

CURRICULUM VITAE

PART I: General Information

Date Prepared: June 27, 2010

Name: Nicholas Alexander Christakis

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Place of Birth: USA

Education:

1979-84 B.S., Biology, *summa cum laude*
Yale University, New Haven, CT

1984-89 M.D., *cum laude*
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

1987-88 M.P.H.
Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA

1991-95 Ph.D., Sociology
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Postgraduate Training:

1989-91 Resident in Medicine
University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA

1991-93 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

1993-95 National Research Service Award Fellow
Department of Sociology and Division of General Internal Medicine
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Licensure and Certification:

1990 Diplomate, National Board of Medical Examiners
1993 Diplomate, American Board of Internal Medicine
2002 Massachusetts License (#212672)

Academic Appointments:

1987-88 Teaching Fellow, Department of the History of Science
 Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

1990-91 Assistant Instructor, Department of Medicine
 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

1991-94 Fellow, Department of Medicine
 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

1994-95 Instructor, Department of Medicine
 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

1995-98 Assistant Professor of Sociology
 Department of Sociology
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

1995-98 Assistant Professor of Medicine
 Department of Medicine
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

1999-01 Associate Professor of Sociology
 Department of Sociology
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

1999-01 Associate Professor of Medicine
 Department of Medicine
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2001 Professor of Sociology
 Department of Sociology
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2001 Professor of Medicine
 Department of Medicine
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2001- Professor of Medical Sociology
 Department of Health Care Policy
 Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

2005- Professor of Sociology
Department of Sociology
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

2009- Professor of Medicine
Department of Medicine
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

2009- Master
Pforzheimer House
Harvard College, Cambridge, MA

Clinical Appointments:

1995-01 Attending Physician
University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL

1999-01 Home Hospice Physician
Horizon Hospice, Chicago, IL

2002-06 Attending Physician, Palliative Medicine Service
Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

2006- Attending Physician, Department of Medicine
Mt. Auburn Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

Other Professional Positions and Major Visiting Appointments:

1981-83 Research Assistant, Laboratory of Dr. Tom Reese
Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA

1981-82 Research Assistant, Laboratory of Dr. George Peries
Institut de Recherches sur les Maladies du Sang,
Département d'Oncologie Expérimentale, Hôpital Saint-Louis, Paris, France

1982-83 Research Associate, Laboratory of Dr. Tom Reese
National Institute of Neurological Communicative Disorders and Stroke,
National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

1987-88 Research Associate
WHO-Harvard University International Collaborating Center for Health Legislation,
Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA

1988-89 Research Associate
Harvard University Health Transition Project, Boston, MA

1991-95 Senior Fellow
Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

- 1995-01 Research Associate
Population Research Center and Center on Aging
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1995-99 Core Faculty
Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1999 Visiting Professor
Sydney Institute of Palliative Medicine,
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- 2000 Visiting Professor
Sydney Institute of Palliative Medicine,
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- 2000 Visiting Fellow
Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia
- 2001-02 Visiting Professor
Center on Ethics and the Professions, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Major Administrative Responsibilities:

- 1999-01 Co-Director
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2002-08 Director, 2002-05; Executive Committee Member, 2005-08
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Scholars Program
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2009- Master, Pforzheimer House, Harvard College
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Major Committee Assignments (since 2001):

Intramural:

- 2001-02 Faculty Search Committee, Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School
- 2002-03 Faculty Search Committee, Department of Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School
- 2002-05 Steering Committee for Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Palliative Care/Psychosocial Oncology, Harvard Medical School
- 2003-04 Faculty Search Committee, Hebrew Rehabilitation Center, Harvard Medical School
- 2003- Standing Committee on Health Policy, Harvard University
- 2003- Steering Committee for the Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University

2003-	Faculty Committee, MD/PhD Program in Social Sciences, Harvard Medical School
2003-04	Faculty Search Committee, Primary Care Division, Harvard Medical School
2003-05	Faculty Committee, Office of Research Compliance, Harvard Medical School
2003-06	Committee on Promotions, Reappointments, and Appointments, Harvard Medical School
2004-05	Faculty Search Committee, Department of Society, Human Development, and Health, Harvard School of Public Health
2004-05	Faculty Search Committee, Division of Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative Care, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School
2004-05	Faculty Search Committee, Department of Ambulatory Care and Prevention, Harvard Medical School
2004-06	Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, Harvard University
2006-07	Junior Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, Harvard University
2006-	Standing Committee on Global Health, Harvard University
2006-09	Subcommittee of Professors, Harvard Medical School
2008-09	Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, Harvard University
2008-10	Social Science Planning Committee, Harvard University
2009-	Faculty Council, Harvard Medical School

Extramural:

1999-05	Member, “Social Sciences and Population Studies” (SSPS) Study Section (formerly known as “SNEM-3”), National Institutes of Health
2001-05	Member, National Assessors Panel for Cancer Research Grants for Australia (Study Section)
2005-08	Member, National Advisory Committee, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research
2005-06	Member, International Advisory Panel, Korean Longitudinal Study of Aging (KLoSA)
2005-	Member, Data Monitoring Committee, Health and Retirement Survey (HRS)
2008	Member, National Institute on Aging, Behavioral and Social Research Quadrennial Review Committee
2009-12	Council Delegate from the Section on Social, Economic, and Political Sciences, American Association for the Advancement of Science

Editorial Responsibilities:Editorial Positions:

1988-95	Member, Editorial Board, <i>Law, Medicine & Ethics</i>
1993-00	Member, Editorial Board, <i>IRB: A Review of Human Subjects Research</i>
1998-06	Member, Editorial Board, <i>Journal of Palliative Medicine</i>
1999-06	Member, Editorial Board, <i>British Medical Journal (BMJ)</i>
2000-01	Associate Editor, <i>American Journal of Sociology (AJS)</i>
2002-	Associate Editor, <i>Palliative Medicine [UK]</i>

Ad Hoc Reviews:

American Journal of Public Health
American Journal of Sociology

American Sociological Review
Annals of Internal Medicine
Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
British Medical Journal
Circulation
Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry
Demography
Economics and Human Biology
Hastings Center Report
Health Affairs
Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology
International Journal of Environmental Studies
International Journal of Epidemiology
IRB: A Review of Human Subjects Research
JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association)
Journal of General Internal Medicine
Journal of Health Economics
Journal of Pain and Symptom Management
Journal of Palliative Medicine
Law, Medicine & Ethics
Medical Care
New England Journal of Medicine
Oxford University Press
Palliative Medicine
Population Research and Policy Review
PNAS: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
Sciences Sociales et Santé
Social Science and Medicine
Sociological Methods and Research
Sociological Methodology

Awards and Honors:

1984	Chittenden Prize, Yale University: awarded to the graduating senior majoring in the sciences who ranks highest in the class
1984	Montaigne Prize, Yale University: for excellence in French
1988	Bowdoin Prize, Harvard University: awarded to a graduate student for the best essay in the natural sciences
1988	Danforth Citation of Distinction for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Harvard University
1992	Lee B. Lusted Prize, Society for Medical Decision Making: awarded to the best post-doctoral paper at the 14th Annual Meeting
1996	Digby Baltzell Prize, University of Pennsylvania: awarded for the best dissertation in Sociology
2006	Distinguished Researcher Award, National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization: awarded for an “outstanding body of work contributing to the enhancement of hospice and palliative care”
2006	Member, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences
2009	Winner, “Books for a Better Life” Award, for <i>Connected</i>
2010	Runner Up, San Francisco Book Festival Non-Fiction Prize, for <i>Connected</i>

Languages:

Fluent Greek

Fair French (lost fluency)

Fair Spanish (lost fluency)

PART II: Research, Teaching, and Clinical Contributions**A. Narrative Report of Research Contributions**

My research makes use of my medical, sociological, statistical, and public health training in order to study social factors that influence illness and medicine. My research employs primarily quantitative methods, and it has both practical and theoretical implications for patient care and public health, as well as for the fields of network science, epidemiology, demography, sociology, sociobiology, behavioral genetics, and health care policy.

My current research is focused on the relationship between social networks and health. People are inter-connected, and so their health is inter-connected. This research engages two types of phenomena: the social, mathematical, and biological rules governing how social networks form (“connection”), and the biological and social implications of how they operate to influence thoughts, feelings, and behaviors (“contagion”).

For example, I have been examining a very large social network (12,000 people, including family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors) followed for over 30 years. This work has involved the application of network science and mathematical models to understand the dynamics of health in longitudinally evolving networks. To the extent that health behaviors such as smoking, drinking, or unhealthy eating spread within networks in intelligible ways, there are substantial implications for our understanding of health behavior and health policy. This body of work has also engaged the spread of obesity and of emotional states such as happiness, depression, and loneliness. Our objective is to understand how illness events and health behaviors in one person might contribute to similar phenomena in others to whom they are connected via a social tie, in what might be called the *non-biological spread of disease*.

Most recently, I have become interested in the partially genetic basis for social network structure, and the underlying genetic determinants of social interactions. Other current work is focused on using large-scale, online experiments to explore social network properties; on the effects of neighborhoods on people's health; on the biodemographic determinants of longevity; and on the genetic basis for human behaviors.

My research has implications for understanding why people become sick and how they use medical care to become well again. It also has implications for clinical and policy actions to enhance the quality of care given to seriously ill patients.

B. Funding InformationPast Funding (Since 1995, Selected):

1995-98	“Physician Prognostication and Decisions to Refer Terminally Ill Patients to Hospice,” Project on Death in America Soros Faculty Scholar, Open Society Institute (PI; \$229,500)
1996-98	Faculty Development Trainee, Geriatric Academic Program Award, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health (K-12 AG00488), (Investigator, \$164,000)

- 1996-99 “Access to Hospice Care For Alzheimer Patients at the End of Life,” Alzheimer’s Association, (PI; \$221,806)
- 1998-02 “The Clinical Scholars Program at the University of Chicago,” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, (Co-Director; \$2,350,249)
- 1998-02 “A Population-Based Study of the Use and the Consequences of Hospice Terminal Care in Elderly Medicare Beneficiaries,” National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health (R-01 AG15326), (PI; \$877,299)
- 2001-04 “Health in Marriage: Policy Implications of Spousal Illness and Death,” Investigator Award in Health Policy Research, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, (PI; \$242,990)
- 2001-07 “A Population-Based Study of the Inter-Relationship of Morbidity and Mortality Between Elderly Spouses,” National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health (R-01 AG17548), (PI; \$3,077,073)
- 2002-07 “The Health Policy Scholars Program at Harvard University,” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, (PI; \$4,764,358)
- 2004-08 “A Social Network-Based Study of Inter-Individual Health Effects in the Framingham Heart Study,” National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health (R-01 AG24448), (PI; \$2,060,986)
- 2006-08 “Psychological and Financial Burden of Cancer Caregiving in Elderly Spouses” National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health (R-03 AG028628), (PI; \$120,000)
- 2007-11 “Dynamic Relationship of BMI and SES Over the Life Cycle and Between Generations” National Heart, Lung, Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health (R-01 HL086830), (Investigator)
- 2007-10 “Development of Network Data and Methods for the Study of Health and Health Care,” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Pioneer Award (PI; \$653,556)

Current Funding:

- 2008-13 “Networks and Neighborhoods,” National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health (P-01 AG-031093), (PI; \$11,026,363)
- 2009-14 “Roybal Center for Translational Research on Aging,” National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health (P30 AG034420), (PI; \$1,859,558)
- 2010-11 “Exploring the Social Contagion of Generosity,” John Templeton Foundation, (PI; \$396,447)

C. Report of Current Research Activities

I am engaged in a comprehensive set of investigations regarding the role of social networks and neighborhoods in health and health behavior.

D. Report of Teaching

Full Courses Offered:

“*Life and Death in the U.S.A.: Medicine and Disease in Social Context*,” Sociology 190, Harvard University: This undergraduate course, most recently enrolling 250 students, examines the social causes and context of illness, death, and health care in the U.S. today. Who stays healthy and who falls ill? Who has a long life and who has a short one? What is a good death and why do so few

Americans achieve it? What is good medical care and who gets it? What role do physicians play in producing health in our society? Do certain kinds of social networks or neighborhoods improve health? Overall, the course evaluates the collective constraints on individuals' life prospects. Offered in: 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2010-11

"Health and Social Structure," Sociology 390, Harvard University: This graduate seminar course considers cutting-edge developments in the areas of network science, medical sociology, and demography, with an emphasis on the role of networks and neighborhoods in health and health care. Offered in: 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11

"Sociological Research Design," Sociology 201, Harvard University: This graduate course guides students through the process of producing an original research paper of high quality. Readings and discussion cover the identification of appropriate research problems, the nature of causal reasoning, and data analysis and write-up. Co-taught. Offered in: 2005-06, 2006-07

"Seminar in the Design of Health Services Research," Sociology 550, University of Chicago: This graduate course is a survey of the various quantitative (and, to a lesser extent, qualitative) research methods used by social scientists, epidemiologists, and other researchers who study health care. Methods reviewed include: using administrative claims and developing claims-based measures of health care; using public-use data sets; patient chart-based research; case control and cohort studies; randomized, controlled trials; surveys of patients and health care providers; measuring health status and health care use; cost-effectiveness analysis; meta-analysis of clinical trials; decision-modeling; content analysis of texts; interviewing of patients and health care providers; and participant observation. The course stresses the development of robust causal inference from observational data. Offered in: 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02.

"Current Topics in Medical Sociology," Sociology 354, University of Chicago: This graduate course provides an overview of the field of medical sociology, and focuses on how social factors influence the delivery and uptake of medical care in modern American society. It involves attention to how: 1) socially constructed ideas influence diagnosis and therapy, 2) social support, ethnicity, and race influence health care and outcomes, 3) social processes influence physician decision making, and 4) organizational structure influences health care delivery and patient experience. Offered in: 1995-96, 1996-97, 1998-99.

"Gender, Sexuality, and Medicine," Sociology 263, University of Chicago: This graduate course examines, from a number of disciplinary and methodological perspectives, the intersection of gender, sex, and sexuality with the organization and practice of clinical medicine. It addresses the manner in which medicine, as a discipline and profession formally grounded in claims to scientific neutrality and objectivity, is constantly embedded in a social context, influencing and being influenced by wider social processes. The course explores the ways in which medicine has evolved and functions as a site of socially mediated invention rather than abstract, value-free discovery. Offered in: 1999-00.

"Democracy and Social Science," Sociology 133, University of Chicago: This undergraduate course, offered as part of the core curriculum, examines the intersection of social science and democracy from several perspectives related to health and health care. It considers how democracy and its breakdown can contribute to the phenomena of socioeconomic inequality, discrimination, epidemic disease, and ill health. It also considers the tension between "expert" and "popular" knowledge and power, and the role of democracy in the formulation of social policy. Along the way, it examines the use of democratic processes as methodological tools (*e.g.*, in methods involving expert systems, utility elicitation, survey research, *etc.*). Finally, the course engages the

difficulty in developing, testing, and implementing public health policy in a pluralistic polity. Offered in: 2000-01.

“The Role of Foretelling in Social Life: Prophecy, Prediction, and Prognostication,” Sociology 524, University of Chicago: This graduate course examines the role of knowledge of the future, and of claims to such knowledge, in social life. This concern is especially intriguing because of the paradoxical observation that knowledge of the future, while on the one hand fundamental to social processes, is on the other hand often latent. The course uses medicine as an important example to explore the broader theme of prediction and destiny in social life; however, other examples are drawn from religion, economic forecasting, and everyday social encounters. The course considers such diverse phenomena as notions of self-fulfilling prophecy, the making of promises, belief in magical efficacy, schedules, the sociology of time, the impact of educational testing, the sociology of hope, the psychology of optimism, and apocalyptic cults. Offered in: 1997-98.

“AIDS: The Emerging Ethical and Policy Dilemmas,” North 120 (interdisciplinary), Harvard College: This undergraduate course analyzes the societal impact of the AIDS epidemic and the attendant ethical and public policy issues. Offered in: 1987-88.

Regular Lectures and Activities in Harvard Courses and Training Programs (Selected):

“End of Life Care in the U.S.,” lecture given to Ph.D. students enrolled in Health Policy 2000, Harvard University, 2002, 2003, 2004

“Death, Dying, and the Structure of US Health Care,” lecture given to undergraduate students enrolled in Social Analysis 54, Harvard University, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

“Research Methods in Palliative Care,” a series of monthly seminars as part of a Harvard Medical School-wide journal club in Palliative Medicine, offered during the 2002-03 and 2003-04 academic years

“Research Methods in Medical Education Research,” a year-long course sequence comprised of ten instructional hours given to 17 physician fellows (e.g., the Rabkin Fellows) acquiring skills in medical education, offered during the 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2009-10 academic years

Invited Presentations (Past Ten Years, Selected):

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| 1999 | “Health Services Research in Palliative Care in the United States,” Sydney Institute of Palliative Medicine, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia |
| 1999 | “Health Services Research in Palliative Care in the United States,” Canberra Hospital, Canberra, Australia |
| 1999 | “The Extent and Determinants of Accuracy in Physicians’ Prognoses When Patients are Referred to Hospice,” and “Patient Survival After Enrollment in Hospice,” Keynote Addresses, Minnesota Hospice Organization Conference, Bloomington, MN |
| 1999 | “Some Insights into Physician Anxiety,” Society and Medicine: Explorations of Their Moral and Spiritual Dimensions, A Festschrift Conference in Honor of Renée C. Fox, Philadelphia, PA |
| 2000 | “A Series of Projects on the Determinants of the Timing of Hospice Enrollment,” “An Introduction to Survey Methods for Health Services Research in Palliative Medicine,” and “An Introduction to Case/Control and Cohort Methods for Health Services Research in Palliative Medicine,” Workshop on The Care of Patients |

- with Advanced and Progressive Disease: Research and Research Methodology, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- 2000 “Death Foretold: Some Aspects of Prognostication in Clinical End-of-Life Care,” Sydney Institute of Palliative Medicine, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- 2000 “Death Foretold: Prognosis in Cancer Care,” Department of Epidemiology, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
- 2000 “The Accuracy of Physicians’ Prognoses in Cancer Care,” Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
- 2000 “The Extent and Determinants of Error in Doctors’ Prognoses for Terminally Ill Patients: A Prospective Study,” Grand Rounds, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth, Australia
- 2000 “Death Foretold: Prophecy and Prognosis in Medical Care,” Western Australia Council for Palliative Care, Perth, Australia
- 2000 “Death Foretold: Prophecy and Prognosis in Medical Care,” Institution for Social and Policy Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- 2000 “The Extent and Determinants of Error in Physicians’ Prognoses in Terminally Ill Patients,” Grand Rounds, Cook County Hospital, Chicago, IL
- 2000 “Death Foretold: Prophecy and Prognosis in Medical Care,” Leonard Davis Institute, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- 2000 “Barriers to the Use of Hospice Care at the End of Life,” testimony before the United States Senate, Special Committee on Aging, Washington, DC
- 2000 “How Long Do I Have to Live?” -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,” Keynote Address, Midwest Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting
- 2000 “How Long Do I Have to Live?” -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,” The Medical Center Hour, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- 2000 “The Transition to Hospice Care in Seriously Ill Elderly Patients,” Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
- 2001 “Nice Help If You Can Get It: Inter-Spousal Support, Gender, Medicine, and Death,” Notestein Seminar, Population Research Center, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- 2001 “The Practical Predicament of Prognostication at the End of Life,” Plenary Keynote Address, 7th International Meeting of the European Association for Palliative Care, Palermo, Italy
- 2001 “Nice Help If You Can Get It: Inter-Spousal Support, Gender, Medicine, and Death” The Frances H. Schiltz Lecture, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita, KS
- 2001 “How Long Do I Have to Live?” -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,” Johns Hopkins University Medical School, Baltimore, MD
- 2002 “Nice Help if You Can Get It: Inter-Spousal Support, Gender, Medicine, and Death,” Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC
- 2002 “How Long Do I Have to Live?” -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,” Grand Rounds, University of Pennsylvania Medical Center
- 2002 “Some Comments on Inter-ethnic Variation in Schizophrenia and Suicide Rates,” Jacobs Foundation Conference, Marbach Castle, Germany
- 2002 “Foreseeing and Foretelling a Good Death,” Public Lecture, King’s College, London, England
- 2003 “Death Foretold: Epidemiological and Sociological Studies of Whether and How Physicians Prognosticate,” McGill University, Montreal, Canada

- 2003 “‘How Long Do I Have to Live?’ -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,”
Grand Rounds, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women’s Hospital,
Boston, MA
- 2003 “The Health of Migrants,” Conference on African Migration and Urbanization in
Comparative Perspective, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2004 “The Health Impact on Families of Health Care: A Matched Cohort Study of Hospice
Use by Decedents and Mortality Outcomes in Surviving, Widowed Spouses,”
Grand Rounds, Hygeia Hospital, Athens, Greece
- 2004 “‘How Long Do I Have to Live?’ -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,”
Magdalen College, Oxford University, Oxford, UK
- 2004 “Physicians’ Responses to Prognostic Error,” European Association of Palliative
Care, Conference held in Milan, Italy
- 2004 “The Effect of Disabling Illness or Death in One Spouse on the Mortality of the
Other,” NBER Conference on Disability in the U.S., Charleston, SC
- 2004 “‘Cascade’ Effects with Respect to Health and Health Care in Social Networks,”
University of Maryland Population Research Center, College Park, MD
- 2004 “‘How Long Do I Have to Live?’ -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,”
Grand Rounds, Lahey Clinic, Burlington, MA
- 2004 “Hospice Care, The Widower Effect, and Social Networks at the End of Life,”
National Advisory Council on Aging, NIH, Bethesda, MD
- 2004 “Health Externalities of Illness and Medical Care Near the End of Life,” The Institute
for Fiscal Studies, University College, London, UK
- 2004 “Using CMS Data to Examine the Determinants and Outcomes of End-of-Life Care,”
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Baltimore, MD
- 2004 “Inter-Spousal Mortality Effects: Caregiver Burden Across the Spectrum of Disabling
Disease,” NBER Conference on Disability in the U.S., Jackson Hole, WY
- 2004 “Inter-Spousal Mortality Effects: Caregiver Burden Across the Spectrum of Disabling
Disease,” Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
- 2004 “Inter-Spousal Health Effects of Illness and Medical Care in the Elderly Near the End
of Life,” New South Wales Society for Palliative Medicine and Sydney Institute
of Palliative Medicine, Sydney, Australia
- 2004 “Health Impact of Health Care on Surviving Family of Cancer Patients,” Clinical
Oncological Society of Australia (COSA) Annual Meeting, Canberra, Australia
- 2004 “‘How Long Do I Have to Live?’ -- Why Prognostic Questions Trouble Doctors,”
Clinical Oncological Society of Australia (COSA) Annual Meeting, Canberra,
Australia
- 2004 “Social Aspects of Dignity at the End of Life,” University of Tasmania, Hobart,
Australia
- 2005 “Uncertainty and Dread Regarding Prognosis Among Physicians,” Luso-American
Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2005 “The Health Impact of Health Care on Family Members of Seriously Ill Patients,”
Aghia Sophia Children’s Hospital, Athens, Greece
- 2005 “Staying Healthy for Your Partner’s Sake,” Keynote Address, Hellenic-American
Medical Society and the Harvard Club of Greece, Athens, Greece
- 2005 “Health Externalities: How Illness and Health Care in One Spouse Affect the Survival
of the Other,” RAND Corporation, Los Angeles, CA
- 2005 “Health Externalities: How Illness and Health Care in One Spouse Affect the Survival
of the Other,” Duke University, Durham, NC
- 2005 “The Epidemiological Study of Intra-Familial Health Effects: Spousal Hospitalization
and Partner Mortality,” University of Athens, Athens, Greece
- 2005 “Prognostication and Palliative Care,” Lisbon Faculty of Medicine, Lisbon, Portugal

- 2005 “The Health Effects of End-of-Life Care on Spouses: Revisiting the Widower Effect and Caregiver Burden,” Lisbon Faculty of Medicine, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2005 “The Science and Art of Prognosis Near the End of Life: Implications for Patients, Doctors, and Society,” Annual Opening Lecture of the Academic Year, Lisbon Faculty of Medicine, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2005 “Health Externalities: How Illness and Health Care in One Spouse Affect the Survival of the Other,” Davis Lecture, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2006 “The Possible Effects of Pain and Pain Relief on Family Members,” University of Bristol, Bristol, UK
- 2006 “The Role of Prognosis in Clinical Care,” Zuckerman Lecture, Mt. Auburn Hospital, Cambridge, MA
- 2006 “Inter-Personal Health Effects in Dyadic and Hyper-Dyadic Social Networks,” Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA
- 2006 “How Illness and Health Care in One Spouse Affect the Survival of the Other,” Internationally Distinguished Speaker Series, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH
- 2007 “The Epidemic Spread of Health Behavior in a Complex, Longitudinally Resolved Social Network,” Condensed Matter Seminar, Department of Physics, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN
- 2007 “The Epidemic Spread of Obesity in a Large Social Network Over 32 Years,” Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2007 “The Spread of Obesity in a Large Social Network Over 32 Years,” Human Nutrition Research Center, Tufts University, Boston, MA
- 2007 “Inter-Personal Health Effects: The Spread of Health Behaviors in Social Networks,” Harvard Program on Asian and International Relations Annual Meeting, Beijing, China
- 2007 “Inter-Personal Health Effects and Social Inequality,” Harvard Program on Asian and International Relations Annual Meeting, Beijing, China
- 2007 “Reflections on the Media Coverage of ‘The Spread of Obesity,’” College of Communication, Boston University, Boston, MA
- 2007 “The Spread of Health Behaviors in Social Networks,” National Advisory Council on Aging, NIH, Bethesda, MD
- 2007 “The Spread of Obesity and Health Behaviors in a Complex, Longitudinally Resolved Social Network,” Plenary Address, International Conference on Complex Systems (ICCS 2007), Boston, MA
- 2007 “The Spread of Health Phenomena Within Complex Social Networks,” Center for Health Equity Studies, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2007 “Some Thoughts on the Rise of Social Science Data Complexity,” Meeting on Computational Social Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Department of Epidemiology, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University, New York, NY
- 2008 “The Spread of Health Phenomena in Complex Social Networks,” Center for Statistical Sciences, Brown University, Providence, RI
- 2008 “The Spread of Obesity, Substance Use, and Happiness in Longitudinally Resolved Social Networks,” Rockefeller Center for Public Policy and Social Sciences, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
- 2008 “Social Contagion and Individual Health,” Office of the Provost, Boston College, Boston, MA

- 2008 “The Spread of Health Phenomena in Complex, Longitudinally Resolved Social Networks,” Program in Evolutionary Dynamics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2008 “The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Fourth Annual Poretzky Lecture, Beth Israel Medical Center, New York, NY
- 2008 “Person-to-Person Spread of Health Behaviors in a Large Social Network,” Behavioral and Social Science Research Annual Lecture Series, Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Department of Sociology, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Applied Statistics Workshop, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2008 “The Spread of Health Phenomena in Complex, Longitudinally Resolved Social Networks,” Systems Biology Department, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
- 2008 “Examining New, Evolving Social Networks,” Meeting on Methodology for Empirical Research on Social Interactions, Social Networks, and Health, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Keynote Address, Conference on the Empirical Analysis of Networks, University of Alicante, Alicante, Spain
- 2008 “The Interpersonal Spread of Health Behaviors in Social Networks,” Keynote Address, Health in Aging Conference, Dublin, Ireland
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Obesity, Substance Use, and Happiness in Longitudinally Resolved Social Networks,” Opening Keynote Address, NetSci08 Conference, Norwich, UK
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” 37th Annual Merrimon Lecture, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Raleigh, NC
- 2008 “The Spread of Health Phenomena in Complex, Longitudinally Resolved Social Networks,” Carolina Population Center Annual Distinguished Lecture, University of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC
- 2008 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Grand Rounds, Department of Medicine, Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, MA
- 2009 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Complex, Longitudinally Resolved Social Networks,” Keynote Address, German Physical Society Annual Meeting, Dresden, Germany
- 2009 “Genetic Basis for Social Network Structure and Social Aspects of Social Network Function,” Department of Economics, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, and Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK
- 2009 “The Spread of Health Phenomena Across Complex, Longitudinally Evolving Social Networks,” Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2009 “The Spread of Happiness in Social Networks,” Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 “Genetic Basis for Social Network Structure and Social Aspects of Social Network Function,” Department of Epidemiology, Oxford University, Oxford, UK
- 2009 “Genetic Basis for Social Network Structure and Social Aspects of Social Network Function,” Saïd Business School, Oxford University, Oxford, UK
- 2009 “Connected: The Surprising Power of Our Social Networks and How They Shape Our Lives,” Nuffield College, Oxford University, Oxford, UK

- 2010 “The Spread of Health Phenomena in Longitudinally Resolved Social Networks,” National Institute of Drug Abuse, Bethesda, MD
- 2010 “Connected: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- 2010 “The Human Superorganism,” TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design), Long Beach, CA
- 2010 “Connected: The Amazing Power of Our Social Networks and How They Shape Our Lives,” RSA (Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers, and Commerce), London, UK
- 2010 “Connected,” The Oxford Union, Oxford, UK
- 2010 “Connected,” The Hellenic-American Union, Athens Greece
- 2010 “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” National Conference on Public Health, Athens, Greece
- 2010 “Connected: The Spread of Health Phenomena in Social Networks,” Russell Sage Foundation, New York City, NY
- 2010 “Human Social Networks as a Foundation for Public Health,” Grand Rounds on the Future of Public Health, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York City, NY
- 2010 “Social Networks and Health,” Eighth Annual CHB Lecture, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
- 2010 “The Genetic Basis for Social Networks,” Department of Genetics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
- 2010 “Why Social Networks Are Like Carbon,” Cambridge Science Festival, Cambridge, MA
- 2010 “Social Networks as Sensors for Early Detection of Contagious Outbreaks,” Program in Evolutionary Dynamics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2010 “New Insights into the Role of Social Networks in Human Behavior,” National Academy of Science, Washington, DC
- 2010 “Predicting Contagions,” TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design), Cannes, France

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- 1995-01 T. Jack Iwashyna, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- 1997-02 Virginia Chang, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- 1998-00 Elizabeth Lamont, MD, MA, Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
- 1998-01 Danielle Harvey, PhD, Assistant Professor of Statistics, University of California, Davis
- 1999-02 Ming Wen, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2003-06 Felix Elwert, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Wisconsin
- 2005-07 Lei Jin, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- 2005-09 Marcus Alexander, formerly PhD student (Government), Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; currently at Stanford Medical School
- 2005-08 Pete Dewan, PhD, Chief Technology Officer, MedNetworks, Cambridge, MA
- 2006-08 Damon Centola, PhD, Assistant Professor, Sloan School of Management, MIT, Cambridge, MA

- 2006- Mark Pachucki, PhD, formerly student (Sociology); currently Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholars Post-Doctoral Fellow, UC Berkeley
- 2007- Weihua An, PhD student (Sociology), Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2008- Sam Arbesman, PhD, post-doctoral fellow, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
- 2008- Niels Rosenquist, MD, PhD, post-doctoral fellow, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
- 2009- Jukka-Pekka Onnela, PhD, post-doctoral fellow, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
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E. Report of Clinical Activities

I was trained as a general internist and my current practice is exclusively in palliative medicine. Until July, 2001, I was a home hospice physician, and I spent one half-day per week visiting home-bound, dying patients. From 2002 to 2006, I was an attending physician on the Palliative Medicine Consult Service at Massachusetts General Hospital, with several weeks of duty per year, plus additional educational responsibilities. Beginning in 2006, I have been an attending physician in the Department of Medicine at Mt. Auburn Hospital, a Harvard teaching hospital, with responsibilities for education about end-of-life care and clinical research.

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