



Tuesday, January 17 – 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Research Meeting –

Presenter: Research team in the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA)

Title: Informal discussion of CHIA methods for addressing SDOH factors in policy work, as described in two manuscripts

Brief Description: 1) A white paper summarizing the efforts of a statewide workgroup on social risk factors and readmissions: [White paper on SRF and readmissions](#), 2) The technical appendix for CHIA's most recent annual readmissions report, containing refinements to the above, including linking to community-level data at a more granular level and improving the identification of patients dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare. [Technical appendix](#) (pages 10-11 have most detail about SRF variables). **Attendees are encouraged to read the materials ahead.**

Click [here](#) to join or call 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 851 294 7151 **password: smm2020**



Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 2 PM – 4PM

Getting your Message Across –The Investigator Career Advancement Program (iCAP) and the Office of Health Equity, along with our co-sponsors, the Morningside Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing, and the T.H. Chan School of Medicine are *pleased to announce an upcoming event* with world-renown science communication expert **Jean-luc Doumont**. “Getting you Message Across” - Science communication expert Jean-luc Doumont’s engaging and practical lecture on how to organize messages into an effective story, regardless of medium.

Please share this information with your communities.

Who: Open to all students, postdocs, faculty, and staff.

Location: Medical School Building, Hiatt Auditorium, **S1-608** (in-person).

[Registration is required.](#)

Workshop description: No matter the medium—a presentation, a document, a graph, a poster, a curriculum vitae, or other still—communication boils down to one question: do you get your message across? True to Jean-luc’s quest for the essentials, this lecture takes a transversal view at the traditional forms of communication to discuss how to convey a message verbally and nonverbally, and how to organize messages into a story—in any medium.

About Jean-luc Doumont: An engineer (Louvain) and PhD in applied physics (Stanford), Jean-luc Doumont is acclaimed worldwide for his no-nonsense approach, his highly applicable, often life-changing recommendations on a wide range of topics, and *Trees, maps, and theorems*, his book about “effective communication for rational minds.” For additional information, visit www.principiae.be.

Course in Clinical Trials – Spring, 2023

Are you ready to take your molecule or intervention to the next phase of research? The University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School (UMCMS) Graduate School of Biomedical Science is offering a course in Design and Conduct of Clinical Trials (CTS 609) in the Spring Semester 2023 (January 17 - May 5). This course is open to all UMCMS research and clinical faculty, staff, students, as well as researchers external to UMCMS.

Description: The course is intended for the research scientist. The goal is to sharpen the methodological skills required in designing experimental studies for clinical investigators. The course will cover theoretical and practical methods in designing and implementing clinical trials, emphasizing design implications, developing individual study protocols, and addressing questions of importance in a feasible manner. The course emphasizes the design of intervention studies to achieve specific research objectives by selecting appropriate study samples, endpoints, and trial designs. It will cover not only the basics of clinical trials, including reviews/critiques of major clinical trials, but also new developments in trial design



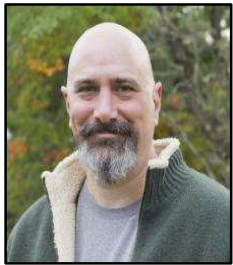
(e.g., stepped wedge designs, adaptive designs, integrated Phase I/II and II/III designs), randomization strategies (e.g., covariate-adjusted randomizations), and trial conduct (e.g., risk-based monitoring, consent processes, difficult environments).

Dates: January 18 through May 3, 2023, no class on March 15 – Spring Break

Times: Wednesdays, 8:00 – 10:00 AM for live lectures, article reviews, and discussions

Location: Zoom

Lecturer: [Dr. Bruce Barton](#), Professor in the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, is a biostatistician with over 45 years of experience in randomized clinical trials and has served as the Principal Investigator / Director of Data Coordinating Centers for 38 major clinical trials across all phases. Interested researchers should contact Dr. Barton (bruce.barton@umassmed.edu) for further information about the course content. Information on how to register for the course can be found at <https://www.umassmed.edu/gsbs/academic-student-affairs/registration/>.



Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 10 AM

UMass Chan Center for Clinical & Translational Science Workshop: “Effective Communication of Risk and Uncertainty with Non-Experts” presented by [Justin Gross, PhD](#), who is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as well as a core faculty member of the UMass Amherst Computational Social Science Institute (CSSI). Participants will learn about challenges and opportunities with respect to effective communication of risk and uncertainty, including conveyance of probabilistic information, distinguishing between absolute and related risk, and understanding how peoples’ perceptions of uncertainty may depend on what is at stake. The focus will be on how to communicate risk and uncertainty more effectively with non-experts,

including the use of visual techniques and analogies to improve understanding and uptake of information. [Registration is required](#). Real-time captioning will be provided.

Monday, April 3, 2023, at 12 PM

Rigor and Reproducibility Seminar: “Sharing Confidential and Sensitive Data?” presented by [George Alter, PhD](#), Research Professor Emeritus with the Institute for Social Research at the

University of Michigan. Dr. Alter’s research integrates theory and methods from demography, economics, and family history with historical sources to understand demographic behaviors in the past. From 2007 to 2016, Alter was Director of the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, the world’s largest archive of social science data, and he is a past president of the Social Science History Association. He has been active in international efforts to promote research transparency, data sharing, and secure access to confidential research data. He is currently engaged in projects to create FAIR vocabularies in population research, to automate the capture of metadata from statistical analysis software, and to compare fertility transitions in contemporary and historical populations. This seminar is given jointly by the UMass Chan Medical School Population & Quantitative Health Sciences, and UMass Boston Gerontology Department and Gerontology Institute. **Click this [link](#) to join the ZOOM presentation; password: 468880.**



Postdoctoral Training is starting now and in August 2023. The [PRACCTIS program \(Prevention and Control of Cancer: Training for Change in Individuals and Systems\)](#) at UMass Chan Medical School is now accepting applications for postdoctoral scholars. Funding is available starting now and in August 2023 for fellowships in three specialty areas:

[Cancer Prevention and Control](#)

[Health Communication](#)

[Tobacco and Digital Health Research](#)

We train independent researchers to address critical prevention and control care delivery issues across the cancer continuum, including primary prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship. Emphasis is on promoting change in individuals, providers and systems. Our faculty mentors are leaders in health equity and low resource settings, health behavior change, health informatics, systems change and health policy, health communications, population health sciences, implementation science, and prevention and intervention research. Applicants must plan to pursue an independent research career focused on cancer prevention and control, have earned a doctoral degree (PhD, ScD, MD,

DO, etc.), and be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. PRACCTIS is a T32 training program funded by NCI. For more information contact [Barbara Estabrook](#).

FUNDING REMINDERS

The Herman G. Berkman Diabetes Clinical Innovation Fund is accepting grant abstracts through February 28th. The annual award supports the development of clinical care initiatives that would not normally find funding through research grant programs. You'll find the eligibility guidelines, grant application, and learn about past awarded projects [HERE](#).

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke: [Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis \(ALS\) Intermediate Patient Population Expanded Access \(U01 Clinical Trial Required\)](#). NINDS intends to commit up to \$75 million in FY 2023 to fund 3-5 awards in support of the conduct of scientific research utilizing data from expanded access for investigational drugs or biological products. These applications will target expanded access for intermediate size populations of patients living with ALS who are not eligible for ongoing clinical trials for the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment or cure of ALS. The maximum project period is 4 years. The opportunity will open on Feb. 23, 2023, and **APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 23, 2023, AT 5 P.M. LOCAL TIME OF THE APPLICANT ORGANIZATION.**

For additional information, please refer to [the RFA](#) posted on the NIH Central Resource for Grants and Funding Information (Funding Opportunity Announcement Number: RFA-NS-23-012).

2023 King Trust Fellowship Program: Health Resources in Action has recently launched the 2023 cycle of the Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Award Program. In recognition of additional support needed to help researchers achieve their independence, we have increased the award amount to include stipend, fringe, and a flexible expense allowance. We encourage you to disseminate this opportunity to eligible faculty, clinicians, and postdoctoral researchers. Join us for the King Trust Fellowship Office House ([Register here](#)), to be held on Thursday, January 19, 2023 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. This informational session will be used to give applicants and institutional officers an overview of the program and answer any general questions about the program.

DIVERSITY DIGEST



January 16, 2023, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY

[The Martin Luther King, Jr., National Day of Service](#) is a defining moment each year when Americans across the country step up to make communities more equitable and take action to create the Beloved Community of Dr. King's dream. While Dr. King believed the Beloved Community was possible, he acknowledged and fought for systemic change. His example is a call to action. Coretta Scott King reflected on the meaning of The King Holiday. "The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America." Legislation for a King Holiday was first introduced four days after Dr. King's assassination in 1968. Signed into law in January 1983 by President Ronald Reagan, the

national Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday is a celebration of Dr. King's immeasurable contribution to the United States, and to humankind. MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a National Day of Service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. During the last quarter-century, the MLK Day of Service has grown, and its impact increased as more Americans embraced the idea that citizenship involves taking an active role in improving communities.



January 27, 2023, INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION

January 27 marks the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust as well as Holocaust Remembrance Day. Both are intended to pay tribute to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reaffirm our commitment to antisemitism and education that will prevent future genocides.

January 27th was chosen because it marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau on January 27, 1945. Awareness of antisemitism is becoming increasingly important as antisemitic incidents have been on the rise for the last 5 years with 2021 the highest on record (since 1979) and a full 34% increase year over

year. Although the complete yearly numbers for 2022 are not out yet, the rise in antisemitism among celebrities and politicians continues as do person-to-person antisemitic acts. The first ever 50 state Holocaust Awareness Survey among Millennials and Gen Z in 2020 revealed a startling lack of knowledge about how many Jews were murdered and who was responsible for the Holocaust. With antisemitism on the rise, it is more important than ever to educate ourselves and younger generations to ensure that the victims are remembered, and such a tragedy does not happen again. See the [Anti-Defamation League](#) and [Claims Conference](#) for further details.

UMASS CHAN REMINDER



UMass Chan Medical School's [Office of Communications](#) is initiating regularly scheduled opportunities where faculty, staff, and students can have a professional headshot taken. Photos are taken every other Wednesday from 9 AM to 3 PM on the fifth floor of the Sherman Center by the elevators. Each session caps at 50 people. Anyone at UMass Chan can sign up using this document found on the SharePoint site. See updated link for new options: [Photo Sign-Ups \(office365.com\)](#)

PQHS Weekly will be sent to all members of PQHS on Monday mornings. The intent is to provide a snapshot of what is going on that week in PQHS and to share our faculty and staff activities with the department. We depend on you to provide the items we need to share. Please send suggestions of events, faculty invited seminars & talks, honors, student thesis presentations, and news – new babies born! – to Kellie (kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu) & Sarah (sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu) by Friday each week.