Center for Health Care Research and Policy
Case Western Reserve University at MetroHealth Medical Center

Regionwide Work...Nationwide Impact
Entering our Third Decade

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To the Community:

On July 1st, the Center for Health Care Research and Policy begins its third decade as our region’s leader in research and teaching in health care delivery and health care policy. Never in our history has health care delivery and policy faced such enormous and transformational changes. Poised to help inform and evaluate these changes, the Center brings together students, scholars, and community leaders from across the region to conduct cutting-edge multidisciplinary research and policy-relevant programs to improve the value of health care. Our faculty and staff view Northeast Ohio as a laboratory for research and training, recognizing the national relevance of regional challenges and opportunities to improve health care delivery and policy. Our internationally recognized work is supported by The MetroHealth System and a broad array of federal and foundation grants.

Training the Next Generation of Scholars, Spawning New Programs. Our faculty advise and teach students and post-doctoral trainees enrolled in CWRU degree programs in clinical and health policy research, including programs of the regionwide NIH-sponsored Clinical and Translational Science Collaborative (CTSC). We take pride in training the next generation of innovative scholars, each year serving as advisers for more than 40 trainees.
Initiatives spawned by Center faculty and trainees include Better Health Greater Cleveland, the Northern Ohio Trauma System (NOTS), the Cleveland HIV Health Information Project (CHHIP) and MetroHealthy – MetroHealth’s Health and Wellness Initiative.

**Illustrative Results and Recognition.** A brief sampling of recent accomplishments include:

- National Public Radio’s Marketplace coverage of MetroHealth’s Care Plus Medicaid waiver program. Conceived by Senior Scholar John Corlett and analyzed by Center faculty, Care Plus demonstrated unprecedented improvements in care and costs 25% below federal “cost neutrality” requirements, for 28,000 patients newly receiving insurance coverage in Cuyahoga County.

- Received the Kenneth Arrow Award (“Best Paper”) from the International Health Economics Association for work that explains why employers pay more for health insurance than they should. Center members Randy Cebul and Mark Votruba were joined by Senior Scholar Jim Rebitzer in this important cross-disciplinary research.

- Since 2010, the Northern Ohio Trauma System (NOTS) has:
  - Established collaborations with EMS and 14 Northern Ohio hospitals to deliver trauma patients to the best hospital for best possible care. NOTS founder and chief medical officer is Center Senior Scholar and past trainee Jeff Claridge.
  - Used that collaboration to reduce trauma-patient deaths by 38.6 percent in Cuyahoga and surrounding counties and by 53 percent in Cleveland.

- Since 2008, Better Health Greater Cleveland has:
  - Reported care for almost 70% of Cuyahoga County’s patients with chronic medical conditions.
  - Increased by more than 9,000 the number of Cleveland-area patients whose diabetes is well controlled and by more than 25,000 the number whose hypertension is well controlled.
  - Reduced preventable cardiovascular hospitalizations by more than 2,000 -- saving more than $13 million in health care costs.
  - Received the Maurice Saltzman Award of the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation "for work of national importance to the health interests of the community”.
  - Received "Best Paper” awards from the American and International Medical Informatics Associations for documenting that using electronic health records improves care.

**Redesigning the Future.** We view the transformative changes in health care as exciting opportunities to redesign the future of care in our region and to reinvest in our mission: “to improve the health of the public by conducting research that examines access to health care, to increase the value of health care services, and to inform health policy and practice.” We welcome partners in Northeast Ohio who are stakeholders for better health care and better health outcomes at affordable costs.

Randall D. Cebul, MD, FACP
Director

Akram Boutros, MD, FACHE
President and CEO
The MetroHealth System
Our Faculty*

Jennifer L. Bailit, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Reproductive Biology
Executive Director, Women and Children’s Patient Care Unit

Carol Blixen, RN, PhD
Associate Professor of Medicine

Shari D. Bolen, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

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President, Better Health Greater Cleveland

Jeffrey A. Claridge, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division Director of Trauma, Critical Care and Burns
Medical Director, NOTS

Alfred F. Connors, Jr., MD
Chief Medical Officer
Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs
Professor of Medicine and Senior Associate Dean for Medical Affairs

John R. Corlett
Vice President, Government Relations and Community Affairs

Neal V. Dawson, MD
Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Director, Decision Sciences Research Unit

Douglas Einstadter, MD, MPH, FACP
Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

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President, Clinical Systems Design, LLC

Douglas D. Gunzler, PhD
Senior Instructor of Medicine

David C. Kaelber, MD, PhD, MPH, MS, FAAP, FACP
Associate Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Chief Medical Informatics Officer

Irene L. Katzian, MD, MS
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Director, Neurological Institute Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation
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Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
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Consultant, Clinical Psychologist
Cleveland VA Health Center

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Associate Professor, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Duncan vB. Neuhauser, PhD
The Charles Elton Blanchard MD Professor of Community Health Improvement
Director, Center for Reducing Health Disparities

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Assistant Professor of Medicine
Co-Director, Social Sciences Research Unit

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Chair, Markets, Public Policy and Law Department
Boston University School of Management

Martha Sajatovic, MD
Professor of Psychiatry, Neurology, and Epidemiology and Biostatistics
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Director, MetroHealth Employee Wellness Program

Ashwini Sehgal, MD
Duncan Neuhauser Professor of Community Health Improvement
Director, Center for Reducing Health Disparities

Joseph J. Sudano, Jr., PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Co-Director, Social Sciences Research Unit

Mark E. Votruba, PhD, MA
Associate Professor of Economics and Medicine
Schools of Management and Medicine
Director, Health Economics Research Unit

* Except as noted, all faculty positions are at Case Western Reserve University, and all locations are at MetroHealth Medical Center.

Faculty Retreat, CWRU Squire Valleyview Farm, February 15, 2013

Pictured (Left to Right)
Douglas Einstadter, Joseph Sudano, Jr., Kurt Stange (back), Carol Blixen, Richard McCormick, Shari Bolen, David Kaelber, Douglas Gunzler, Mary Jo Roach, Rob Fischer, Adam Perzynski, Randall Cebul, Jarrod Dalton, Neal Dawson, Thomas Love, Pamela Davis, Martha Sajatovic