

**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE  
RESEARCH DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT  
MARCH 2005**

**Research – Benjamin Crabtree, PhD**

The vision of the **UMDNJ-RWJMS Family Medicine Research Division** is to develop and sustain a nurturing and productive research environment that fosters collaborative transdisciplinary approaches to promote the health of families and communities by improving quality of care and eliminating health-related disparities.

**Message from the Director:**

The Research Division extends a very warm welcome to Bhargavi Venkatesan, MS who joined us in March as a full-time research assistant. Bhargavi comes to us after completing a Masters in Statistics from Rutgers University and brings very sophisticated computer skills, including database management, statistical analysis, and web design. Please join me in welcoming her to our Division.

We received “unofficial notice” that our R01 grant application to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) has been approved for funding. This five year project will expand the insights gained in the ULTRA study by including “learning collaboratives” of clinicians and staff from multiple intervention practices who will meet to discuss their experiences with MAP/RAP and strategies for enhancing cancer screening and counseling. Co-investigators on this project include John Orzano, Shawna Hudson, Al Tallia, Pam Ohman-Strickland, Regina Cunningham, Eric Shaw, and Ben Crabtree. Congratulations Team!!

Research Division meetings in March provided stimulating conversations and insights into research on the clinical encounter. Deborah Cohen, PhD overviewed a manuscript that is nearing completion titled “The complexities of weight counseling in the primary care unit.” The ensuing discussion provided Dr. Cohen with helpful feedback and helped us better understand issues in analyzing audiotaped encounter data. Further refining our thinking was the outstanding presentation of Jeffrey Robinson, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication at Rutgers. Dr. Robinson, a conversation analyst who examines physician-patient interactions in the primary care setting, talked about “The structure of physicians’ opening questions and their effects on patients’ problem presentations.”

On March 11, the Division hosted two international visitors from Warwick University in the UK, Francis Griffiths, MD and Yasmin Merali, PhD. The day was devoted to reflections on applications of complexity science to primary care research, including a presentation by Dr. Griffiths on her work in primary care practices.

On Saturday, March 12, David Katerndahl, MD from the Department of Family Medicine at University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, joined Dr. Griffiths (visiting from Warwick University in UK), John Orzano, William Miller, and Ben Crabtree in an intense day-long data analysis session focused on applying concepts from complexity science to the primary care outpatient encounter. Dr. Orzano is planning to submit an abstract to NAPCRG to present the findings from this three year effort.

Members of the Research Division also continued exploring potential collaborative opportunities with other UMDNJ investigators. Jonathan Foulds, PhD, a tobacco investigator from the School of Public Health spent time with Division members discussing potential practice interventions that could enhance the connections between practices and NJ state-sponsored Quit Centers. Afton Hasset, PhD, from the Department of Rheumatology visited the Division to introduce some of the research ideas being pursued by her department.

Benjamin F. Crabtree, Ph.D.  
Professor and Director

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**New Jersey Family Physician Research Network (NJFPRN)**

The Board met in March and reviewed the mission of the Network and its place within the community of family medicine. The Network has worked diligently to nurture strong relationships within the Dept. of Family Medicine, CINJ, the NJAFP and most importantly the community of family physicians across the state. Developing the communication skills and meeting the needs of the community we care so strongly about has been instrumental in forming the website, which can be found at <http://www2umdnj.edu/fmedweb/njfprn/> and our newly created “community zero,” which is an internet based interactive website. Contact Terry Falco, Program Administrator at [falcote@umdnj.edu](mailto:falcote@umdnj.edu) or call 732-743-3387 for information on how to log on to Community Zero. While on the website, click on Research News to view the Spring Edition of the Newsletter.

**In Press**

Aita V, McIlvain H, Backer E, McVea K, **Crabtree B**. “Patient-Centered care and communication in primary care practice: what is involved?” Patient Education and Counseling (in press).

Anderson R, **Crabtree BF**, Steele DJ, McDaniel RR. “Case Study Research: The View From Complexity Science.” Qualitative Health Research (in press)

**Crosson JC, C Stroebel C, Scott J, Stello B, Crabtree BF**. “Implementing an electronic medical record in a family medicine practice: communication, decision-making, and conflict.” Annals of Family Medicine (in press).

Miller WL, **Crabtree BF**. “Clinical Research” in Handbook of Qualitative Research, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Newbury Park: Sage (in press)

Stroebel CK, McDaniel RR, **Crabtree BF**, Miller WL, Nutting PA, Stange KC. “Using Complexity Science to inform a reflective practice improvement process.” Joint Commission Journal of Quality and Safety (in press)

**Under Review**

Backer EL, Gregory P, Jaen CR, **Crabtree BF**. “A Close Look at Adult Female Health Care Maintenance Visits.” (revisions requested - Family Medicine).

Bodenheimer T, **Young D**, Macgregor K, Holtrop J: “Practice-based research in primary care: facilitator or barrier to practice improvement?.” (revisions requested - Annals of Family Medicine).

Cifuentes M, Fernald DH, Green LA, Niebauer LJ, **Crabtree BF**, Stange KC, Hassmiller S. “Prescription for health: changing primary care practice to foster healthy behaviors.” (revisions requested - Annals of Family Medicine)

**Cohen DJ, Crabtree BF, Tallia AF, Young D**: “Implementing health behavior change in primary care: Lessons from Prescription for Health.” (revisions under review - Annals of Family Medicine)

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**Cohen D, DiCicco-Bloom B, Flocke S.** “The complexities of weight loss counseling in the primary care visit.” (under review - Patient Education and Counseling)

**Crabtree BF, Miller WL, Tallia AF, Cohen DJ, DiCicco-Bloom B, McIlvain HE, Aita VA, Scott JG, Gregory PB, Stange KC, McDaniel RR.** “Delivery of Clinical Preventive Services in Family Medicine Offices.” (revisions under review – Annals of Family Medicine)

**DiCicco-Bloom, B, Crabtree BF.** “Qualitative Interviews.” (revisions under review - Medical Education)

Flocke S, **Crabtree BF**, Stange KC. “Clinician Reflecting on Promotion of Healthy Behaviors in Primary Care Practice.” (under review - Preventive Medicine).

**Hudson SV, Momperousse D, Leventhal H.** “Physician Perspectives on Cancer Clinical Trials and Barriers to Minority Recruitment.” (under review - Cancer Control).

**Isacson N:** “The Promise and Potential Problems of Online Sexuality Education for Adolescents” (revisions requested – Sexuality Research and Social Policy)

Katerndahl D, **Crabtree BF.** “Creating Innovative Research methods: The 10-Year Methodological Think Tank Experience.” (revisions requested – Annals of Family Medicine)

Nutting PA, Dickinson WP, Dickinson LM, Nelson CC, King DK, **Crabtree BF**, Glasgow RE. “Chronic Care Model Elements Associated with High Quality Care for Diabetes” (under review – Health Services Research)

**Ohman-Strickland P, Orzano AJ,** Nutting PA, Dickinson WP, Scott-Cawiezell J, **Hahn K, Gibel M, Crabtree BF.** “Measuring Organizational Attributes of Primary Care Practices: Development of a New Instrument, A New Study in the New Jersey Family Physicians Research Network.” (revisions under review – Health Services Research).

**Scott, JG, Tallia, A, Crosson, JC, Orzano, AJ, Stroebel, C, DiCicco-Bloom, B, O'Malley, D, Shaw, E, Crabtree, BF.** "Social Network Analysis as an analytic tool for interaction patterns in primary care practices." (revisions under review - Annals of Family Medicine)

**In Process**

**Cohen D, DiCicco-Bloom B, Flocke S.** “The complexities of weight loss counseling in the primary care visit.”

**Cohen DJ, Leviton L, Tallia A, Crabtree BF, Young D.** “Using online diaries as an evaluation tool: insights from prescription for health.”

**Crosson JC, Ohman-Strickland P, Hahn K, Bass C, Shaw E, O’Connell ME, Crabtree BF.** “Divergent views of physicians and staff regarding decision-making in family medicine practices.”

**Crosson JC, Hahn K, Orzano J, Crabtree BF.** “Electronic medical record usage and diabetes guideline adherence: results from primary care.”

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**DiCicco-Bloom B, O'Malley D, Shaw E, Crosson JC, Bass C, Miller WF, McDaniel R.** "The extension of the jazz metaphor to understand relationships among members of family medicine practices."

**DiCicco-Bloom B, O'Malley D, Shaw E, Crosson JC, Bass C.** Frederickson, K. "The development of the concept social capital within the complexity science framework."

**Hahn K, Ohman-Strickland P, Hamilton J, Nazareth T, Crabtree B.** "Hyperlipidemia guideline adherence and the effects of and interaction between patient and physician gender."

**Hudson SV, Ohman-Strickland P, Ferrante J, Young D, Hahn K, Harris-Haywood S, Crabtree BF.** "Organizational Factors Associated with Cancer Screening Disparities in Primary Care Settings."

**Hudson SV, Ohman-Strickland P, Lu-Yao G, Ferrante J, Cunningham R, Orzano AJ, Crabtree BF.** "Prostate-specific antigen screening in primary care practices."

**Hudson SV, Harris-Haywood S, Orzano AJ, Crabtree BF.** "Recruitment of Minority Primary Care Community Practices into Practice-based Perspective."

Hung DY, Rundall TG, **Crabtree BF, Tallia AF, Cohen D.** "Promoting Healthy Behaviors in Primary Care: The Role of Practice Staff Participation and Clinician Attributes in Preventive Service Delivery."

Leverence RR, Williams RL, Sussman A, **Crabtree BF.** "Obesity prevention and treatment: National guidelines through the viewfinder of clinicians in a US Southwest PBRN."

Parchman ML, McDaniel RR, **Crabtree BF.** "Methodological implications of complexity theory for studying clinical microsystem redesign."

Phillips RL, Dryer M, Weyer SM, Guirguis-Blake J, **Crabtree BF, McNellis R, Johnson-Pawlson J.** The direct observation of nurse practitioners and physician assistants in primary care practice: are there differences and do they matter?

**Scott JG, DiCicco-Bloom B, Stroebe C, Stello B, Crosson JC, O'Malley D, Shaw E, Bass C, O'Connell ME, Solberg L, Gilchrist V, Jaen C, Crabtree BF.** "Food for thought: How pharmaceutical representatives influence primary care physicians."

**Scott JG, DiCicco-Bloom B, Stello B, Crosson JC, O'Malley D, Shaw E, Bass C, O'Connell ME, Solberg L, Gilchrist V, Jaen C, Crabtree BF.** "The Influence of pharmaceutical representatives on adherence to guidelines for treatment of hypertension."

Solberg LI, Hroschickoski MC, Sperl-Hillen JM, Harper P, **Crabtree BF.** "Transforming Medical Care: Case Study of an Exemplar Small Medical Group"

**Tallia A, Scott JG, DiCicco-Bloom B, Orzano AJ, O'Malley D, Shaw E, Crosson JC, Crabtree B** "Comparison of Genograms and Social Network Diagrams in the Analysis of Primary Care Practices."

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**Tallia AF**, Lanham H, McDaniel R, **Crabtree BF**. “What Physicians Need to Know about Work Relationships in Primary Care Practices.”

**Grants/Contract Related Activities**

**Pending**

Cohen, DJ. PI: “Prescription for Health Evaluation Round 2: Analysis, Synthesis, and Dissemination,”  
Funding agency: RWJF; project amount: \$438,797

Crabtree, BF, PI: “Enhancing colorectal CA screening through learning teams”; funding agency: NCI; project amount: \$3,856,425 (priority score 150)

Hudson, SV, PI: “Assessing Barriers to Cancer Screening in Primary Care Settings,” funding agency: American Cancer Society; project amount: \$729,000

Swee, D., PI: “Academic Administrative Units in Primary Care”, competitive renewal, funding agency: HRSA; project amount: \$687,124 (direct costs).

Tallia, A., (subcontract PI): “Using learning teams for reflective adaptation for diabetes”; funding agency: NIDDK; subcontract project amount: \$315,363 (priority score 155)

**Active Grants**

Cohen, D., PI: “Using illness visits to address health behavior advice”; funding agency: NCI with CWRU (subcontract); project amount: \$150,419.

Cohen D. Prescription for Health Independence Evaluation Unit. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. January 2004-January 2007.

Crabtree BF. Institutional National Research Services Award (T32). HRSA , July 1, 2003 –June 30, 2008.

Crabtree BF. Trial to Enhance Adherence to Multiple Guidelines. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, September 6, 2002 – August 31, 2007.

Crosson J. Co-Investigator/Director of Educational Research and Evaluation/Co-author. Enhancing preceptorship and education in family medicine. DHHS, HRSA.

Crosson JC (Co-Investigator). Translating Research into Action for Diabetes (TRIAD), CDC/NIDDK U58/CCU223529.

DiCicco-Bloom, B, PI: “Patterns of nurse-physician relationships”, National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); January 2005 – January 2007.

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Hudson, SV (co-investigator), Department of Defense, Grant# DAMD17-01-1-0755, The Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center: Expansion Plan, 7/1/03 - 6/30/05.

Hudson, SV (co-investigator), The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Cancer Control & Prevention RFA Mechanism, Barriers and Incentives to Participation in Cancer Clinical Trials by New Jersey African Americans, Hispanics, and Medically Underserved Whites, 06/01/04 - 05/31/05

Hudson, SV (Pilot Project PI), DHHS, Project EXPORT, Addressing Cancer Disparities in NJ Communities, 9/30/04-9/29/07.

Orzano AJ, PI. Capacity in Organizational Research, AHRQ (K08 HS014018) Career Development Award, September 2004 – September 2008.

Scott, JG, PI. Robert Wood Johnson Generalist Physician Faculty Scholars Program. “Balancing Priorities: Healing in the context of evidence-based medicine”. July 2004 – June 2008.

Swee DE. Academic Administrative Units in Primary Care. HRSA, September 30, 2002 – August 31, 2005.

**Abstract Submission:**

**Hudson SV, Ohman-Strickland P, Lu-Yao G, Ferrante J, Cunningham R, Orzano A, Crabtree BF:** “Prostate-specific Antigen Testing in Primary Care Practices,” accepted for presentation at the 2005 Annual Retreat on Cancer Research in Princeton, NJ (April 27, 2005)

**Presentations:**

Beatrix Roemheld-Hamm, MD, PhD and Nicole Isaacson, PhD gave a presentation entitled “Influenza Immunization Disparities in the Primary Care Office Setting” at the CDC 39<sup>th</sup> National Immunization Conference, Hilton Washington, Washington, DC. (March 21-24, 2005)