

CHERISH

Center for Health Economics of Treatment Interventions for Substance Use Disorder, HCV, and HIV



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Newsletter - May 2017

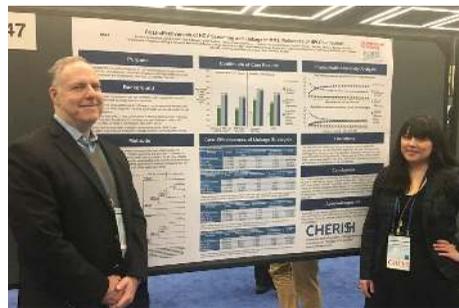
Keeping Up With CHERISH

2017 is off to a great start - CHERISH investigators and staff have been busy promoting the Center and disseminating research findings at conferences and talks throughout the country and internationally. Here's where we've been:



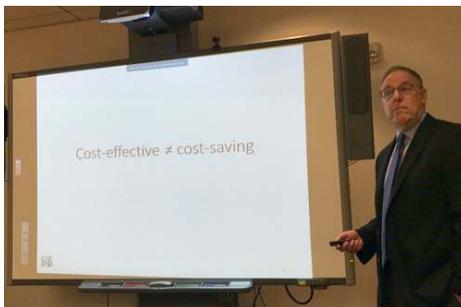
NYS Hepatitis C Elimination Summit

February 7, 2017 Albany, NY



Annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI)

February 13 - 16, 2017 Seattle, WA



Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Services (CHIPTS)

February 21, 2017 Los Angeles, CA



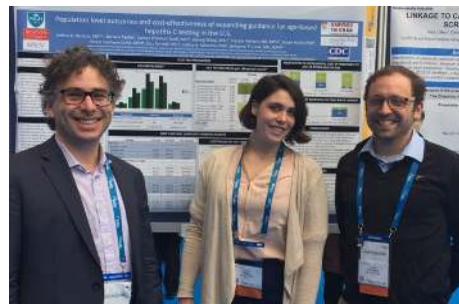
Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS at Yale University (CIRA) Talks

March 9, 2017 New Haven, CT



URBAN ARCH Annual Meeting

March 29, 2017 Boston, MA



European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) International Liver Congress

April 19 - 23, 2017 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

In This Newsletter

- ▶ Our methodology consultation services and a consultation success story
- ▶ Introducing the Cycle 3 CHERISH pilot grant awardees
- ▶ Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) study by Pilot grantee Yuhua Bao, PhD
- ▶ Where you can find us at upcoming conferences and talks

Congratulations Corner

- ▶ Dissemination & Policy Core Co-Director and Leonard Davis Institute Executive Director **Daniel Polsky, PhD** has been appointed to the Health and Medicine Division Committee (HMD) of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
- ▶ HCV & HIV Core Director **Benjamin Linas, MD, MPH** has been appointed as an Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at Boston University
- ▶ Dissemination & Policy Core Director **Zachary Meisel, MD, MPH, MSHP** has been appointed as an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Methodology Consultation Success: Bulat Idrisov, MD, MSc

Dr. Bulat Idrisov is a National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) International Program INVEST Drug Abuse Research Fellow under the mentorship of **Dr. Jeffrey Samet**, CHERISH HCV/HIV Core co-director. Dr. Idrisov completed his medical training in pediatrics and internal medicine in Russia and received a Fulbright Scholarship to complete his Master of Science in Global Health Policy and Management at Brandeis University in the Heller School where he focused on international health systems and healthcare policy. His current research is centered on HIV, substance use and healthcare systems. He recently published an article entitled “Implementation of methadone therapy for opioid use disorder in Russia- a modeled cost-effectiveness analysis” in the *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy* with the help of CHERISH Consultation Director **Dr. Sean Murphy**.



Although his paper had been reviewed favorably, Dr. Idrisov worked with Dr. Murphy on how best to respond to the reviewers' comments and strengthen the analysis. Upon completion of the consultation, Dr. Murphy agreed to come on board as a co-author. Dr. Murphy explained:

“*Dr. Idrisov's article was very interesting and helped me explore substance use treatment from an international perspective. My previous work had been in the context of the United States and I enjoyed learning about the health system in Russia.*”

Under Dr. Murphy's guidance, Dr. Idrisov reframed his analysis to focus on DALYs as the primary outcome and include tuberculosis as a comorbid condition, in addition to HIV. Dr. Idrisov commented:

“*I enjoyed working with Dr. Murphy; he is a talented researcher and a very pleasant person. Overall, I would recommend the CHERISH consultation service and hope to continue working with the CHERISH organization in the future.*”

Dr. Idrisov will be presenting his findings in a poster presentation at The College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) Annual Meeting in Montreal, Canada on Monday June 19 from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

Consultation Services

We have health economic expertise in:

- Markov Modeling
- Monte Carlo simulation
- Discrete event simulation
- Budget impact and costing
- Cost-effectiveness / cost-benefit
- Agent-based modeling
- Quality of life
- Qualitative data collection
- Statistical analysis / econometrics

We can help with:

- Selecting simulation modeling approaches
- Choosing HCV and HIV datasets
- Choosing longitudinal and health insurance claims datasets
- Planning a study / analyzing existing data
- Preparing a grant application, manuscript, presentation, or report

To learn more about CHERISH services for researchers, please visit:

www.cherishresearch.org/methodology/consultation

Cycle 3 Pilot Grant Awardees

Czarina Behrends, PhD



In collaboration with colleagues at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), Dr. Czarina Behrends will assess naloxone distribution patterns, outcomes and required resources in New York City. She will use these data to develop a model for optimal allocation of those resources in order to prevent overdoses. Her project will use geospatial analysis and costing information to maximize the impact of naloxone distribution in NYC. Dr. Behrends is a post-doctoral associate at Weill Cornell Medical College. Her research interests include harm reduction strategies, program evaluation and research relating to HIV and hepatitis C testing and care, with a special focus on people who inject drugs.



Benjamin Ukert, PhD

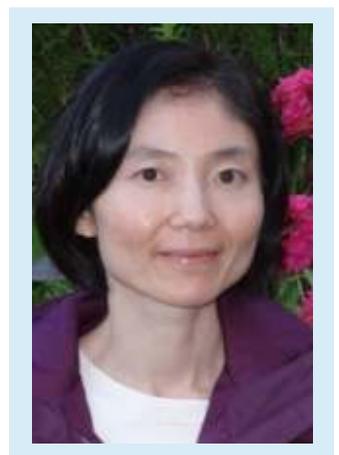
Dr. Benjamin Ukert's pilot grant will describe the physician- and state-level variation in opioid prescribing practices post C-section and knee arthroscopy, two of the most common surgical procedures in the U.S. Using private insurance claims data, Dr. Ukert will also determine the relationship between prescribing practices and the transition to prolonged opioid use. Lastly, he will also estimate the associated healthcare costs and service utilization as a result of prolonged opioid use. Dr. Ukert is a postdoctoral researcher at the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics and the Injury Science Center at the Perelman School of Medicine. He is an applied microeconomist with a specific interest in the areas of risky behaviors, insurance reform, public transfer programs, and crime prevention.

Pilot Grantee Publication

Prescriber Mandates in Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)

With the rise in prescription opioid use and misuse, prescribers have been regarded as a vital link in addressing the overdose epidemic. Most states have implemented prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) to aid prescribers in identifying patients at high risk of misusing or diverting controlled substances such as prescription opioids. It also allows states to monitor physician level prescribing practices. PDMP policies vary from state to state but prominent strategies include prescriber registration mandates, prescriber use mandates and a combination of registration and use mandates.

A recent study by pilot grantee **Dr. Yuhua Bao** and her mentee Dr. Hefei Wen, show that PDMP mandates of any kind were associated with a 9-10% reduction in the use of Schedule II opioids by Medicaid enrollees compared to states without mandates. When they differentiated between mandates of registration and mandates of use, they found a significant reduction in Medicaid prescriptions and spending on Schedule II opioids among states with a registration mandate or a registration and use mandate when compared to states with no mandates. However, mandates of use alone did not have a significant impact on Schedule II opioid prescribing. The authors estimate that if every state adopted a mandate of registration, Medicaid programs nationwide could save over \$166 million dollars by reducing the number of prescriptions and spending on Schedule II opioids. Thus, they suggest that states consider adopting mandates of registration that are easily enforceable. Compared to mandates of registration, mandates of use may not be as enforceable and may not be worth investing the resources to do so.



The results of this study were published in *Health Affairs* with co-authors **Brandon Aden, MD, MPH** and **Bruce Schackman, PhD** of CHERISH, alongside whom Dr. Bao and Dr. Wen will be giving an oral presentation at the 12th iHEA World Congress to be held July 8 - 11, 2017 in Boston, MA. An issue brief related to the results of this study is currently in progress, to be authored by Dr. Yuhua Bao and **Janet Weiner, PhD, MPH** of CHERISH.

Upcoming Courses & Sessions

12th iHEA World Congress: Revolutions in the Economics of Health Systems

July 8 - 11, 2017 Boston, MA



CHERISH Director Dr. Bruce Schackman, Methodology Co-Director Dr. Kathryn McCollister and Dr. Sean Murphy will hold a **Pre-Conference Session** entitled “**New insights into the economics of substance use disorder treatment: Addressing the opioid epidemic**” on Saturday July 8th from 1:30 PM to 5 PM.

The session will discuss evolving methods in economic evaluation of substance use disorders (SUD) in response to the recently released recommendations of the Second Panel on Cost Effectiveness in Health and Medicine. They will also present findings from applied studies of the economic impact of interventions for opioid use disorders. The session will be structured to promote interactive discussion to identify new high priority areas for health economics research relating to substance use disorders.

Dr. Schackman, Dr. McCollister and Dr. Murphy will be joined by Dr. Jake Morgan for an **organized session** titled “**Economic and Health Care Impacts of Pharmacotherapy for Opioid Use Disorders.**” Dr. Murphy will present the results from a cost-effectiveness analysis conducted alongside a multisite randomized effectiveness trial of XR-NTX versus usual care among opioid-dependent, criminal-justice-involved persons that was conducted from a US taxpayer perspective. Dr. McCollister will present preliminary results from an economic study conducted alongside a randomized clinical trial comparing XR-NTX to BUP-NX for patients receiving inpatient detoxification in community-based treatment program settings. Dr. Morgan will present the results from an analysis of large national database of commercially-insured US adults comparing utilization and discontinuation of XR-NTX, oral naltrexone and BUP-NX medications.

Summer Institute on Longitudinal Research & International Conference on Global Health

August 15 - 17, 2017 Universal City, CA



Drs. Bruce Schackman and Sean Murphy of CHERISH will be leading a **course** entitled “**An Introduction to Economic Evaluation in Substance Use Disorders**” at the 2017 UCLA Summer Institute on Longitudinal Research in Universal City, California. The course is one of two workshops being held on Wednesday August 15 from 8:00 AM to 11:45 AM.

The course will provide an introduction to economic evaluation methods used to evaluate health care interventions, with a focus on cost-effectiveness analysis (CEA) of interventions for substance use disorders. The course will introduce students to concepts relevant to measurement of costs, health utilities, and quality-adjusted life years (QALYs) and their use in CEA. Students will gain a basic understanding of how CEA simulation models and clinical studies are developed, analyzed, and interpreted, giving them skills to understand the literature and to consider how economic evaluation could be applied to their own research.

Find Us

CHERISH investigators and staff are looking forward to presenting at other upcoming talks and conference presentations.



June 25-27, 2017 | Hyatt Regency, New Orleans, LA

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www.cherishresearch.org/contact