CALL FOR PAPERS

19th Annual
Primary Care Research Methods & Statistics Conference

December 3-5, 2004
The Menger Hotel - San Antonio, Texas

Conference Theme:
"Methodological Challenges of Studying
Knowledge Management in Health Care"

Presentations are also invited on:
Methodology - Statistics
Qualitative Methods - Geographic Information Systems
Communication of Results - Practice-based Research Networks
Computers in Research

Deadline for receipt of proposals is August 27, 2004

Plenary Session
Reuben McDaniel, Jr. PhD
University of Texas at Austin
"Implications of Complexity Theory for Primary Care Research Design"

Preconference Workshops

Experienced:
Yaneer Bar-Yam PhD
New England Complex Systems Institute
"Modeling & Simulations"

Novice:
Lawrence L. Gabel PhD
Ohio State University
"Designing Fundable Research Projects"

Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality: Review of Concept Papers
Format for concept papers at http://www.ahrq.gov/about/coer/concept.htm
Deadline for receipt of Concept Papers is October 22, 2004

Panel Discussions:
Thematic Panel, Saturday, Dec. 4, 2004: "The Learning Organization"
Academic Panel, Sunday, Dec. 5, 2004: "Rewarding Research"

This conference is endorsed by:
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine - North American Primary Care Research Group
Society of General Internal Medicine - Ambulatory Pediatric Association

This conference is supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality (grant no. R13 HS08775-09), and by the Veterans Health Administration Health Services Research & Development service (conference grant no. CSF04-338).
PROPOSAL FORMAT

1. Submit an original and two copies of the proposal.
2. Proposal should be in the following format:

   TITLE OF PRESENTATION
   I. Abstract (100 words)
   II. Name(s) of Presenter(s)
   III. Educational Goals and Objectives
   IV. Content of Presentation
   V. Method for and Extent of Audience Participation
   VI. Prerequisite Knowledge
   VII. Bibliography
   VIII. Need for Audiovisual Equipment
   IX. Type of Presentation - presentations will follow one of three formats:
      1. Peer sessions - 45 minutes in length, largely didactic in nature.
      2. Seminars - 90 minutes in length, to provide a combination of didactic presentation and group participation.
      3. Workshops - 2 hours 15 minutes in length, to provide a task-oriented small group educational experience directed toward understanding and acquisition of specific skills and methodologies.
   X. Seating Arrangement - classroom or theater seating
   XI. Address, Telephone number, Fax number, and email address of Presenter(s)
3. Proposal should be single-spaced.
4. Proposal will be published as submitted.
5. The deadline for submission of proposals is **August 27, 2004**. Proposals postmarked after that date will not be accepted.
6. All presenters must be registered to the conference and pay the full registration fee.
7. Send proposals to:
   Walter L. Calmbach, M.D.
   Department of Family & Community Medicine
   The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
   7703 Floyd Curl Drive, suite 610-L
   MSC 7795
   San Antonio, Texas 78229-3900
   phone: (210) 358-3930
   fax: (210) 223-6940
8. You will be notified of your proposal's acceptance by September 24, 2004.
9. Contact information. Should you have any questions, please contact
   Susan Duncan, Office of Continuing Medical Education, 210-567-4446, or
   Walter L. Calmbach MD (210) 358-3930, or
   David A. Katerndahl MD (210) 358-3885.
10. Manuscripts of accepted proposals will be published in the conference proceedings, and should be submitted by **October 22, 2004**.
SAMPLE PROPOSAL

RESEARCHING COMPLEXITY

I. ABSTRACT: There is growing recognition that complexity science can contribute to our understanding of primary care issues such as practice variation, dynamics of health and illness, and health care delivery. However, little research based on chaos theory or complexity science has appeared in the primary care literature. This seminar will review the characteristics of complex systems and outline three approaches to studying complexity. Although the overview will include methods for estimating complexity and issues related to modeling systems, the seminar will focus on methods for studying the characteristics of complex systems, emphasizing quantitative approaches. Examples will be used to demonstrate the application of these methods and to facilitate the interpretation of results.

II. PRESENTER: David A. Katerndahl, M.D.

III. EDUCATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of this seminar, the participant should be able to:

1. Understand three approaches to researching complex systems
2. Outline qualitative and quantitative methods for studying complex systems
3. Determine the dynamics exhibited in a time series

IV. CONTENT OF PRESENTATION: Although this seminar will emphasize quantitative methods, qualitative methods and modeling will be addressed. The content will be organized as follows:

1. Review of characteristics of complex systems
2. Overview of three approaches to research on complexity
   A. Estimating complexity
   B. Studying characteristics of complex systems
      - Conceptual (Qualitative)
      - Analytical (Quantitative)
   C. Modeling / Simulations
3. Interpretation of results

V. METHOD FOR AND EXTENT OF AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: In addition to question-and-answer opportunities, participants will be involved in the course of the seminar. The characteristics of complex systems will be derived through group discussion. Sample data will be used by participants to practice applying the techniques presented.

VI. PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE: basic statistics

VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY:


VIII. AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT: Laptop Computer With PowerPoint, Projection Unit

IX. TYPE OF PRESENTATION: Seminar

X. SEATING ARRANGEMENT: Classroom

XI. ADDRESS, PHONE / FAX / EMAIL OF PRESENTER:

David A. Katerndahl, M.D.
Department of Family and Community Medicine
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900
Phone: (210) 358-3885
Fax: (210) 223-6940
Email: katerndahl