

The Newsletter



ROBERT
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CENTER

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Robert Graham Center Family and Friends,

The new year has been incredibly busy and rewarding at the Robert Graham Center. A summer and fall of hard work by the team materialized in February with the release of the [“Health of US Primary Care Scorecard”](#). The [scorecard](#) and accompanying [dashboard](#) created by the Health Landscape team have received a great deal of media attention and, at latest check, the report has been viewed almost 7,500 times and the dashboard almost 3,000 times. The sobering report underscores the importance of redoubling all our efforts to strengthen primary care. Whether it is through research, policymaking, practicing medicine or educating the future workforce, each one of you has a role in supporting primary care and we hope this report does not discourage you, but instead motivates you to continue the great work you do. Year two of the scorecard analysis is underway at the RGC and we look forward to creating another high impact product that builds on the lessons of the first.

Dr. Alison Huffstetler and Anam Siddiqi organized and ran a thought provoking [Primary Care Forum on April 13, 2023](#). Featuring Michael Fine, Bellinda Schoof, and panelists Sarah Kureshi

and Ann Greiner, the panel focused on family medicine as a catalyst for community agency. Thank you for all those who joined. If you missed this one, look for emails from us about our next forum in the fall.

Last, but certainly not least, we welcomed Dr. Jeongyoung Park as the Robert Graham Center’s new research director earlier this year. Dr. Park has worked in health services research for over a decade, and we are excited for the energy and talent she brings to the RGC. Under her leadership the analytic team is busy acquiring data and conducting research that bring the health equity lens to the research we do at the Robert Graham Center.

Thank you all for your continued support, we look forward to connecting in person with those of you who are attending the Society for Teachers of Family Medicine in Tampa this May.

Yalda Jabbarpour, MD

INTRODUCING THE NEW RESEARCH DIRECTOR

JEONGYOUNG PARK, PhD

Jeongyoung Park, PhD joined the Robert Graham Center in February 2023 and currently serve as Research Director. Prior to joining the RGC, she was an Assistant Professor at the George Washington University School of Nursing and in the Department of Health Policy and Management at GW Milken Institute School of Public Health. She was also a core faculty member at the GW Fitzhugh Mullan Institute for Health Workforce Equity. She has a strong passion for primary care. Her research interests include primary care delivery and payment system changes, and their impacts on health workforce and patient outcomes. At the heart of her research program, the goal is to establish the value of investing in primary care as a vehicle to achieve a high-value health care delivery system, with special emphasis on health care workforce as the backbone of reforming health care systems. She has a strong track record of publications in high impact health policy and health services research journals. She received her PhD in health policy and management (with a concentration in Economics) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in the Health Services Research unit at the University of Pennsylvania. She received her MPH from Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea, Graduate School of Public Health, and her BSN from Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea, College of Nursing.



THE VISITING SCHOLARS & FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS CORNER

About the Visiting Scholars Program

The Robert Graham Center hosts a month-long visiting scholars program in health policy. This program is supported by a generous grant from the Pisacano Leadership Foundation, the philanthropic foundation of the American Board of Family Medicine. Visiting scholars work directly with staff on original research projects developed by the scholar on a topic of interest to them with the goal of a national publication and dissemination.

About the Fellowship Program

The Robert Graham Center in collaboration with Georgetown University co-sponsor a one-year fellowship in health policy and faculty development. Fellows work with Graham Center staff to address primary care health policy questions of interest. At the end of the year, fellows have completed a project of their choosing with dissemination on the national level.

MARCH SCHOLAR FEATURE



By Tristen A. Adams, MD

Given historical and existing social, political, and economic inequities, the majority of Medicaid beneficiaries comprise racial and ethnic minoritized groups despite comprising a smaller proportion of the general population. On the opposite side of the same coin, though physicians from racial and ethnic minoritized groups comprise less of the physician workforce, from the perspective of Family Medicine, Family Physicians who identify as underrepresented minorities are more likely to provide care for vulnerable populations, which includes Medicaid beneficiaries. Moreover, Medicaid physician reimbursement rates have remained substantially below Medicare and

commercial insurance. Expressly, minorized physicians who provide care to Medicaid beneficiaries, the majority of whom are marginalized, are reimbursed by a system that reimburses at the lowest rate. Medicaid reimbursement is a racial justice issue.

Though race and Medicaid reimbursement have been examined from the lens of Medicaid beneficiaries or at the state level, to our knowledge, no study has examined race and Medicaid reimbursement from the lens of the physician, particularly at the granular level of Family Physicians. Therefore, we have sought to study whether and to what extent there are differences in Medicaid reimbursement by physician race and/or ethnicity within Family Medicine.

Data limitations and difficulties navigating a mathematical connection between the data have provided a challenge, but work is ongoing. With that said, however, poignant associations may still be gleaned from parts of the analysis.

Though my time as a Visiting Scholar at the Robert Graham Center has formally concluded, I look forward to remaining connected and involved in ongoing and original research as a means to advance justice, racial and otherwise, and to inform policy.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

[VOL XII: Knowledge is Power: Assessing Academic Decolonization through Bidirectionality of Training in Global Health Fellowships](#)

[The Health of US Primary Care: A Baseline Scorecard Tracking Support for High-Quality Primary Care](#)

[Duration of Residence and Hypertension in Black Foreign-Born Residents: NHIS, 2004-2017](#)

[Female Family Physicians Are More Racially Diverse Than Their Male Counterparts in Federal Sites](#)

[The Association of Practice Type and the Scope of Care of Family Physicians](#)

[Comparable quality performance between telemedicine and office-based care for abnormal BMI screening and management](#)

[Racial/Ethnic Minority Identifying Family Physicians Are More Likely to Work in Solo Practices](#)

[Updated Data and FAQ on the Social Deprivation Index \(SDI\)](#)

The 2019 SDI data was released and new frequently asked questions section was added.

[Sustaining Women in Medicine \(SWIM\)](#)

Over the past few years the Graham Center team in conjunction with the research team at ABFM has been studying factors related to burnout in women family physicians. Findings from that study and other gender equity related publications can be found on our new Sustaining Women In Medicine webpage.

STFM's Annual Spring Conference

April 29-May 3, 2023 | Tampa, FL

- [Family Medicine Abortion Workforce in a Shifting Policy Landscape](#)
- [Family Physicians Providing Women's Health Care Services by Race and Gender](#)
- [The Contribution of Primary Care to Women's Health](#)
- [Advanced CERA Workshop: Improve Your Survey Questions With CERA Committee Members](#)

AcademyHealth's Annual Research Meeting

June 24-27, 2023 | Seattle, WA

- [Access to Primary Care Providers as Foundation for Mental Health Treatment](#)

ONGOING RESEARCH

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

NATIONAL PRIMARY CARE SCORECARD COVERAGE

Forbes

[Making Primary Care The Primary Focus Of Our Health Care System](#)

Helio

[First national primary care scorecard shows the field is 'headed for a crisis'](#)

Medical Economics

[National scorecard gives low marks to U.S. support for primary care](#)

MedPage Today

[More Investment in Primary Care Needed, Report Finds](#)

Fierce Healthcare

[US primary care system suffering from 'chronic lack of adequate support,' scorecard report finds](#)

POLITICO

[A disappointing report card for primary care](#)

Axios

[Primary care shortages persist, widening workforce gaps](#)



LOOKING AHEAD

- We are beginning our analysis for this year's Primary Care Evidence report. Under the leadership of our Medical Director, Dr. Alison Huffstetler, this year's report will examine the factors contributing to the difficulty in accessing primary care.
- We are completing a series of monographs on the gender wage gap in Family Medicine that will support the AAFP's commitment to helping female family physicians in achieving equity in the workplace.



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