

**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE  
RESEARCH DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT  
DECEMBER 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 welcomes Rohini Navalekar, MPA, who joined us in December as a research teaching specialist. She holds a Masters degree in Public Administration from the University of Louisville and a bachelor of Environmental Engineering from L.D. College of Engineering, India. Before joining us, Rohini worked as a research coordinator for the Southern Community Cohort Study Cancer Research Project, a landmark study of racial disparities in cancer incidence and mortality, at Family Health Centers, Inc. Louisville, KY. Her previous work also includes public sector internship on Bio-Terrorism Preparedness Planning at Louisville Metro Health Department, Louisville, KY. As a research specialist, she is currently working with the project SCOPE team, with her responsibilities including patient recruitment, maintenance of study documents and support to the project director.

The Division continues to have several staff openings for which we are actively recruiting. These include a Research Teaching Specialist V, who will work as a research assistant with the NJFMRN, a Research Teaching Specialist to work with the SCOPE project, and two Research Analysts (facilitators) to work with the SCOPE project.

During December, the Division hosted a number of outside consultants. **Martey Dodoo, PhD**, Senior Economist at the Robert Graham Center, spent two days with the team reflecting on ways for understanding the economics on practices and the costs and financial impacts of our interventions. **Drs. Bruce Barrett and Lucille Marchand** from the University of Wisconsin met with the research fellows and gave input on the fellow's project which looks at how CAM modalities are being incorporated within primary care practices. These two researchers have been looking at how CAM practitioners view themselves and their relationship to the standard healthcare system.

Barbara DiCicco-Bloom and Dena O'Malley were invited to consult with the members of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Colorado on December 5-7th. Dr. Frank deGruy, Professor and Chair of the Department had requested that Barbara and Dena share their knowledge of social capital with several researchers who are also interested in the concept. The Department is involved with the development of the idea of a "healthy community." The planned community of Stapleton is the site of interest and is an experimental setting in which the definition and conceptualization of community and social capital are being explored. Barbara and Dena also facilitated a meeting with the members of the Department's faculty. The discussion which felt very much like a RAP session explored their concerns about the challenges they are facing in their Family Medicine Practice. They are preparing to move from their present site to a new one in the Stapleton Community. Barbara and Dena shared some of the findings and lessons learned from the ULTRA study and the faculty requested a second visit. Nice job Barb and Dena – we are looking forward to hearing more about this!

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Beatrix Roemheld-Hamm, received funding from a RWJF subcontract via National Board of Medical Examiners to develop an evidence-based early warning system to identify and remediate at-risk practitioners who are at a high probability of causing harm to the public. The total costs for this year-long study is \$150,453. Congratulations Beatrix!!!

Jay Crosson is spending parts of December and January as a Visiting Faculty Scholar at the Robert Graham Center for Policy Studies in Family Medicine and Primary Care. During his stay in Washington, he is developing a pay for performance evaluation project in collaboration with the Director and Assistant Director of the Center and investigators from the UK. He is also developing policy proposals for use of EMR in primary care practices.

Al Tallia and Ben Crabtree traveled to Denver to participate in the kickoff retreat for a new NIDDK funded intervention trial that is under the leadership of Dr. Paul Nutting. Dr. Tallia has a subcontract on this NIH project to coordinate the training of staff for the University of Colorado and to provide ongoing data analysis support. This 5 year project continues until 2010.

Ben Crabtree and Will Miller presented a 90 minute seminar at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Primary Care Research Methods and Statistics Conference in San Antonio. Their seminar, A Farside Retrospective of Qualitative Research, used the exemplary work of Gary Larson to define and illustrate critical concepts in the implementation of high quality qualitative research.

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

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**Presentations:**

**JC Crosson.** Understanding the effect of health information technology on quality of care in primary care practices - AHRQ Concept Paper. Primary Care Methods and Statistics Conference.

**Hamilton, Jennifer L; Roemheld-Hamm Beatrix; Jalba Mihai; Young, Denise M; DiCicco-Bloom, Barbara; and Crabtree, Benjamin** "Organizational Features of Family Medicine Practices which Include CAM". 2006 North American Research Conference on Complementary and Integrative Medicine in Edmonton, Alberta (Canada).

**Articles Published**

Miller WL, **Crabtree BF**: "Healing landscapes: patients, relationships and optimal healing places." J. Altern Complement Med. 2005;11 Suppl 1:s41-9.

Hudson, S.V., Momperousse, D., & Leventhal, H. 2005. "Physician Perspectives on Cancer Clinical Trials and Barriers to Minority Recruitment" Cancer Control, November 2005 Supplement, 12, 93-96.

**In Press**

Backer EL, Gregory P, Jaen CR, **Crabtree BF**. "A Close Look at Adult Female Health Care Maintenance Visits." Family Medicine (in press).

**DiCicco-Bloom, B, Crabtree BF**. "Qualitative Interviews." Medical Education (in press)

**Hudson SV**, Momperousse D, Leventhal H. "Physician Perspectives on Cancer Clinical Trials and Barriers to Minority Recruitment." Cancer Control (in press).

Hudson SV, Harris-Haywood S, Stange KC, Orzano AJ, Crabtree BF. "Recruiting Minority Primary Care Practices into Practice-Based Research" accepted for publication by Medical Care (in press)

Hung DY, Rundall TG, **Crabtree BF, Tallia AF, Cohen D**, Halpin, HA. "Influence of Practice and Provider Attributes on Preventive Service Delivery" In press at American Journal of Preventive Medicine. To be published May 2006.

**Orzano AJ, Tallia A**, Nutting P, Scott-Cawiezell J, **Crabtree B**. "Are Attributes of Organizational Performance Salient in Primary Care Practices?" Health Care Management Review (in press)

Solberg LI, Hroszkoski MC, Sperl-Hillen JM, Harper P, **Crabtree BF**. "Transforming Medical Care: Case Study of an Exemplar Small Medical Group" Annals of Family Medicine (in press)

**Tallia AF**, Lanham H, McDaniel R, **Crabtree BF**. "What Physicians Need to Know about Work Relationships in Primary Care Practices." Family Practice Management (in press)

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**Under Review**

**Cohen DJ**, Leviton L, **Tallia A**, **Crabtree BF**, **Isaacson, N**. “Using online diaries as an evaluation tool: insights from prescription for health.” (under review – American Journal of Evaluation)

J Reteguiz, **JC Crosson**, L Robbins, C. Brazeau. “Developing a graduation OSCE: one medical school's experience.” (revisions requested - Journal of General Internal Medicine)

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

Hung DY, Rundall TG, **Crabtree BF**, **Tallia AF**, **Cohen D**, Halpin, HA. “Promoting Healthy Behaviors in Primary Care: The Role of Practice Staff Participation and Clinician Attributes in Preventive Service Delivery.”(revisions requested – American Journal of Prev., Med)

Hung DY, Rundall, TG, **Crabtree, BF**, **Tallia, AF**, **Cohen, DJ**. “Effects of Staff Participation in Decision Making on Productivity and Turnover in Primary Care Practice.” (under review – Health Care Mgt Review)

Hroschikosc MC, Solberg LI, Sperl-Hillen, JM, Harper P, **Crabtree BF**. “The challenges of change: implementing the chronic care model” (under review – Annals of Family Medicine)

**Isaacson 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 under review – 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” (revisions requested – 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 requested – Health Services Research).

**Ohman-Strickland PA**, **Crabtree BF**. “Modeling systems with varying numbers of inputs: An application to the Ultra study (under review – Statistics in Medicine)

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**Scott JG, DiCicco-Bloom B, Stroebel 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." (under review)

**In Process**

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

**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, Ohman-Strickland P, Hahn K, DiCicco-Bloom B, Orzano J, Shaw E, Crabtree BF.** "The relationship between electronic medical record usage and diabetes guideline adherence in primary care practices."

**Crosson JC, DiCicco-Bloom B, Shaw E, O'Malley D, Crabtree BF.** "Electronic medical records and adherence to diabetes guidelines in primary care: a multimethod comparative case study."

**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, Scott J, Nazareth T, Crabtree B.** "Hyperlipidemia guideline adherence and the effects of and interaction between patient and physician gender."

**Hudson SV, Ferrante J, Ohman-Strickland P, Crabtree BF.** "Primary care team versus individual provider impact on colorectal screening."

**Hudson, SV, Bates, D.** "Coder Reliability and Qualitative Software" in When Methods Meet Technology: Qualitative Data Analysis using Computer-Assisted Software, edited by R. Maietta and S. Hesse-Biber. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

**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."

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

Hung, DY, Rundall, TG, **Crabtree, BF, Tallia, AF, Cohen, DJ.** "Preventive Care Processes for Health Behaviors: Application of the Chronic Care Model in Primary Care Practice."

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, 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."

**Tallia A, Scott JG, Diccico-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."

**Grants/Contract Related Activities**

**Active Grants**

**Cohen, D., PI: "Using illness visits to address health behavior advice" National Cancer Institute with CWRU (subcontract); 2004-2008; total project subcontract costs: \$150,419.**

*This subcontract provides support for conversation analysis in a study which seeks to characterize the way a teachable moment arises and is constructed within physician-patient interaction and to evaluate the effectiveness of this strategy on patient recall of advice, motivation to modify behavior and change in health behavior.*

**Cohen D., PI. Prescription for Health Independence Evaluation Unit. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; 2004-2008; total project costs: \$963,576.**

*This multiyear project is performing an ongoing content and process analysis of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded projects submitted by Practice Based Research Networks to the Prescription for Life: Promoting Health Behaviors Initiative. Methodologies include a comparative case analysis of projects, built on qualitative and quantitative data collected at the initiative, project, and practice levels.*

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**Cohen, DJ: “Study of Determinants of High Quality Care in Family Practice Offices”, agreement, University of Chicago (PI Hickner); 2005; total project direct costs: \$12,352.**

*This supports a collaboration to provide on-site and off-site research data collection and analysis to document and assess the quality of care, organizational structure and function of the project as they relate to increasing and sustaining a high quality of care; and to understand the interpersonal relationships and processes within the practice.*

**Cohen, D, PI: “Using Qualitative Methods in Healthcare Research: A Comprehensive Guide for Designing, Writing, Reviewing and Reporting Qualitative Research,” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF); 2005-2006; total project costs: \$33,894.**

*A one year project to collect and synthesize multiple sources in order to develop a web-based resource that will be an important resource to those with varying degrees of familiarity and experience with qualitative research methods.*

**Crabtree BF. Trial to Enhance Adherence to Multiple Guidelines. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; 2002–2007; total project costs: \$3,722,849.**

*The major goal of this grant is to test a tailored practice level intervention strategy to simultaneously improve the delivery of care for diabetes, hypertension, and asthma and for tobacco and cholesterol screening. A group randomized clinical trial of practices is being used to test the intervention.*

**Crabtree, BF, PI: “Enhancing colorectal CA screening through learning teams,” National Cancer Institute; 2005 – 2010; total project costs: \$2,997,356.**

*This study evaluates a tailored practice-level MAP/RAP intervention that seeks to enhance relationships among practice members in order to improve rates of colorectal cancer screening in primary care practice.*

**Crabtree, BF, PI: “New Jersey Family Physicians Research Network – Cancer Center Support Grant”, 2005 – 2010; total project costs: \$806,348.**

*This work supports the NJFPRN to offer investigators an opportunity to have direct access to community-based patients and physicians in order to translate research evidence into community-based primary care practices with a long-term vision of enhancing the quality of care patients receive in New Jersey.*

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**Crosson, JC, PI: "Tests of Medicare's initial electronic prescribing standards in the New Jersey e-prescribing action coalition" Subcontract (D Bell, PI) Funding Agency: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality/Center for Medicare and Medicaid Studies. January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006. Project total cost: \$149,756.**

*This subcontract is to examine the effect of e-prescribing on workflow and organizational function in 12 primary care practices in New Jersey. The goal of the larger project is to provide evidence for the Department of Health and Human Services to use when setting policy regarding electronic prescribing standards.*

**DiCicco-Bloom, B. Institutional National Research Services Award (T32). Health Resources and Service Administration, 2003–2008; total project costs: \$1,319,174.**

*The NRSA fellowship seeks to produce researchers who: 1) are knowledgeable about national, state, and local health promotion and disease prevention; 2) are capable of investigating the appropriateness, effectiveness, and quality of health care in primary care settings; and 3) contribute to ongoing clinical and health policy research.*

**DiCicco-Bloom, B, PI: “Patterns of nurse-physician relationships”. Funding Agency: National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR); 2005–2007; total project costs: \$151,199.**

*This study aims to 1) describe the presence of social capital and 2) describe the presence of movement in conceptual space among nurses and physicians in primary care practices and determine their association with standards of chronic illness care.*

**Hudson, SV (Pilot Project PI), DHHS, Project EXPORT, Addressing Cancer Disparities in NJ Communities, 9/30/04-9/29/07; total project costs: \$1.2 million.**

*This three year grant focuses on development of resources and infrastructure needed for cancer research, training, community education and outreach. It focuses on conducting health disparities research designed to reduce cancer rates among minorities in New Jersey and to increase the participation of African-Americans, Latinos and other health disparity groups in biomedical and behavioral research as well as prevention and intervention activities.*

**Orzano AJ, PI. Capacity in Organizational Research, AHRQ (K08 HS014018) Career Development Award; 2004 – 2008; total project costs: \$435,219.**

*This grant supports a variety of educational strategies designed to make Dr. Orzano an expert in relevant organizational performance measure and to enhance his skills in survey and multimethod research approaches.*

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**Roemheld-Hamm, B., PI: “National Needs Assessment: Problem Physician Early Warning System”, subcontract with National Board of Medical Examiners, Funding agency: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; 2005–2006; Subcontract total costs: \$150,453.**

*A subcontract that seeks to develop an evidence-based early warning system to identify and remediate at-risk practitioners who are at a high probability of causing harm to the public.*

**Scott, JG, PI. Robert Wood Johnson Generalist Physician Faculty Scholars Program, “Balancing Priorities: Healing in the context of evidence-based medicine”; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; 2004 – 2008; total project costs: \$300,000.**

*This grant supports Dr. Scott to explore how the doctor-patient relationship promotes patient healing.*

**Tallia, A.F., PI: “Academic Administrative Units in Primary Care”, Health Resources and Services Administration; September 2005 – August 2008; total project costs: \$741,915.**

*The major goals of the grant are to: 1) develop a state-wide quality of care research network; 2) support a critical mass of family medicine researchers, and 3) build the infrastructure necessary to support and sustain network-based quality of care research and primary care practice improvement research productivity.*

**Tallia, A., (subcontract PI): “Using learning teams for reflective adaptation for diabetes”; NIDDK; September 2005 – August 2010) subcontract project amount: \$315,363**

*A subcontract that will compare the magnitude and timing of the intervention effects with a state of the art quality improvement effort that focuses on diabetes.*

**Pending grant applications (submitted)**

**Cohen, D., PI: "An Integrated Approach to Enhancing Diet and Physical Activity (K07 Career Development Award)", Funding agency: National Cancer Institute; 2006-2011; Project total costs: \$717,863.**

*This career development award application combines research and study to develop candidate's expertise in the areas of cancer control, clinical trial research, and obesity to foster emergence as an independent investigator in sustainable and effective cancer-preventive weight control interventions. By conducting a series of foundational analyses on existing, rich multimethod datasets, pragmatic communication strategies will be identified to develop integrative links of practice-and community-based strategies for engaging patients in effective diet and physical activity counseling.*

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**Crabtree, B.F., PI:** "Practice Redesign to Improve Depression Care – PRIDE Care" (subcontract), Funding agency: NIMH; 2006-2010; Project total costs: \$167,732.

*This subcontract will assist the main study in a group randomized trial To evaluate a Chronic Care Improvement intervention for implementing and sustaining chronic care office systems to improve depression care in 36 small, semi-autonomous, mixed-payer community-based primary care practices.*

**Crosson, JC, PI:** "Organizational Self-Assessment to Improve Diabetes Care in Primary Care Practices" (R 34 proposal), Funding agency: NIDDK; July 2006 - June 2008, Project total cost: \$466,500

*To pilot test a cost-effective organizational change intervention designed to improve adherence to evidence-based diabetes treatment guidelines in primary care by improving practice level self understanding.*

**Crosson, JC, PI:** "A UMLS Clinical Vignette Tool for Cognitive Skill Training and Assessment", Subcontract to R01 (D. Bell PI) Funding Agency: NLM; July 2006 - June 2011; Project total cost: \$187,336

*Analyze cognitive interviews as part of the ongoing development of a software system for training physicians in diabetes management skills.*