



Health Literacy Grantee Meeting

Gaylord National Resort and Conference Center ♦ December 15, 2008

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

DAVID W. BAKER, MD, MPH

Dr. David W. Baker is the Michael A. Gertz Professor of Medicine, Chief of the Division Chief of General Internal Medicine, and Associate Director of the Institute for Healthcare Studies at the Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University in Chicago. Dr. Baker's research activities have focused on health care delivery for underserved populations and improving quality of care for chronic medical conditions. He was one of the Principal Investigators for the Literacy in Health Care Study, the first major study examining how often patients are unable to accurately read pill bottles, appointment slips, and the other written materials they encounter when they come to see a doctor. He was also the Principal Investigator for a large study of literacy, health status, and use of health care services that included over 3000 Medicare managed care enrollees in 4 cities in the U.S. He was one of the developers of the Test of Functional Health Literacy in Adults, and he has published extensively on the measurement of health literacy and the consequences of inadequate health literacy. His current work focuses on developing interventions to improve health communication and to improve patient self-management skills and health behaviors.

TERRY C. DAVIS, PHD

A pioneer in the field of health literacy, Terry C. Davis, Ph.D., is Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, LA (LSUHSC-S), where she also heads the Behavioral Science Unit of the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center. For the past 20 years, she has led an interdisciplinary team investigating the impact of patient literacy on health and healthcare. Seminal achievements include development of the Rapid Estimate of Adult Literacy in Medicine (REALM), the most widely used literacy test in health care settings, and production of video tapes that have personalized the problem of low health literacy.

Dr. Davis chaired Louisiana's statewide Health Literacy Task Force, the first legislatively mandated health literacy group in the nation. She currently serves on the master faculty of the AMA's Train-the-Trainer Health Literacy Curriculum, is a member of the Healthy People 2010 Health Literacy/Health Communication Section, and the FDA's Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee.

Dr. Davis has published more than ninety articles and book chapters related to health literacy, health communication, and preventive medicine. As director of the Doctor/Patient Communication course at LSUHSC and as a frequent speaker at national conferences, she has integrated her research findings into practical lessons for medical students and residents, as well as practicing physicians, pharmacists, and nurses.

Dr. Davis, together with investigators at the University of North Carolina and the University of California at San Francisco, developed and tested a diabetes self-management guide funded by the American College of Physicians Foundation (ACP-F), which has distributed more than one



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million copies to medical and community groups nation wide. Together with Northwestern they are conducting a three year study funded by Missouri Health Foundation to assess efficacy of the guide and two brief counseling approaches to improve diabetes management of patients in Missouri Federally Qualified Health Clinics. She was also awarded NIH funding for a five-year Health Literacy Intervention to improve cancer screening in Louisiana FQHCs. She is currently working with Dr. Mike Wolf at Northwestern, Dr. Ruth Parker at Emory and Dr. Will Shrank at Harvard on an AHRQ funded study to improve patient understanding and use of prescription medication labels.

LYNNE HAVERKOS, MD, MPH

Lynne Haverkos, M.D., M.P.H. is a board-certified pediatrician and Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She directs the Pediatric Behavior and Health Promotion Research Program at the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. The program supports research and research training on biobehavioral and developmental aspects of health, including health risk behaviors, health promotion behaviors, and cross-cutting issues. Health promotion topics of interest include health literacy, health communication and education, health care services, obesity prevention, positive youth development, and injury prevention. She received her medical degree from the Medical College of Ohio and an MPH degree from the Graduate School of Public Health in Pittsburgh.

SANDRA WILLIAMS HILFIKER, MA

Sandra Hilfiker is a Health Communication Advisor in the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She oversees formative research studies on developing user-centered Web-based content and tools, particularly for users with limited health literacy. She is also conducting a pilot project on incorporating patient-centered prevention information and counseling into a community health center environment. Ms. Hilfiker is the lead on content development and outreach for the newly redesigned healthfinder.gov, an award winning health Web site that reaches millions of users each year.

Ms. Hilfiker has led a number of health communication activities for federal agencies including the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She has a B.A. in Communication from the University of Kentucky and an M.A. in Communication with an emphasis in health and social marketing from the University of Georgia.



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SUNIL KRIPALANI, MD, MSC

Sunil Kripalani, MD, MSc, is Chief of Hospital Medicine and Associate Director of the Effective Health Communication Program in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Public Health at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He is an academic hospitalist and health services researcher whose work concerns health literacy, medication adherence, and transitions of care at hospital discharge.

Dr. Kripalani was recognized as a Pfizer Health Literacy Scholar in 2003, and he was named a Pfizer Visiting Professor in Health Literacy in 2006. He has served as a member of numerous national committees and task forces related to literacy and health, including being Chair of the NIH grant review panels for health literacy research in 2006 and coordinating the SGIM health literacy interest group. He served as Co-Editor of the special issue on health literacy published by the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.

Dr. Kripalani is active in the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM), where he was Founding Chair of the Innovations in Hospital Medicine competition and served as Chair or Co-Chair of the Research Abstract Session from 2002 to 2005. He is a member of the Research Committees at SHM and at the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM). He has played leadership roles in the SHM-SGIM Continuity of Care Task Force and SHM Handoff Standards Task Force. In 2005, he received the SHM Young Investigator Award of Excellence. He is a Deputy Editor of the *Journal of Hospital Medicine* and an Associate Editor of *Hospital Medicine Secrets*.

In addition to his academic work, Dr. Kripalani is a co-founder of PictureRx, LLC, a health information technology company that makes pictorial-based medication instructions. The company's "Picture Prescription" is designed to help patients, especially those with low health literacy, better understand how to follow their daily medication regimen.

Dr. Kripalani graduated *summa cum laude* from Rice University and received his M.D. with honors from Baylor College of Medicine. He completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Emory University, where he also completed a Hospital Medicine Fellowship and a Master of Science in Clinical Research. He has received research funding from the National Institutes of Health, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, American Heart Association, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, American Society of Health System Pharmacists Foundation, and Pfizer Health Literacy Scholars Program.



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LAUREN A. MCCORMACK, PHD, MSPH

Dr. Lauren McCormack is Director of RTI International's Health Communication Program. She has more than 15 years of experience in health communication, health policy, and health services research. Her research focuses on promoting informed decision making through effective communication and measuring and evaluating the impact of health-related information on consumer knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. Dr. McCormack has experience designing communication messages, developing evidence-based intervention strategies, analyzing small- and large-scale survey data sets, and employing a variety of qualitative research techniques. See www.rti.org for additional information.

HELEN I. MEISSNER, SCM, PHD

Helen Meissner, Sc.M., Ph.D. was recently named senior advisor in the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) where she is responsible for public health and population science based initiatives. Prior to joining OBSSR in October 2008, Dr. Meissner served as chief of the National Cancer Institute's Applied Cancer Screening Research Branch where she provided scientific leadership in support of social, behavioral and communications research to promote the use of effective cancer screening tests in both community and clinical practice.

Dr. Meissner's research interests include psychosocial, socioeconomic and environmental influences on health outcomes, development of methods and refinement of measures to improve evaluation of behavioral and population-based interventions and approaches to eliminating health disparities. She has over 60 peer-reviewed publications, and serves as an associate editor for *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention*. Dr. Meissner has served on many NIH, scientific and professional organization committees including the NCI Extramural Advisory Board and the American Association for Cancer Research Task Force on Behavioral Science. She has been recognized with four NIH Merit Awards, a Public Health Service Special Recognition Award and a Department of Health and Human Services Special Service Award.

Prior to joining NCI in 1988, Dr. Meissner was employed at the American Public Health Association where she provided technical assistance to State and local health departments in their efforts to plan, implement and evaluate community preventive health services programs.

Dr. Meissner received both her Sc.M. in Public Health Education and her Ph.D. in Social and Behavioral Sciences from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



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STEPHEN C. PORTER, MD, MPH, MSC

Dr. Porter is a clinical informatician and board-certified pediatric emergency medicine specialist whose research bridges the gap between health services and medical informatics. Dr. Porter is an attending physician at Children's Hospital Boston and holds an academic appointment as Assistant Professor in Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. He completed a Masters degree in Public Health at Harvard University and a Masters of Science in Human Factors and Information Design from Bentley College in Massachusetts.

A central tenet of Dr. Porter's research is that "the history as told by the parent has value" - and his work examines just how valuable patient-derived data can be for improvements in quality and safety. Dr. Porter seeks to maximize the influence of patients in their own medical care through the development and testing of structured multimedia interfaces that link patient-produced data to real-time clinical information flow.

DEBRA ROTER, DRPH

Dr. Debra Roter is Professor of Health, Behavior and Society at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and holds appointments of Professor in the Schools of Medicine and Nursing and with the Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Dr. Roter's primary research focus is in the study of patient-health care provider communication. She is the author of the Roter Interaction Analysis System (RIAS), a method of process analysis applied to medical exchange widely used by researchers and educators nationally and internationally. Her studies include basic social psychology research regarding social and psychological determinants and consequences of interpersonal influence within medical encounters, patient and provider interventions to improve health care quality and communication and educational applications to enhance patient and provider communication skills.

Dr. Roter has authored over 150 articles and three books related to the subject of patient-health care provider communication. Her work has been recognized by the Web of Science as among the most highly cited in the social sciences.

Dr. Roter is currently Principal Investigator of an NIH funded study to assess oral literacy burden of medical communication and to develop an ameliorative patient activation intervention for women with poor literacy skills.



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MARILYN M. SCHAPIRA, MD, MPH

A native of Montreal, Canada, Dr. Schapira attained her B.S. at Oberlin College and her MD, MPH at the University of Michigan. She trained in Internal Medicine at Emory University and Moses Cone Hospital followed by a General Internal Medicine (GIM) Research Fellowship at Duke University. Dr. Schapira is currently a Professor of Internal Medicine in the Department of Internal Medicine and Patient Care and Outcomes Research Center at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, WI. Dr. Schapira is an investigator in the field of doctor-patient communication and medical decision-making. She has developed and evaluated decision-aids for prostate cancer treatment and postmenopausal hormone therapy. Dr. Schapira has had two NCI funded grants in the area of Health Literacy. In a grant entitled, "Establishing a Link between Numeracy and Health", she evaluated the potential role of numeracy in increasing the adoption of health protective behaviors, including cancer screening. In her current grant, "The Development of a Health Numeracy Measures", Dr. Schapira is using methods of Item Response Theory to develop an objective and cross-culturally equivalent measure of health numeracy called the Numeracy Understanding in Medicine instrument (NUMi). This measure is built upon a framework of health numeracy that includes the domains of number sense, tables and graphs, probability, and statistics.

SUSAN J. SHAW, PHD

Susan J. Shaw, Ph.D., is assistant professor of medical anthropology at the University of Arizona. Specializing in social movements, health disparities, ethnicity, and access to health care in the United States, Dr. Shaw is principal investigator of a four-year, NCI-funded study of cultural differences, health literacy, and chronic disease management among four ethnic groups at a community health center.

Recent publications include an examination of the role of ethnic identity and patient-provider resemblance in culturally appropriate health care, and a review of literature exploring the ways in which cultural differences among populations may shape their health literacy.