Masters Theses and Doctoral Dissertations in Health Services Research
Boston University School of Public Health
Completed June 2005 – December 2011

The first students entered the masters and doctoral programs in health services research in September 2003, and the first students graduated in 2005.

2011

Gudjon Hauksson, MSc, BSN, Cost Effectiveness of Alendronate to Reduce Hip Fractures from Osteoporosis in Icelandic Postmenopausal Women (masters thesis)

Kathleen Conroy, MD, The Impact of Food, Housing, and Energy Insecurity on Asthma Control in Low-Income Children (masters thesis)

Peng Xu, Evaluating For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Medicare Advantage Plans Based upon the STAR Ratings: Does Quality of Care Differ? (masters thesis)

Donald Allensworth-Davies, MS, Assessing Localized Prostate Cancer Post-Treatment Quality of Life Outcomes among Gay Men (doctoral dissertation)

Barbara Lerner, MS, Communication During the Disclosure of Genetic Susceptibility to Alzheimer’s Disease: Patterns and Provider Flexibility and Their Effects on Patient Outcomes (doctoral dissertation)

Kelly DeLong, Examination of the Cost-Effectiveness of an Environmental Intervention of Childhood Asthma (masters thesis)

Meredith Manze D’Amore, MPH, Quality of Sexual Health Care for Vulnerable Populations: Patient Perceptions of the Interactions with and Role of Clinicians (doctoral dissertation)

Erika Oleson, MD, Mild Cognitive Impairment, Neuropsychiatric Symptoms, and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living Function (masters thesis)

Hillary Mull, MPP, Developing and Testing Adverse Event Detection Tools to Improve Patient Safety in Surgery (doctoral dissertation)

Ruzan Avetisyan, MPH, Evaluation and Interpretation of Social Disparities in Medical Care and Their Relationship To Health Outcomes In Epilepsy Patients (Doctoral Dissertation)

2010

Laura P. Rossi, MS, Recovery from a Coronary Event: Understanding the Nature of the Patient’s Journey (doctoral dissertation)

Amy Linsky, MD, Toward Rational Prescribing: Proton Pump Inhibitor Discontinuation in Veterans Affairs Long Term Care Residents (masters thesis)

Erika Langer, Comparative Logic Modeling for Policy Analysis: The Case of HIV Testing Policy Change at the Department of Veterans Affairs (masters thesis)


Kimberly Dodd, MD, Racial/Ethnic and Gender Differences in Intervention Following Acute Myocardial Infarction in the Oldest Old (masters thesis)

2009

Ann Spires, MD, Opioid Prescribing for Chronic Pain: Reflections on Shared Decision–Making (masters thesis)

Tamar Barlam, MD, The Impact of Different Components of Patient-Centered Care on Health Outcomes in Veterans (masters thesis)

Anthony Claret Waddimba, MS, Hospital Utilization in Chronic Spinal Injury and Primary Physicians' Adherence to Clinical Guidelines: Three Approaches to Answering Health Services Questions (doctoral dissertation)

Min-Ting Lin, The Association between Serious Psychological Distress and Emergency Department Utilization among Young Adults in the United States (masters thesis)

2008

Daniel Chen, MD, A Cross-sectional Measurement of Medical Student Empathy (masters thesis)

Katherine Johnston, MD, What Do Our Words Reveal? Understanding Formative Feedback for Medical Students on Clinical Clerkships (masters thesis)

Amy Margaret Lischko, MSPH, Cost Sharing: Do Employees Understand Cost Sharing and Do Increases in Cost Sharing Really Have an Impact on the Utilization of Health Care Services? (doctoral dissertation)

Sudha Ramani, The Cradle, the Cuddle, or the Carton? A Socio-Cultural Evaluation of an Innovation that Prevents Hypothermia among Babies in Low-Resource Areas of India (masters thesis)

2007

Nameeta Dookeran, MD, HIV Testing Rates among Patients with Substance Use Disorders (masters thesis)

Rebecca Perkins, MD, Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid Is More Cost-Effective Than Pap Smears for Cervical Cancer Screening in Honduras (masters thesis)

Adam Rose, MD, Understanding Uncontrolled Hypertension: Is It the Patient or the Provider? (masters thesis)

Peter Smith, MD, Diabetes Patients with Alcohol Use Disorders: Choice of Medications and Treatment Intensification (masters thesis)

John Cardall Newsom, MBA, MS, Measuring the Influence of Managed Care on Antidepressant Utilization by Children and Adolescents with Depression (doctoral dissertation)
2006

Arpita Aggarwal, MD, Association of Depressive Symptoms with Cancer Screening Rates and with Cancer Stage at Diagnosis (masters thesis)

Maria Cecilia Vieira Da Silva, The Impact of Smoking on Medicaid Spending with Acute Care in Massachusetts and Potential Cost-Savings of Smoking Cessation (masters thesis)

Zoe LeVan, Understanding Veterans’ Preferences for Autonomy in the Context of Disease Self-Management (masters thesis)

Winnie Suen, MD, The Effect of Staffing on Outcomes in 34 VA Nursing Homes (masters thesis)

2005

Anand Kartha, MD, Psychosocial Factors and Functional Status as Predictors of Readmission (masters thesis)

Andrea Kronman, MD, Racial Disparities in Primary Care and Utilization of Health Services at the End of Life (masters thesis)

Daniel Oates, MD, The Relationship between Blood Pressure and Survival in a Cohort of Elderly Veterans (masters thesis)

Elisabeth Schainker, MD, School District Level Predictors of School Health Service Delivery (masters thesis)

Carolina Takizawa, MD, Impact of Primary Care on HIV Risk Behaviors in Persons with Addictions (masters thesis)