

**National Institutes of Health Pathways to Prevention Workshop:
Methods for Evaluating Natural Experiments in Obesity**

AGENDA

Day 1 – December 5, 2017 8:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Eastern time

Introductory Session

- 8:15 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Griffin P. Rodgers, M.D., M.B.A., MACP
Director
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
National Institutes of Health
- 8:25 a.m. **Issues in Prevention Research Methods and Charge to the Panel**
David M. Murray, Ph.D.
Associate Director of Disease Prevention
Director
Office of Disease Prevention
Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives
Office of the Director
National Institutes of Health
- 8:40 a.m. **Panel Activities**
Karen Emmons, Ph.D.
Workshop and Panel Chair
Dean for Academic Affairs
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- 8:50 a.m. **An Overview of Natural Experiment Evaluation at the NIH**
S. Sonia Arteaga, Ph.D.
Program Director
Clinical Applications and Prevention Branch
Division of Cardiovascular Sciences
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
National Institutes of Health
- David Berrigan, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S.*
Program Director
Behavioral Research Program
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
National Cancer Institute
National Institutes of Health
- Christine Hunter, Ph.D., M.A., ABPP (presenter)*
Deputy Director
Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
National Institutes of Health

Attendees will be responsible for meals and/or light refreshments on their own, at their own cost. The government and/or government contractors are not involved in facilitating the provision of food and/or light refreshments.

Day 1 – December 5, 2017 (continued)

Key Question 4:

Which experimental and non-experimental methods have been used in studies of how programs, policies, or built environment changes affect or are associated with obesity prevention and control outcomes?

Key Question 5:

What are the risks of bias in studies of how programs, policies, or built environment changes affect or are associated with obesity prevention and control outcomes?

9:05 a.m. **Evidence-based Practice Center Presentation – Key Questions 4 and 5**

Emily A. Knapp, M.H.S.

Doctoral Candidate

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Johns Hopkins Evidence-based Practice Center

Wendy L. Bennett, M.D., M.P.H.

Associate Professor

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Johns Hopkins Evidence-based Practice Center

9:25 a.m. **The Use of Quasi-Experimental Designs in Evaluating Natural Experiments**

Thomas D. Cook, Ph.D.

Joan and Serepta Harrison Emeritus Professor of Ethics and Justice

Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Psychology, Education, and Social Policy

Northwestern University

Research Professor

George Washington Institute of Public Policy

Trachtenberg School of Public Policy

The George Washington University

9:45 a.m. **When Is Correlation Causation?**

Jay Bhattacharya, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Medicine

Center for Primary Care and Outcomes Research

Stanford University School of Medicine

10:05 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m. **Natural Experiments and Obesity: Balancing Rigor With Practical Realities**

Tamara Dubowitz, Sc.D., M.Sc. S.M.

Faculty

Pardee RAND Graduate School

Senior Policy Researcher

RAND Corporation

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Day 1 – December 5, 2017 (continued)

10:35 a.m. **Discussion**

11:10 a.m. **Lunch and Poster Session**

Key Question 3:

What obesity measures, dietary and physical behaviors, and other outcomes have been assessed in studies of how programs, policies, or built environment changes affect or are associated with obesity prevention and control?

12:30 p.m. **Evidence-based Practice Center Presentation – Key Question 3**

Eva Tseng, M.D., M.P.H.

Assistant Professor

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Johns Hopkins Evidence-based Practice Center

12:50 p.m. **Measures of Exposure to Policy and Environment**

Jamie F. Chriqui, Ph.D., M.H.S.

Professor and Director–M.P.H. Program

Division of Health Policy and Administration

Co-Director, Health Policy Center and Fellow

Institute for Health Research and Policy

University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health

Measures of Co-Benefits: Considerations Based on Research Question and Population

James F. Sallis, Ph.D.

Professorial Fellow

Institute for Health and Ageing

Australian Catholic University, Melbourne

Distinguished Professor Emeritus

Department of Family Medicine and Public Health

University of California, San Diego

1:20 p.m. **Assessing Community Programs, Policies, and Practices Related to Obesity Prevention**

Lorrene Ritchie, Ph.D., R.D.

Director

Nutrition Policy Institute

Cooperative Extension Specialist

Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

University of California, Berkeley

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Day 1 – December 5, 2017 (continued)

- 1:40 p.m. **Collecting Diet, Activity, and Obesity Measures in Communities: Lessons Learned**
Christina D. Economos, Ph.D.
Professor
New Balance Chair in Childhood Nutrition
Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy
Tufts University Medical School
- 2:00 p.m. **Discussion**
- 2:45 p.m. **Break**

Key Question 1:

What population-based data sources have been used in studies of how programs, policies, or built environment changes affect or are associated with obesity prevention and control outcomes?

- 2:55 p.m. **Evidence-based Practice Center Presentation – Key Question 1**
Hadi Kharrazi, M.D., Ph.D., M.H.I.
Assistant Professor
Department of Health Policy Management
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Johns Hopkins Evidence-based Practice Center
- 3:15 p.m. **Challenges and Opportunities in Using and Sharing Existing Data Resources**
Christopher L. Fulcher, Ph.D.
Director
Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems
University of Missouri
- 3:35 p.m. **Integration of Spatial and Other Data via the Private Sector, Crowd-Sourcing, and Open-Data Initiatives**
Andrew Turner, M.S.
Director and Chief Technology Officer
Research and Development Center, DC
Environmental Systems Research Institute
- 3:55 p.m. **Opportunities To Fill the Data Gaps**
Shari L. Barkin, M.D., M.S.H.S.
William K. Warren Foundation Endowed Chair
Professor of Pediatrics
Division Chief of General Pediatrics
Director of Pediatric Obesity Research
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

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Day 1 – December 5, 2017 (continued)

4:15 p.m. **Using Electronic Health Record Tools To Collect, Summarize, and Take Action on Patients’ Social Determinants of Health Data, in the Context of Diabetes Care: Lessons and Challenges**

Rachel Gold, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Lead Research Scientist

OCHIN, Inc.

Investigator

Center for Health Research

Kaiser Permanente Northwest Center for Health Research

4:35 p.m. **Discussion**

5:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

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Day 2 – December 6, 2017 8:15 a.m. to 1:20 p.m. Eastern time

Introductory Overview

8:15 a.m. **Workshop Overview**
Karen Emmons, Ph.D.
Workshop and Panel Chair
Dean for Academic Affairs
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Key Question 2:

What methods have been used to link different population-based data sources?

8:30 a.m. **Evidence-based Practice Center Presentation – Key Question 2**
Wendy L. Bennett, M.D., M.P.H.
Associate Professor
The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Johns Hopkins Evidence-based Practice Center

8:50 a.m. **Linking Health System, Environmental, and Contextual Data for Evaluation of Natural Experiments: Lessons Learned**
Stephen P. Fortmann, M.D.
Emeritus Faculty
Stanford University School of Medicine
Affiliate Professor
Oregon Health & Science University
Senior Investigator
Assistant Program Director
Medical Director
Kaiser Permanente Northwest

9:05 a.m. **Linking Economic and Behavioral Data for Evaluation of Policy and Retail Environments**
Lisa M. Powell, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor and Director
Division of Health Policy and Administration
University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health

9:20 a.m. **Linking Environmental and Health Data: National and International Examples and Challenges**
Michael Jerrett, Ph.D., M.A.
Professor and Chair
Department of Environmental Health Sciences
Director
Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
Fielding School of Public Health
University of California, Los Angeles

Day 2 – December 6, 2017 (continued)

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9:35 a.m. **Discussion**

10:05 a.m. **Break**

Key Question 6:

What methodological/analytic advances (e.g., data system features, approaches to linking data sources, or analytic methods) would help to strengthen efforts to estimate the effect of programs, policies, or built environment changes on obesity prevention and control?

10:15 a.m. **Evidence-based Practice Center Presentation – Key Question 6**
Lawrence J. Cheskin, M.D., FACP, FTOS
Director of Clinical Research
Associate Professor
Departments of Health, Behavior and Society, and International Health
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Johns Hopkins Evidence-based Practice Center

10:35 a.m. **Complex Systems Modeling and Simulation: Examining Natural Experiment Processes and Understanding the Effects of Complex Interventions**
Ross A. Hammond, Ph.D.
Senior Fellow, Economic Studies
Director
Center on Social Dynamics and Policy
Economic Studies Department
The Brookings Institution

10:55 a.m. **Novel Strategies for Estimating Effects of Natural Experiments**
Sanjay Basu, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Stanford University

11:15 a.m. **Discussion**

12:00 Noon **Break**

Translating Research to Policy and Practice

12:10 p.m. **Effectiveness, Costs, and Cost-Effectiveness: Improving Translation of Research to Policy and Practice**
Steven L. Gortmaker, Ph.D.
Professor of the Practice of Health Sociology
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

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Day 2 – December 6, 2017 (continued)

12:25 p.m. **Panel Discussion on Perspectives From the Field—Evidence Needs for Policymakers and Implementers**

Rachel Ballard, M.D., M.P.H. (Moderator)

Director of Prevention Research Coordination

Office of Disease Prevention

Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives

Office of the Director

National Institutes of Health

Robin McKinnon, Ph.D., M.P.A.

Senior Advisor for Nutrition Policy

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Adetokunbo “Toks” Omishakin, M.U.R.P.

Deputy Commissioner/Chief

Environment and Planning Division

Tennessee Department of Transportation

Glenn E. Schneider, M.P.H.

Chief Program Officer

The Horizon Foundation of Howard County, Inc.

1:10 p.m. **NIH Leadership Wrap-Up**

Gary H. Gibbons, M.D.

Director

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Institutes of Health

1:20 p.m. **Adjourn**

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