

YOUR MAPRI UPDATE

Mid-Atlantic Permanente Research Institute

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MAPRI is the research core for MAPMG in collaboration with KPMAS, performing high quality research for a world class healthcare system.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Hello and welcome to the first edition of the MAPMG research update, titled *Your MAPRI Update*. I am Michael Horberg, MD MAS, the relatively new (since April this year) Executive Director Research of the Mid-Atlantic Permanente Research Institute ("MAPRI")—MAPMG's research enterprise. We have had a very busy 2011, and the year's only half over! I wanted to take a few moments and introduce myself and let you know all of the great developments happening in research in our organization.

First, I'd like to tell you a little bit about myself. Prior to coming to MAPMG, I was in TPMG in Santa Clara, California and in the TPMG Division of Research. There I was the national director of KP's HIV Interregional Initiative (HIVI), and will continue to lead HIVI from my new home in MAPMG. I also serve on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA).

My research interests are primarily in the HIV realm including health services outcomes, medication adherence issues, and the epidemiology of the disease. I am interested in hepatitis and other sexually transmitted infections. I received both my B.A. and M.D. degrees from Boston University, and I did my internal medicine residency at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago. I later received a Master of Advanced Studies in Clinical Research from the University of California, San Francisco. On a personal level, I am married to Chip, an attorney, and we live with our precious dog, named Grant. And in honor of my childhood in the Chicago area, I'm an avid Bears and Cubs fan.

Now, I'd like to give you a brief overview of MAPRI's development this year:

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Mission and Vision

We developed a new mission and vision statement for MAPRI, which will help guide our department in the coming years. It reads:

MAPRI is the research core for MAPMG in collaboration with KPMAS, performing high quality research for a world class medical care program.

Our mission is to address the clinical, health policy, and service questions perplexing MAPMG providers, our medical program, and the healthcare system, through which we aim to improve the care experience of our patients and communities we serve.

We strive to disseminate our research findings broadly, both within Kaiser Permanente and externally, leading to advancement of medical knowledge and professional satisfaction. We adhere to the highest scientific standards and maintain high levels of research integrity, with concern for our members as our highest priority.

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Want to know more? Go to our homepage on the KP intranet at:
http://kpnet.kp.org/mas/work/medgrouphr/rp_contacts.htm

Infrastructure:

We are continually adding to our top-notch cadre of scientists, data analysts, clinical research staff, and administrative staff, along with building on our data sources. We have hired this year three new research scientists, in the areas of health services, health disparities, and oncology epidemiology. We already had a nationally recognized scientist in health informatics. *Through this newsletter and our web page we want you to get to know them.*

Because MAPRI research is the science of population health and utilizes the vast resource of our KPMAS data, we have hired three additional data analysts. We have grown our clinical trial research team to six clinical research nurses and two clinical research assistants. We also have hired a project coordinator to help keep us on target and organized. This is all in addition to the ongoing outstanding work of our Managing Director, Richard Takamoto—whom many of you already know.

We also have been developing our data sources, since great science is dependent on great data. As you know, KPMAS data is not just in HealthConnect, and even the data there is not always simple to access and analyze. With the collaboration of KP IT and the support of KFH (both regionally and program office), we have developed a research data warehouse, which is enabling our research to be more efficient, safer and more secure, and with a greater breadth than previously possible.

We are enhancing our disease registries (HIV, hepatitis and other liver diseases, tumor) which will lead to even greater productivity and support to our clinicians.

Partnerships: We are grateful for the ongoing support from KFH Community Benefit (CB), a collaboration that is enabling our continued growth. As the mission of both MAPRI and CB is to expand medical knowledge, this partnership is an outgrowth of shared values. Also, you will read elsewhere in this newsletter about the new *MAPMG Clinician Research Committee*, with the explicit purpose of furthering a culture of collaboration and partnership between MAPRI and MAPMG clinicians.

We also are increasing our collaborations with TPMG Division of Research, as well as other KP regional research enterprises. We are pursuing partnerships with many local institutions, like Whitman-Walker Clinic in DC. Naturally, we are increasing our partnerships with NIH and other federal funders of research.

HMO Research Network: A natural affiliation for MAPRI is the NIH-funded HMO Research Network. We applied and were unanimously accepted into the prestigious HMORN this year. This will be a great source for future collaborations. More to come as this new relationship develops.

NSABP and Oncology Clinical Trials: A key component today for quality oncology care is access to clinical trials.

To help ensure our patients get the best cancer care possible, MAPRI along with our MAPMG oncologists under the lead of Drs. Leon Hwang and Aloysius Pereira, has been admitted into the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), giving our clinicians and patients direct access to hundreds of oncology clinical trials (including phase II and III trials and all types of cancers and not just breast and colon cancers). As you will see below, we are recruiting for a few trials already, with many more by the end of the year.

Research Leadership: MAPRI is the research enterprise for MAPMG and KPMAS. To that end, we are providing guidance and support to MAPMG clinicians conducting research, as well as helping KPMAS staff with their research needs as they pursue advanced degrees. Also, we will help with the student-led research being conducted in KPMAS in partnerships with many of the local academic institutions and residency programs, including Johns Hopkins.

Content Development: Our research scientists have many areas of interest. Collectively, you will soon hear about many projects in areas of health disparities, health informatics, oncology, infectious diseases, health services and economics, safety, and comparative effectiveness. These are *only initial* areas of interest; with our clinician researchers and strategic hires of other research scientists, the breadth of research in MAPMG and MAPRI will grow.

Stay tuned.

Closing Thoughts

As you can see, MAPRI is an exciting area of growth for MAPMG and the KP Mid-Atlantic program. We are helping Permanente Medicine achieve its goals of superior care in a changing healthcare environment. Our founder, Dr. Sidney Garfield, emphasized research as a core element of Permanente Medicine. MAPRI is a next step in that process.

With Gratitude,
Michael



P.S. Always feel free to contact me, either by Lotus Notes (Michael Horberg) or by phone at (301) 816.6302.



Research Scientist Profiles:

This section will introduce you to our research scientists, and the valuable Permanente medicine research they are doing. We are sure you will be hearing more from them as time goes on. Our first installment introduces two research scientists on the MAPRI team—Christine Bredfeldt, PhD, and Vicki Fung, PhD. For a list of their recent publications and presentations, along with contact information, please see the MAPRI web page.

Christine Bredfeldt, PhD



Christine Bredfeldt, Ph.D. is MAPRI's first research scientist with a focus on both the primary and the secondary uses of health information—a natural fit for MAPMG. Christine

works closely with our KPIT partners and MAPMG HIT leadership.

Her research encompasses three areas:

- (1) the effect of health information technology on the delivery of patient care;
- (2) the development and study of new health information technology; and
- (3) the development of methods and standards for multi-platform, multi-institutional research use of data.

Currently, she is leading a multi-site effort to develop a way for patients to integrate their self-reported data into the electronic health record

(EHR), in addition to work aimed at evaluating the EHR's effect on the duplication of healthcare services—an area where KP should have advantages. Other work includes an evaluation of our advanced training on providers' use of the EHR and the development of MAPRI's "Virtual Data Warehouse", to make research easier and more efficient. Christine originally hails from Northern California, and got her BA at Berkeley, and her PhD at UCLA, with further certification in medical informatics from OHSU. She is a member of the American Medical Informatics Association. She is married to Mike, a biostatistician, and is an avid cyclist.

"Health IT is integral to how KP works. My goal is to help everyone get the most out of it."
—Christine

Vicki Fung, PhD

Vicki Fung, PhD, is a research scientist at the Mid-Atlantic Permanente Research Institute, Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group. Her research focuses on the clinical and economic effects of health policy and health care financing. As part of this work, she is particularly interested in outcomes for potentially vulnerable populations, including patients with mental illness and lower socioeconomic status.

Vicki is the principal investigator of a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health to examine the impact of Medicare Part D drug benefits on antipsychotic drug use,

clinical outcomes, and medical spending. Among other studies, she is also a co-investigator on a multi-site study focused on comparative effectiveness research in asthma and lung diseases funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Her work addresses policy questions that affect Permanente providers and MAPMG and KHF leadership in the era of health reform and the changing healthcare market.

She received her training at Yale (undergraduate), and at the University of California, Berkeley (PhD) in health services and policy analysis

with a specialty in economics. She also completed a health services research post-doctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco's Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies.

Outside of work, Vicki and her husband enjoying playing and exploring with their very active baby boy.



Clinician Research Committee: *How We Can All Be Scientists*



A key goal of MAPRI is enhancing the engagement and support of our MAPMG clinicians. We want to make clinician-involved research in MAPMG a more rewarding experience, enabling more clinicians to engage in effective research, and help them address the issues and concerns that affect their daily practice. To that end, we convened the first meeting of the MAPMG Clinician Research Committee (CRC) on June 1, 2011. In attendance were Drs. Margaret Fisher, Leon Hwang, Peter

Kadlecik, Donald Saroff, Ejaz Shamim, and Robert Sjogren, along with senior MAPRI staff.

The purpose of the CRC is to promote high quality Permanente medical research by MAPMG clinical staff and help address the clinical questions within the MAPMG medical practice. The committee will have representatives from each Mid-Atlantic service area with different disciplines. The CRC's responsibilities will include promoting local clinician research, leading by example with their own quality

research projects, working with MAPRI to develop strong research programs in topics of interest to MAPMG, and helping MAPRI with education about research and research opportunities. The committee members will discuss their problems and experiences in conducting research, which will help MAPRI identify areas to provide additional support. We are so excited and pleased that the six doctors who came to our last meeting have agreed to serve on the CRC. But we would like more members also, and will be recruiting for the committee soon.

Helpful Research Tips from MAPRI:

We realize that it is sometimes unclear when MAPRI needs to be contacted regarding potential research activities, whether within MAPMG or KPMAS. There are three important things every clinician should know regarding research activities.

1. You May Already Be Doing Research! **Some activities seem like simple analysis of KP data, but may actually be research!** If you are at all in doubt about whether you are doing research or not, please give us a call. We love to hear from you.

2. When considering activities like those on the following list, please contact MAPRI for further guidance.

- * Collecting information from databases, files, or patients to be compiled and analyzed
 - * Analyzing clinical data you have available to you to discern patterns or possible research studies
 - * Tracking data on different treatments or practices to compare results
 - * Providing information about patients to vendors, outside providers or institutions so they conduct compilations, analyses, comparisons or evaluations (*even if you have shared information in the past!*)
 - * Publishing or presenting information collected or analyzed in which KP member data is included
3. Any research involving humans or

even just their data must have IRB approval. The MAPMG Institutional Review Board (IRB) must approve any research that involves human subjects - **even if it is only data collection or data analysis from existing databases.**

LaTrina Neal, the IRB Administrator, can provide guidance on the IRB's application and approval process. LaTrina.B.Neal@kp.org (301) 816.6572

One more note about the IRB—some studies will say they have contracted with a “central” (non-KP) IRB—you **can't** use that IRB without our IRB saying OK first. Thanks!

For more information about conducting research at KP, contact:

Sunita Ranjitkar
Project Coordinator
(301) 816.6378
sunita.r.ranjitkar@kp.org
or
Michael Horberg, MD
MAS, Executive
Director Research
MAPMG,
(301) 816.6302
michael.horberg@kp.org

Clinical Trials:

As you may know, all clinical trials with active enrollment in MAPMG and KPMAS are managed through MAPRI. We are proud of our clinical trials research staff, which includes six clinical research nurses and two clinical research assistants. Together, along with our senior administrative staff, they ensure that all of our clinical trials work is done with full compliance of all federal and local regulations and KP policies/procedures.

You can be assured that your patients enrolled in these clinical trials are getting the best care possible, while helping to advance medical science. Our clinical leads for our trials are your colleagues, and are also working hard to make sure your patients get the care they need.



A List of Our Clinical Trials

Heart Failure

New England Research Institutes: Treatment Of Preserved Cardiac function heart failure with an Aldosterone antagonist. Contact Aundria Cosby aundria.c.cosby@kp.org (301) 618.5941

Hepatitis C

Boehringer- Ingelheim 1220.47: A phase III, randomised, double-blind and placebo-controlled study of once daily BI201335 120 mg for 24 weeks and BI 201335 240 mg for 12 weeks in combination with Pegylated Interferon-Alpha and Ribavirin in treatment-naïve patients with genotype 1 Hepatitis C infection Contact Linda Steeby linda.d.steeby@kp.org (703) 922.1310

Merck P05063: Long-term follow-up of subjects in a Phase 1,2 or 3 clinical trial in which Boceprevir or Narlaprevir was administered for the treatment of chronic Hepatitis C Contact Velga Brolis velga.l.brolis@kp.org (703) 531.1661

Oncology

NSABP B-47- For women with node-positive or high-risk node negative HER-2 low invasive breast cancer Contact Diane Fisher diane.fisher@kp.org (301) 548.5743

NSABP P-5 Statin polyp prevention trial in patients with resected colon cancer. Contact Diane Fisher diane.fisher@kp.org (301) 548.5743

Publications and Presentations: MAPRI 2011 (so far!)

Manuscripts Published:

Fung V, Brand RJ, Newhouse JP, Hsu J. Using Medicare data for comparative effectiveness research: opportunities and challenges. *American Journal of Managed Care*. 2011;17(7):489-496.

Newhouse JP, Huang J, Brand RJ, Fung V, Hsu J. The structure of risk adjustment for private plans in Medicare. *American Journal of Managed Care*. 2011;17(6):e231-e240.

Abstracts Presented:

Fung V, Price M, Huang J, Brand RJ, Dow W, Newhouse JP, Hsu J. Assessing the effects of Medicare Part D cost-sharing on low income and near-poor beneficiaries. International Health Economics Association 8th World Congress, Toronto, July 2011 (Oral presentation).

Horberg M, Hurley L, Towner W, Allerton M, Tag B, Catz S, Silverberg M, Quesenberry C. Determination of optimized multidisciplinary care teams for maximal antiretroviral therapy adherence. 6th International Conference on HIV Treatment and Prevention Adherence, Miami, FL, May 2011(Oral presentation).

Horberg M, Hurley L, Towner W, Allerton M, Tang B, Catz S, Silverberg M, Quesenberry C. Impact of provider characteristics on HIV-related outcomes among antiretroviral experienced patients. The 6th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, July 2011.