (EHN). The EHN is Emory Healthcare’s clinically integrated network consisting of 1,800 physicians, six hospitals, and over 240 primary care physicians.

Prior to taking his current position, Dr. Gitomer was the Chief Quality Officer at Emory University Hospital Midtown (EUHM) where he led the quality and safety activities. In his last two years in that role, EUHM was ranked sixth and third in the University HealthSystem Consortium Quality and Accountability Study which ranks the top academic medical centers across the country in the areas of quality, safety, and efficiency.

In addition to his clinical activities as a primary care physician, Dr. Gitomer has extensive quality improvement experience in both the ambulatory and inpatient settings. He has also developed and delivers quality and safety curriculum in the undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education settings.

Abhinav Goyal, MD, MHS, FACC

Abhinav Goyal, MD, MHS, FACC is an academic cardiologist and clinical investigator who is an Associate Professor of Medicine (Division of Cardiology) at the Emory School of Medicine, with a joint appointment in the Department of Epidemiology at the Emory Rollins School of Public Health. Dr. Goyal also serves as the Director of Clinical Education for the Division of Cardiology at Emory Healthcare. He is responsible for directing all quality-related initiatives in the Division of Cardiology at Emory Healthcare, including providing physician oversight for Emory Hospitals’ participation in the American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registry (CathPCI, ACTION-Registry GWTG, and ICD Registries); American Heart
Participant Biographies

Jason Hockenberry, PhD

Dr. Hockenberry is an economist with research interests at the intersection of health care services delivery and health policy. In particular he is interested market forces and policies related to the human capital of the healthcare workforce, the organizational economics of the hospital, and how both of these relate to medical technology diffusion and services use.

David Howard, PhD

David Howard is a faculty member in the Department of Health Policy and Management at Emory University. A health economist by training, Dr. Howard’s research employs economics and statistics to better understand physician decision-making and its implications for public policy. Dr. Howard’s current focus is on how negative results from clinical trials and “do less” recommendations from guidelines influence practice patterns. Dr. Howard has acted as an advisor or consultant to the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services, MEDPAC, the American Cancer Society, the Division of Transplantation in the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Institute of Medicine. He is currently a member of CMS’s Medicare Evidence Development & Coverage Advisory Committee and chairs the advisory board of the National Living Donation Assistance Center. Dr. Howard received his doctorate in health policy from Harvard University in 2000.

Theodore (Ted) M. Johnson II, MD, MPH, AGS-F

Ted Johnson did his undergraduate work at Brown University and Medical School at the Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine. He completed an internal medicine residency, fellowship in geriatrics, Masters’ in Epidemiology, and Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Health Services Research-all at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

He is a Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology and serves as the Director of the Division of General Medicine and Geriatrics and as the Interim Division Director of Hospital Medicine. Dr. Johnson also serves as the Atlanta Site Director of the Birmingham/Atlanta VA Geriatrics Rehabilitation, Education, and Clinical Center for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dr. Johnson’s clinical research focuses improving bladder function in older adults. The overarching goal of his clinical, research, and academic endeavors is to help enable older adults to age safely and successfully in their homes and communities—to age in place when possible.

Michael Kutner, MS, PhD

Dr. Kutner is Rollins Professor of Biostatistics in the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics in the Rollins School of Public Health. He joined Emory in 1971, was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 1975, and was promoted to Professor in 1981. Dr. Kutner received his master’s degree in Statistics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1962 and his Ph.D. in Statistics from Texas A & M University in 1971. He currently serves as Chair of the Emory University Faculty Life Course Committee and is a member of the Faculty Council. He previously served as the Inaugural Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs in the newly formed Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH) from 1990-1993. Dr. Kutner chaired the RSPH Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee from 1990-1993 as well.

Dr. Kutner is an internationally recognized biostatistician and the co-author of two widely used McGraw-Hill/Irwin textbooks, one in linear regression models and the other in applied linear statistical models. He served as Department Chair of Biostatistics at Emory on two separate occasions (1986-1991) and (2002-2009). From 1994-1999, Dr. Kutner served as the Chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation (CCF). At the CCF, Dr. Kutner served on the Institutional Review Board. Dr. Kutner served two terms on the Board of Directors of the American Statistical Association (ASA). He served as Chair of the ASA Finance Committee and was inducted as an ASA Fellow in 1984. In 1996 he was awarded the prestigious Founders Award from ASA and in 2011 was the recipient of the W.J. Dixon Award for Excellence in Statistical Consulting from ASA. In 2009, he was the recipient of the Mu Sigma Rho National Statistical Honor Society Statistical Education Award for his lifetime devotion of teaching statistics. At Emory, Dr. Kutner was the recipient of Thomas F. Sellers, Jr. Award for exemplifying the ideals of public health and serving as a role model and mentor of his colleagues in 2008. In addition, he received The Charles R. Hatcher, Jr., M.D. Award for Excellence in Public Health in 2011. His academic interests are primarily in statistical education, statistical consultation, and the design and analysis of clinical trials. He has

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