KAISER PERMANENTE.

THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH conducts, publishes, and disseminates high-quality epidemiologic and health services research to improve the health and medical care of Kaiser Permanente members and the society at large. It seeks to understand the determinants of illness and well-being and to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care. To accomplish these goals, the Division of Research is committed to providing a supportive research environment that fosters independent thinking, creativity, continued learning, and adherence to the highest scientific standards.
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ON THE COVER: A ramp outside of DOH’s 2000 Broadway location, in Oakland, California. Construction was completed in February of 2002.
Letter from the Director

GIVING BACK

I am delighted to present the 2003-2004 Research Activities Report of Kaiser Permanente Northern California’s Division of Research (DOR). My primary aim is to familiarize you with the DOR’s research scientists, their achievements, and the more than 200 projects they currently have underway.

The DOR conducts research among the 3+ million Kaiser Permanente members of Northern California using interviews, automated data, medical records, and clinical examinations. DOR researchers have contributed over 1700 papers to the medical and public health literature. Projects include epidemiologic and health services studies as well as clinical trials and program evaluations. They cover a wide range of topics including cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, substance abuse, mental health, maternal and child health, women’s health, pharmacoeconomics, and studies of the impact of changing health care policy and practice.

A unique feature of many DOR studies are their large size and high level of accuracy and detail that are the result of Kaiser Permanente’s rich clinical databases and the high rates of retention by Kaiser Permanente members. Population-based studies of the scope achievable within Kaiser Permanente simply can’t be done elsewhere. In all of this work, researchers are guided by Kaiser Permanente’s Institutional Review Board, which reviews and approves each project before its initiation, ensures that risks to study subjects, risks to privacy as well as safety, are minimized and that the potential benefits of each study outweigh any possible risks.

DOR researchers often collaborate with clinicians and operations staff member from elsewhere within The Permanente Medical Group (TPMG) and/or the larger Kaiser Permanente community. The opportunities to collaborate with Kaiser Permanente’s health care delivery system is another remarkable feature of research at DOR. These collaborations serve to enrich DOR’s research portfolio, to improve The Permanente Medical Group’s clinical practice, and to refine the organization’s policies and operations. A growing number of our studies feature collaboration with researchers from other regions of Kaiser Permanente. Most of these inter-regional projects are funded by external agencies, including the NIH, the CDC, and AHRQ.

However, Kaiser Permanente, through the Garfield Memorial Fund and the Direct Community Benefit Programs, plays an increasingly important role in sponsoring research activities that address questions of importance to both the organization and the community. The intent to publish results in the scientific literature remains a constant in all of this work.

During the two years since our last report, DOR has experienced several significant departures. In 2003, Donna O’Connor concluded her 18-year tenure as DOR’s Administrative Director. Donna led the Division with a uniquely personal and competent style through a period of remarkable growth which saw the DOR expand from less than 100 to nearly 400 staff. We miss her. In addition to Donna’s departure, one of our senior Research Scientists, Dr. Bruce Ettinger, retired from TPMG transitioning from a DOR Research Scientist to DOR Adjunct Research Scientist. We acknowledge the steady support of our organizational sponsors within The Permanente Medical Group and of our friends and collaborators elsewhere within the Kaiser Permanente family. We also thank our collaborators from government, academia, and industry for sharing their insights, for their hard work, and for the pleasure of their company during the past year.

Joe V. Selby MD, MPH has led the Division of Research as its Director since 1998.
**Administration and Fiscal Overview**

**The Administration** Department at the Division of Research (DOR) includes grants and contracts, fiscal operations, human resources, facility operations, public affairs, research compliance (IRB) and research operations. The Grants and Contracts Division maintains a team of experienced, customer-focused Research Administrators providing all pre-award services. The Finance Department provides all the necessary services to Principal Investigators and project staff in regard to post award administration of grants.

Administration also employs a full-time IRB liaison who serves as a consultant to investigators and staff on all aspects of IRB transactions, as well as employing a Public Affairs/Media Relations liaison who is responsible for facilitating communications between the DOR research staff and regional and national public affairs staff in order to assist in media training for scientists and to ensure that DOR publicizes research that is of interest and of value to the public at large.

Lastly, research operations support include a Data Entry Department, a Medical Records Analysis Department, an Information Technology Department, a Library, as well as a Strategic Programming Unit. The Data Entry Department consults on the design of research questionnaires and data collection forms for DOR investigators, as well as for investigators throughout the Northern California region. The Medical Record Analyst Department provides data retrieval consulting services. The Information Technology Department maintains the over 700 computers and servers supporting the research needs of the DOR investigators. The Library maintains extensive access to hundreds of journals, as well as performing database and internet searches. The Strategic Programming Unit develops new data sources and linkage strategies that cut across the needs of the division.

In Fiscal Year 2004 there were over 200 funded studies with extramural support totaling $34,201,107, an increase of 13% from Fiscal Year 2003. The pie charts above illustrate the distribution of all funding at the Division of Research during calendar year 2004. It can be noted that in 1994, the Division's portfolio stood at 9.4 million dollars. During the next 10 years, DOR's portfolio grew by more than 400% and during the past five years the extramural portfolio has almost doubled. This increase is attributable to both growth in the number of and career maturation among DOR's research scientists.

Approximately 23% of current projects represent multi-center studies in which data are collected within Kaiser Permanente and merged with those from at least one other clinical site, and in which DOR investigators collaborate with researchers based elsewhere. In addition, DOR maintains collaborations with numerous academic institutions across the country and internationally.

Barry Miller, PhD joined Kaiser Permanente in 1995 and became the Administrative Director for the Division of Research in 2003.
administration and fiscal
OVERVIEW

THE ADMINISTRATION Department at the Division of Research (DOR) includes grants and contracts, fiscal operations, human resources, facility operations, public affairs, research compliance (IRB) and research operations. The Grants and Contracts Division maintains a team of experienced, customer-focused Research Administrators providing all pre-award services. The Finance Department provides all the necessary services to Principal Investigators and project staff in regard to post award administration of grants.

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Barry Miller PhD joined Kaiser Permanente in 1995 and became the Administrative Director for the Division of Research in 2003.
HEALTHCARE EFFECTIVENESS

HEALTHCARE Effectiveness (HCE) research aims to understand the impact of clinical care and health care policy on patients' health status, clinical outcomes, and the costs of care. It aims to identify cost-effective health care practices and policies and to enhance the health status of Kaiser Permanente members. Kaiser Permanente Northern California is a remarkable setting for such studies because of the large member population, the high-quality clinical databases, the organization of care into medical centers, and the organization of The Permanente Medical Group (TPMG) into more than 50 Chiefs Groups, each with a specific clinical expertise and interest. DOR researchers currently study a wide variety of chronic and acute conditions, including AIDS/HIV and other infectious diseases, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes mellitus, chemical dependency, and maternal and child health, mental health, and inpatient intensive care, both neonatal and adult. Health services studies, including studies of the costs of disease, of patient preferences, patient safety, and of the impact of the electronic medical record, patient cost-sharing, and physician education, are other important components of the Health Care Effectiveness portfolio.

Much of this work is conducted in collaboration with one or more of the physician Chiefs' Groups within TPMG or with other regional and program-level departments, including Regional Quality and Operations Support (QOS), Regional Health Education, TPMG Physician Education, Northern California's Chronic Conditions Management Program, Regional Diabetes and Breast Cancer Task Forces, the Committee for HIV/AIDS Interregional Responsibilities, and the national Care Management Institute. The opportunity to collaborate with these operational groups enriches DOR's research in measurable ways and helps to ensure that important findings are disseminated quickly.

Several recent first-authored publications exemplify the work of the HCE section. These include a New England Journal of Medicine paper demonstrating the important and independent influence of early, mild renal impairment on risk of death, cardiovascular events, and hospitalization. Two papers in Medical Care, the first describing patient awareness of changes in cost-sharing and the impact

Impact of clinical care and health care policy on patients' health status.

of this knowledge on use of the emergency department, and the second paper which examines the clinical and cost benefits of integrating substance abuse treatment with primary care. DOR investigators also contributed editorials in the gastroenterology journals on aspects of colorectal cancer screening. Last, a paper in the Journal of the American Medical Association established that within Kaiser Permanente, use of anticoagulation therapy for stroke prevention in patients with atrial fibrillation conveyed essentially the same benefits as shown in randomized trials, with very low complication rates. 
ETIOLOGY AND PREVENTION RESEARCH aims to understand the environmental, behavioral, and genetic causes of a broad range of diseases. The Division of Research is actively engaged in studies of cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, neurological disorders, perinatal and childhood illnesses, maternal health, and psychiatric illness, and in broader studies of many common exposures (e.g., tobacco smoke, alcohol, diet, physical activity, prescription drugs). The sizable population that is represented by the Kaiser Permanente Northern California membership provides an outstanding setting for conducting this work. With over 3 million health plan members representing about 30 percent of the total population in the counties served by Kaiser Permanente Northern California, approximately one percent of all health events in the United States occur among this membership. The extensive clinical and administrative databases enable or facilitate investigations that would be extremely difficult to achieve or would not otherwise be possible. Ongoing infrastructure collaborations through the HMO Research Network and the Cancer Research Network, also involving research groups at a number of integrated health care delivery systems, enhance the ability to conduct such research in other populations.

In the past two years, Etiology and Prevention researchers have continued work in a number of areas. Just one example is a growing complement of studies in breast cancer prognosis. DOR is the clinical site for two randomized trials investigating the effects of dietary interventions on breast cancer survival, and also has two of only a handful of prospective studies investigating lifestyle factors on long-term breast cancer prognosis. Recently, one of DOR’s investigators presented one of the first studies to indicate that the expression of a panel of genes is strongly associated with 10-year survival among women with breast cancer.

Etiology and Prevention Researchers continue to publish studies in varied areas with important clinical or public health implications. For example, recent publications include a study demonstrating that sleeping position is a major risk factor for sudden infant death syndrome (infants who die from SIDS are more likely to have last slept in a prone, or face-down, position). Other examples include a study that demonstrated that increases in weight in women during mid-life may be prevented or minimized with physical activity, and another that demonstrated that failure to treat cryptorchidism until an older age (greater than 11 years old) is associated with a substantially elevated risk of testicular cancer. An area of growing research interest is the role of genetic factors in the etiology and prognosis of diseases. In recognition of the growing need for large population studies to investigate the roles of genetic and environmental factors in disease causation and management, Etiology and Prevention researchers have been working toward infrastructure funding for

The extensive clinical and administrative databases enable or facilitate investigations that would be extremely difficult to achieve or would not otherwise be possible.

Larry Kushi, ScD joined DOR as the Associate Director for Etiology and Prevention Research in 2002.
THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH (DOR) Clinical Research Center is distinguished by its multi-functional capabilities designed to provide an efficient and pleasant setting for participants and staff. Clinical disciplines and departments come together at DOR in an environment that fosters a collaborative approach for improving the lives of its members through the conduct of observational studies and clinical trials. Experienced oversight of clinical operations is provided by the Center’s manager, Norma Bonghi, R.N.

With an annual clinical research budget of nearly $5 million dollars and twelve operational studies, research findings may have far-reaching implications for people of all ages in areas such as cancer, cardiovascular disease and diabetes, to name a few.

DOR’s Clinical Research Facilities offer the following:

- Accreditation to administer procedural sedation for gastrointestinal procedures. Overseen by the California Department of Health Services, the Joint Commission for Accreditation for Health Care Organizations (JACMO), Kaiser Oakland Medical Center Department of Quality and the Department of Accreditation, Regulation and Licensing.
- Over 24,000 square feet of floors available for clinical research.
- Designated rooms for bone densitometry, electrocardiograms, expanded monitoring and medical procedures, post recovery or surgical areas for patients where medical charts and study drugs – one negative pressure room for high disinfection.
- A newly acquired DEXA – Hologic 4500 unit for studies of osteoporosis in women. This model can acquire scans and perform analysis on AP Lumbar Spine, Left/Right Hip, Dual Hip Scan, Auto Analysis (Spine/Hip), Left/Right Forearm, Whole Body and AP/Lateral Imaging.
- Three laboratories, each equipped with refrigerated centrifuges, one -70°C countertop freezer and four small refrigerators for internal storage of specimens.
- Non-ventilated still air hood – providing enhanced product protection. Fumed hood – ensures occupational and environmental health and safety standards and regulations with chemical usage.
- Installed eyewash stations.
- Six low temperature freezers, five -20°C freezers and one refrigerator for short term storage of biological specimens.
- Twelve interview rooms, eight examination rooms, participant changing rooms with installed showers.
- Nearly 50 certified staff members implement clinical study protocols.
- Laboratory Improvement Amendment “point of care” testing site.

During the past two years, the Clinical Research Center has been the home of studies focusing on many aspects of health and disease such as women’s health (heart disease, osteoporosis, and breast cancer), genetic determinants of coronary heart disease, breast and prostate cancer prevention, and the use of complementary and alternative medicine. In 2005, the CARDIA (Cardiovascular Risk Development in Young Adults) study will conduct its 20-year follow up exam to track the evolution of cardiovascular risk factors and development of subclinical cardiovascular disease, and studies will be initiated to answer questions about the relationships of physical fitness to cardiovascular disease risk and of chronic lung disease to disability.

During the next several years, DOR will aim to sustain its strength in conducting observational studies and clinical trials to examine the potential for additional long term studies in areas of DOR’s experience that enhance the stability of clinical operations.

Improving the lives of members through the conduct of observational studies and clinical trials.

STEPHEN SIDNEY, MD, MPH has worked in DOR since 1992. In 1999, he became the Associate Director for Clinical Research.
NEW FACES

Elise M. Brown, J.D., MPH
Elise Brown, J.D., joined the Division of Research (DOR) as its first Director of Community Collaboration. In addition to a number of years practicing corporate law, Ms. Brown’s background includes founding and directing a community-based public policy organization focused on substance abuse in youth and three years as a program officer with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She is currently completing her DrPH at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health, in collaboration with Kaiser Permanente’s Community Relations Department. Ms. Brown will work to strengthen DOR ties to the communities served by Kaiser Permanente and help to further develop the Health Disparities agenda within DOR.

Joan C. Lo, MD
Dr. Joan Lo, endocrinologist, joined DOR as a Scholar with the joint University of California, San Francisco-DOR Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health (BIRCH) Program. Dr. Lo was previously Assistant Professor at the School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco. Her research interests include insulin resistance, polycystic ovary syndrome, syndromes of altered fat distribution, and bone metabolism in HIV infection, and endocrine disorders associated with renal disease.

Michael J. Silverberg, MPH, PhD
Prior to joining DOR as a Research Scientist, Dr. Michael Silverberg, epidemiologist, was an Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Epidemiology at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Silverberg’s research interests focus on the natural and treated history of HIV infection, co-infection with HIV and human papillomavirus (HPV) and other sexually transmitted infections, and mother-to-infant transmission of infections, including HPV and HIV.
Anne T. Albrecht, DrPH
Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: DrPH (Behavioral Science, Public Health) and MPH (Maternal and Child Health), University of California, Berkeley, CA.
Research Interests: Perinatal health services research; women's health; substance abuse; biostatistics.

Andrew J. Avellino, MD, MPH
Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: MD (Medicine), University of California, Irvine, CA; Internship: Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco; Residency: (Internal Medicine), Veterans Administration Hospital/Georgetown University, Washington, DC; MPH (Epidemiology), Harvard University, Boston, MA.
Research Interests: Preventive medicine; complementary and alternative medicine; health care effectiveness; health services research; clinical trials.

Academic Affiliations: Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

Amanda M. Adamiak, PhD
Biostatistician, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: PhD (Biostatistics), University of Colorado, Denver, CO; MS (Biomedical Engineering), Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.
Research Interests: Biostatistics; longitudinal data analysis; design and analysis of clinical trials.

Academic Affiliations: Lecturer, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

Mark Alexander, PhD
Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: PhD (Epidemiology), University of California, Berkeley, CA.
Research Interests: Cardiovascular epidemiology; community fitness initiatives.

Mary Anne Amstrong, MA
Co-Associate Director for Health Care Effectiveness (Acting) (2008), Biostatistician and Research Scientist, and Director, Biostatistical Consulting Unit, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: MA (Biostatistics), University of California, Berkeley, CA; Clinical Professor of Pediatric Infectious Disease, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA.
Research Interests: Perinatal health services research; women's health; substance abuse; biostatistics.

Academic Affiliations: Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of California, San Francisco, CA; Clinical Professor of Pediatric Infectious Disease, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA.

Beverly J. Chan, DrPH
Senior Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: DrPH (Behavioral Science, Public Health) and MPH (Epidemiology), University of California, Berkeley, CA.
Research Interests: Nutritional epidemiology; dietary measure ment and assessment; dietary intervention methods; nutritional risk factors for cancer and obesity; childhood obesity and the health effects of caffeine; women's health.

Douglas A. Conley, MD, MPH, PhD
Research Scientist, Division of Research; Attending Gastroenterologist, The Permanente Medical Group, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: MD (Medicine), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; Residency (Internal Medicine), Brigham and Women's Hospital-Harvard Medical School, Harvard University, MA; Fellowship (Gastroenterology), University of California, San Francisco, CA; MPH (Epidemiology) and MS (Epidemiology), University of California, Berkeley, CA.
Research Interests: Gastroenterology; medicine; epidemiology.

Academic Affiliations: Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

Steve Black, MD
Senior Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California; Director for Clinical Trials Research, The Permanente Medical Group; Co-Director, Kaiser Permanente Pediatric Vaccine Study Center.
Education: MD (Medicine), University of California, San Diego, CA; Residency, Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York City and Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco; Fellowship, (Pediatric Infectious Diseases), University of California, San Francisco, CA; Staff Pediatrition, Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, Oakland, CA.
Research Interests: Evaluation of vaccine safety and efficacy.

Academic Affiliations: Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of California, San Francisco, CA; Clinical Professor of Pediatric Infectious Disease, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA.

Gendal N. DeLarue, PhD
Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: PhD (Epidemiology) and MS (Epidemiology), University of California, Berkeley, CA.

Academic Affiliations: Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

Lisa A. Cosenza, PhD
Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: PhD (Epidemiology), University of California, Berkeley, CA.
Research Interests: Epidemiology of autism and neurodevelopmental disorders; environmental exposures and gene-environment interactions.

Academic Affiliations: Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of California, San Francisco, CA; Clinical Professor of Pediatric Infectious Disease, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA.

Health Services Research, Robert Wood Johnson Scholar, Stanford University, CA.
Research Interests: Perinatal health services research; informatics and computational methods; critical care; research; severity of illness scoring; outcome of high risk neonates; patient safety; human error; assessment of neonatal care.

Academic Affiliations: Affiliate Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology, University of Washington, WA.

Peace Emele, MA
Biostatistician and Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.
Education: MA (Sociology), Harvard University, Boston, MA.
Research Interests: Cost and outcomes of medical care; effectiveness and costs of chronic care and disease management programs, variations in the delivery and use of health services; vaccine efficacy and safety; patient participation in medical decisions.

(continued on next page)
Carol P. Sohn, PhD
Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.

Education: PhD (Sociology), Columbia University, New York, NY.

Research Interests: Breast cancer and cancer screening; clinical trials; race/ethnicity, social class and socioeconomic disparities in health; interventions aimed at improving health communication; health services research.

Academic Affiliations: Faculty member, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Health and Society Scholars Program.

Ralph Whittam, PhD
Research Scientist, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.

Education: PhD (Human Development), University of California, Davis, CA.

Research Interests: Drug and alcohol epidemiology; treatment outcomes and cost-effectiveness; access and utilization of behavioral health care.

Academic Affiliations: Scholar, Building Intercampus Research Coordination Network in Women’s Health (BRCWN) Program, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of California, San Francisco, CA.
ADJUNCT SCIENTISTS

The individuals below are Division of Research (DOR) Adjunct Research Scientists. In this capacity, they work closely with DOR scientists to conduct their research.

James Allison, MD, FACP, is a retired Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Allison received the Distinguished Clinical Scholar Award from the American Gastroenterological Association. He is interested in a broad spectrum of gastroenterology diseases, with a primary focus on screening for colorectal cancer and inflammatory bowel disease.

Los Barcellos, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at the School of Public Health, University of California at Berkeley, and holds an additional faculty research appointment in the Department of Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Barcellos' primary research interests are in genetic epidemiology, epigenetics, and statistical analysis of complex genetic diseases, including idiopathic lysosomal storage and hereditary diseases.

S. Claudio Johnston, MD, MPH, PhD, is an Associate Professor in Neurology and Epidemiology at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Johnston's research interests include treatment of stroke and brain aging, with a focus on understanding the role of inflammation in stroke, and the development of novel therapeutic approaches for stroke.

Arthur L. Klauber, MD, is a retired Professor of Neurology, University of California, San Francisco. His research interests include stroke, cerebral hemorrhage, and the treatment of neurological disorders.

Mark L. Stulsky, MD, MPH, PhD, is a Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City. Dr. Stulsky's primary research interests include the development and application of novel diagnostic tools and genetic epidemiology in the study of cancer and other complex diseases.

Michael E. Matarazzo, MD, is a Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. His research interests include the development and application of new therapeutic approaches for cancer and other complex diseases.

Marita E. Meyler, MD, PhD, is a Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Meyler's research interests include the development and application of new diagnostic tools and genetic epidemiology in the study of cancer and other complex diseases.

Donna D. Ostrander, MD, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Ostrander's research interests include the development and application of new therapeutic approaches for cancer and other complex diseases.
Mark Alexander is an active Member of the Kaiser Permanente African American Professional Association.

Mary Anne Armstrong was an invited speaker at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Intramural Coordination Committee on Federal Alcohol Syndrome. She is also a Member of the Kaiser Permanente Clinical Research Committee, the Kaiser Permanet Northern California (KPNC) Perinatal Substance Abuse Task Force, and the KPNC Listening to Members Service Enhancement Strategy Meeting Planning Committee, the Division of Research (DOR) Career Development Committee, the DOR Program/Analyst Promotion Committee, and Chair of the DOR Local Research Committee.

Andrew L. Axinn is a Member of the NIH National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine's Strategic Planning Committee, the Co-Director of the Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research Committee, KPNC, a Member of the Education Committee, University of California, San Francisco, Other Center for Integrative Medicine; Member, and a Member of both the DOR Data Committee and the DOR Investigator Career Development Committee. Dr. Axinn is also a past member of the DOR Scientific Planning and Policy Committee.

Steven Black is a Member of the Kaiser Permanente Research Compliance Oversight Committee and the Chair of the KPNC Clinical Trials Committee.

Bretta J. Cain was an invited speaker at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cancer Survivor Workshop and presented “Methodological Issues of Studies of Breast Cancer Survivors.” She is also a Member of the Women’s Health Initiative Steering Committee, Performance Monitoring Committee, and the Testosterone McMaster Committee. Dr. Cain is the Chair of the Women's Healthy Eating and Living Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee and the Chair for the kneel School District Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee for the city of Kennewick, CA. She is also an ad-hoc reviewer for the NIH on behavioral studies. Dr. Cain is also a past Member of the DOR Scientific Planning and Policy Committee.

Douglas A. Corley is a Member of the American Gastroenterological Association's Gastrointestinal Oncology section and the Epidemiology section. He is also an Ad-Hoc Member for NIH study sections and a Member of the DOR Career Development Committee. Dr. Corley maintains the roll of endoscopic plagiarism for the San Francisco, CA chapter of the Kaiser Permanente Central Research Committee.

Lisa A. Croen is an active Member of the DOR Scientific Planning and Policy Committee and the DOR Local Research Committee.

Gerald N. Delorenzo is a Member of both the DOR Local Research Committee and the Investigator and Biostatistician Career Development Committee.

Gabriel J. Escombr is a Member of The Permanente Medical Group’s Nursing Directors and Internists Committees, and a past Member of the DOR Scientific Planning and Policy Committee.

Anastasia Ferrer is a Member of the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Council for Epidemiology and Biostatistics and of the ADA Council for Diabetes in Pregnancy. She is a past Member of the NIH Special Study Section for Epidemiology and Disease Control center proposals, and a past Member of the Diabetes Foundation study section. Dr. Ferrer is a current Member of the DOR Investigator and Biostatistician Career Development Committee.

Bruce Fireman is a Member of the Kaiser Permanente Central Research Committee.

Alan S. Go is the Chair of NIH’s Health Services Organization and Delivery (HSOD) Health Services Research and Epidemiology Study Section, and a Member of the American College of Cardiology Committee on Development of Data Standards for Atrial Fibrillation, and the American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology/American Medical Association Consortium on Performance Measures for Atrial Fibrillation. He also is a Member of the American College of Chest Physicians Seventh Consensus Conference Workgroup on Antithrombotic Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation and is an invited Member of the American Heart Association/American Medical Advisory Council. Dr. Go is the DOR Co-Chair for the Cardiovascular Disease Research Interest Group and a past member of the DOR Scientific Planning and Policy Committee.

Nancy P. Gordon is a Member of the KPNC Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research Committee.

She also received the 2003 Astra Susan B. Anthony Award for Excellence in Research on Older Women and Public Health given by the Gerontological Society of the American Health Association.

Erica P. Grunderson is an Ad Hoc Reviewer for the NIH Psychosocial Risk and Disease Prevention Study Section, and a Member of the DOR Investigator and Biostatistician Career Development Committee. She received the 2003 StudieTah Fellowship for Cardiovascular Disease Research in Women’s Health awarded by the American Heart Association. Additionally, she was a Scholar for the Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health (BIRCWH) Program jointly led by the University of California, San Francisco, CA, and DOR.

Laurel A. Habel is an Ad Hoc Scientific Reviewer for NIH study sections. She is a Member and past Chair of the DOR Investigator and Biostatistician Career Development Committee. She is also a Member and past Chair of the DOR Research Information Coordinating Center.
Lisa J. Harrington is an Associate Editor for the American Journal of Epidemiology and a Member of the NCI-Medical Cancer Research Network Publications Committee.

John Hsu is a Member of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Health Care Technology and Decision Sciences Sciences Scientific Review Committee. He is also a Member of the Kaiser Permanente HealthCare Research and Evaluation Workshop, and the National Threat Assessment Clinical Workgroup. In 2003, he received the best abstract honor from the Behavioral Research Research Symposium. In 2003 and 2004, Dr. Hsu received outstanding abstract designation at both the 2003 and 2004 Academy Health Annual Conferences.

Erdal M. Haskel is an Associate Editor for the American Journal of Epidemiology and a Member of the NCI-Medical Cancer Research Network Publications Committee.

Carlos Inbar is a Member of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel and a Member of the American Heart Association Behavioral Science, Epidemiology and Prevention Study Group.

Andrew J. Karch is the Chair of the National Cancer Institute's Health and Developmental Working Group on Education and Health, a Member of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Social Sciences Program, and a Faculty Director in the Department of Health Research and Policy, Stanford University School of Medicine. He is a member of the Council of the Board for a new journal which will be launched in 2006, Current Diabetes Reviews. He is also a member of the Behavioral Research in Diabetes and Group Exchanges (BRIDGE). Dr. Karch is also a Member of the National Cancer Institute's Health Services Research and Policy, Stanford University School of Medicine. He is also a member of the National Cancer Institute's Health Services Research and Policy, Stanford University School of Medicine.

Deborah Li is an Associate Editor for the American Journal of Epidemiology and a Member of the Kaiser Permanente Scientific Advisory Committee for the National Surgical Care and Resource Study.

Joel C. Lo is a Scholar for the Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Program jointly led by the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of California, San Francisco, CA, and the Division of Research.

Charles R. Quinliven is the Chair of the OCR Research Biostatistics Committee.

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Jose V. Salvy is a Member of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Health Care Technology and Decision Sciences Sciences Scientific Review Committee. He is also a Member of the NCI-Medical Cancer Research Network Publications Committee.

Theodore R. Levin is a Member of the NCI-Medical Cancer Research Network Publications Committee.

Stephen Sidney is a Member of the American Heart Association, a Member of the National Cancer Institute's Health Services Research and Policy, Stanford University School of Medicine. He is also a Member of the Kaiser Permanente Scientific Advisory Committee for the National Surgical Care and Resource Study.

Deborah Li is an Associate Editor for the American Journal of Epidemiology and a Member of the Kaiser Permanente Scientific Advisory Committee for the National Surgical Care and Resource Study.

Carol R. Seeley is a Member of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Advisory Council for the State of California, Department of Health Services and a Member of the Cancer Council Committee of the National Surgical Care and Resource Study.

Stephen K. Van Den Beld is a Member of the NIH-Medical Cancer Research Network Publications Committee. He is also a Member of the NCI-Medical Cancer Research Network Publications Committee.
Research Studies were ongoing during the 2003 and 2004 calendar years. Many of the projects fall into one or more of the broad categories listed below, but are only listed once in the category that best fits the study objectives. Please note that: 1) If an investigator is listed as “Site Principal Investigator” (SPI), the study is a subcontract to the Division of Research, and the SPI is the Principal Investigator (PI) for the Kaiser Permanente (KP) site only, whereas if the notation is Principal Investigator, the investigator is the PI for the total project and 2) funding lists the primary source of funding, whether or not the funding is a subcontract to the Division of Research.

**AIDS/HIV**

**Effect of Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRI) on Adherence to Highly Active Anti-retroviral Therapy (HAART) in HIV- Patients**

Principal Investigator: Michael Horberg, MD

Funding: Kaiser Permanente Garfield Memorial Fund

This rational RF study will investigate the different rates and levels of adherence to medication regimen. when they are on HAART only, HAART and when SSRI is added, or when SSRI was present before HAART.

Epidemiology & Clinical Outcome of HIV/HCV Core-fication

Site Principal Investigator: Michael Horberg, MD

Funding: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease

This is a Kaiser Permanente program-wide analysis of an HIV+/HCV+ cohort, including testing rates in the organization will be compared to the VAS program wide cohort and treatment rates of HIV+/HCV+ patients.

**Fat Redistribution and Metabolic Change in HIV Infection**

Site Principal Investigator: Stephen Sinsky, MD, MPH

Funding: National Heart Lung and Blood Institute

This PAM study is a multi-center clinical study examining HIV-infected subjects and non-infected subjects to determine the prevalence of a peripheral lipodystrophy syndrome including peripheral fat redistribution, insulin resistance, and pre-atherogenic hyperlipidemia.

Patient Characteristics, Medical Errors and Adverse Events, and Best Practices: An Examination of the Kaiser Permanente Northern California, HIV-Infected Patient Population

Principal Investigator: Geraldi N. Delamore, PhD

Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

This Task Order investigates the occurrence of preventable medical
This study assesses the prevalence of alcohol and drug problems, by gender and age, within primary care clinics in the inner city of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Explore the relationship between alcohol consumption and smoking cessation in a large cohort study.

Cancer Breast

Clinical and Pathologic Predictors of Recurrence After Ductal Carcinoma in Situ

This project aims to identify clinical and pathologic factors that can more accurately identify ductal carcinoma in situ patients at high and low risk of a breast cancer recurrence.

DETECT: Cancer Research Network Across Health Care Systems-Screening Project 2: Reducing Cervical and Colorectal Cancer in Latino Breast Cancer

This study investigates factors associated with mammographic density and examines how differences change as women transition through menopause.

Patient-Oriented Outcomes of Prophylactic Mastectomy

This study provides information on patient-oriented outcomes for women and their health care providers considering prophylactic mastectomy.

Provision of Known Breast Cancer Risk Factors Among Kaiser Permanente Female Members: Age 45-65 Receiving a Health Examination in Marin County versus a Selected Portion of East Contra Costa County

Among patients diagnosed with ductal carcinoma in situ from 1990 to 1997 and treated with breast-conserving surgery, this study examines whether mammographic features of the breast at diagnosis predict risk of subsequent ipsilateral breast cancer.

Induced Abortion and Breast Cancer Risk

This study examines the association of induced abortion with breast cancer risk in women in the United States.

Life After Cancer Epidemiology (LACE) Study

This observational study examines post-treatment breast cancer survival outcomes.

Long Term Health Outcomes in Breast Cancer Survivors

This study follows women for up to four years and focuses on behavioral and medical predictors of recurrence, survival, quality of life in the long term.

Mammographic Density in a Multi-Ethnic Cohort

This study identifies factors associated with mammographic density and examines how differences change as women transition through menopause.

Tumor Gene Expression and Breast Cancer Survival

This study examines whether tumor gene expression technologies can accurately identify women at higher risk for breast cancer.

Women's Intervention Nutrition Study (WINS): Low-Fat Diet in Localized Breast Cancer—Outcome Trial

This study assesses the efficacy of a low-fat diet on survival after treatment of localized breast cancer.
CANCERS OTHER

A Nestled Case-Control Study of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Serum Levels of Organochlorines and Epstein-Barr Virus Serology Principal Investigator: Lisa J. Hemminki, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study assesses the potential association between exposure to organochlorines and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and Epstein-Barr virus serology. It aims to investigate the role of organochlorines in the development of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Model of Pancreatic Cancer Risk and Cigarette Smoking Principal Investigator: Brian A. Weinstock, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the role of cigarette smoking in the development of pancreatic cancer. It aims to identify the mechanisms by which smoking may increase the risk of pancreatic cancer.

Cancer Surveillance in HMO Administrative Data Site Principal Investigator: Charles P. Queener, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the surveillance practices of health maintenance organizations (HMOs) in the United States. It aims to identify gaps in cancer surveillance and improve the accuracy and completeness of cancer data.

Carcinogenesis and Cancer Risk Site Principal Investigator: Lawrence L. Klein, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the carcinogenic effect of carcinogens on the human body. It aims to identify the mechanisms by which carcinogens cause cancer and develop strategies to prevent cancer.

Molecular Epidemiology of Fatal Prostate Cancer Site Principal Investigator: Stephen K. Van Den Beren, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the molecular mechanisms underlying prostate cancer mortality. It aims to identify potential targets for therapeutic intervention and improve the treatment of prostate cancer.

Cancer Research Network Across Health Care Systems (CRNHS) – Infrastructure Site Principal Investigator: Lisa J. Hemminki, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the infrastructure and resources required for a national cancer research network. It aims to develop a comprehensive framework for conducting cancer research across different health care systems.

Carcinogenicity of Tobacco Use Site Principal Investigator: John W. Travis, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the carcinogenic effects of tobacco use on human health. It aims to identify the mechanisms by which tobacco causes cancer and develop strategies to reduce tobacco use.

Molecular Epidemiology of Fatal Prostate Cancer Site Principal Investigator: Stephen K. Van Den Beren, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the molecular mechanisms underlying prostate cancer mortality. It aims to identify potential targets for therapeutic intervention and improve the treatment of prostate cancer.

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Carcinogenicity of Tobacco Use Site Principal Investigator: John W. Travis, PhD Funding: National Cancer Institute This study examines the carcinogenic effects of tobacco use on human health. It aims to identify the mechanisms by which tobacco causes cancer and develop strategies to reduce tobacco use.
A Prospective Study of Predictors of Heart Failure in a Large Population
Principal Investigator: Arthur G. Etteli, MD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study examines a defined cohort of participants, survival, and the role of hospitalization among 2,000 persons with heart failure diagnosed from 1976-2000.

Aortic and Subclinical Atherosclerosis in Young Women
Principal Investigator: Barbara B. Smet, MD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study examines subclinical aortic calcification and clinical outcomes in young women and examines the relationship between aortic calcification and cardiovascular disease.

Clinical and Genomic Predictors of Myocardial Infarction in Coronary Disease
Principal Investigator: Alan S. Go, MD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study examines the role of genetic and lifestyle risk factors in the development of myocardial infarction in coronary disease.

Epidemiology and Outcomes of Arterial Complications of Chronic Fistula Failure in Hemodialysis
Principal Investigator: Alan S. Go, MD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study evaluates the impact of arteriovenous fistulas on patient survival and outcomes in hemodialysis patients.

End-stage Renal Disease in Young Adults
Principal Investigator: Carlos Iribarren, MD, MSc, PhD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study examines the prevalence and predictors of end-stage renal disease in young adults.

Cardiac and Renal Disease Study (CARDIS)
Principal Investigator: Carlos Iribarren, MD, MSc, PhD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study evaluates the relationship between cardiac and renal disease in young adults.

Coping with Heart Failure and Physical Therapy
Principal Investigator: Andrew J. Karter, PhD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study examines the role of physical therapy in the management of heart failure.

Does A Randomized Controlled Trial Predict the Subsequent Risk of Cancer or Myocardial Infarction?
Principal Investigator: Carlos Iribarren, MD, MSc, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Foundation Community Benefit Programs
This study examines the relationship between randomized controlled trials and the subsequent risk of cancer or myocardial infarction.

Longitudinal Study of Coronary Heart Disease Risk Factors in Young Adults (CARDIS)
Principal Investigator: Stephen Sidney, MD, MPH
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study examines the longitudinal study of coronary heart disease risk factors in young adults.

Air Pollution, Race, Socio-Economic Status, and Asthma Hospitalization Risk
Principal Investigator: Stephen K. VanDen Eek, MD, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
This study examines the relationship between air pollution and asthma hospitalization risk.

Long-term Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) Intervention
Principal Investigator: Harold J. Farber, MD
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study examines the health effects of long-term environmental tobacco smoke exposure.
COMPENSATORY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

Efficacy of Acupuncture for Chronic Low Back Pain
Site Principal Investigator: Andrei L. Arora, MD, MPH
Funding: National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
This randomized controlled trial is examining the use of acupuncture for the treatment of chronic low back pain.

Efficacy of Saw Palmetto Extract for Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy
Principal Investigator: Andrew L. Arora, MD, MPH
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
This single-center randomized clinical trial examines the effects of Saw Palmetto on the symptoms and objective flow parameters in patients with benign prostatic hypertrophy.

Massage Therapy for Cancer-Related Fatigue
Site Principal Investigator: Andrew L. Arora, MD, MPH
Funding: National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
This randomized pilot trial is studying the use of massage therapy interventions for the treatment of fatigue in patients with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, with a focus on the development of a valid and reliable methodology for studying the efficacy of massage therapy in the treatment of subjective outcomes.

Phytotherapy for Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
This randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial examines the effects of the saw palmetto and pygeum africanum plants on the lower urinary tract symptoms and quality of life in men with benign prostatic hypertrophy.

DIABETES

Cohort Study of Pregestational and Gestational Diabetes Mellitus in Patients With Diabetes Mellitus
Site Principal Investigator: Assenina Ferraro, MD, PhD
Funding: Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America
The objective of this study is to characterize the incidence and prevalence of gestational diabetes mellitus in women with a history of diabetes mellitus.

De Free Glucose Test Strips Increase Self-Monitoring?
Principal Investigator: Andrew J. Kartner, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
This study quantifies the impact of providing free self-monitoring of blood glucose (SMBG) strips to diabetic patients in terms of 1) individual-level utilization and glycemic control, 2) public health impact in terms of changes in glycemic control attributable to changes in adherence to recommended SMBG practice, and 3) the cost-effectiveness of providing free SMBG strips.

Educational Disparities in Diabetes Complications
Principal Investigator: Andrew J. Kartner, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
The study explored the link between education, as well as other socioeconomic indicators, and the incidence of diabetes complications, and identifies explanatory factors in a large, ethnically diverse, and well-defined population of diabetes mellitus patients.

Ethnic Disparities in Diabetes Complications
Principal Investigator: Andrew J. Kartner, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
This study seeks to identify ethnic differences in the incidence and antecedents of diabetes complications in a large population of African Americans, Asians, Caucasians, Hispanics, and Latinos, and examines health service utilization and etiologic factors of diabetes complications, including nephropathy, stroke, congestive heart failure, end-stage renal disease, lower-extremity amputation, and prostatic hypertrophy.

Glucose Response to Therapy
Principal Investigator: Andrew J. Kartner, PhD
Primary Source of Funding: Novartis Foundation
This one-year study of real-world effectiveness of diabetes therapies investigates whether the size of effect (e.g., improvement in HbA1c) afforded by initiating new diabetes therapies varies across different demographic and risk categories of patients with diabetes.

Hypertension, Dyslipidemia, and Diabetes Mellitus: Prevalence, Co-occurrence, Treatment, and Control in a Large Managed Care Population
Principal Investigator: Josef Selby, MD, MPH
Funding: Pfizer Inc.
This study describes the prevalence of co-occurrence, and treatment patterns of diabetes mellitus, hypertension, and dyslipidemia.

Incidence of Lung Cancer, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Prostate, and Pulmonary Fibrosis Among Patients with and without Diabetes Mellitus
Principal Investigator: Assenina Ferraro, MD, PhD
Funding: Pfizer Inc.
This study seeks to estimate the incidence of lung cancer in a cohort of diabetic patients to evaluate the relative incidence of lung cancer in diabetic patients within a treatment group, and to evaluate the risk of lung cancer in diabetic patients within a treatment group compared to that in non-diabetic population.

Increasing the Evidence Base for Retinopathy Screening Guidelines
Principal Investigator: Joe V. Selby, MD, MPH
Funding: American Diabetes Association
This observational study examines how retinopathy in diabetic patients varies by treatment regimen and how retinopathy changes over time.

Probability of Treating-to-Target: Type 2 Diabetes Patients from the Northern California Kaiser Permanente Diabetes Registry: Starting New Anti-Hyperglycemic Therapies
Principal Investigator: Andrew J. Kartner, PhD
Funding: Pfizer Inc.
This observational study evaluates the proportion of patients with Type 2 diabetes who are switched to new diabetes therapies and maintain glycemic control targets.

The Epidemiology of Anemia in Patients With Diabetes
Principal Investigator: Andrew J. Kartner, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs
This cohort and nested case-control study characterizes the [continued on next page]
testing, prevalence, predictors, and treatment of clinically-recognized anemia in a large, ethnically-diverse, well-defined population of adult diabetes patients.

Translational Research Center for Diabetes Control Within Managed Care III Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Joe S. Soloff, MD, MPH
Funding: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
This project assesses current levels of diabetes control in a managed care setting. It analyzes health care provider and patient-level factors that influence the effectiveness of care, identifies new quality indicators, and identifies and evaluates the improved level of screening and risk management for patients with diabetes.

Specialized Centers of Research: Diabetic Retinopathy/Hemorrhagic Risk Factors II Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen K. Van Deeren, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
This study investigates the role of diabetes in the incidence among women at the University of California, San Francisco, Division of Research Investigations under the Specialized Centers of Research (SCR) in Women's Health.

DISPARITIES IN HEALTH CARE

African Americans and Breast Cancer: What Works? Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Carol P. Smolen, PhD and Priscilla Banks, MA
Funding: California Breast Cancer Research Program
This study examines the possible effects of health care system and communication barriers on the use of breast cancer screening and the effects of outreach to limited-resource, uninsured, and underserved African American women.

Cancer Screening, Managed Care, and the Underserved Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Carol P. Smolen, PhD
Funding: National Cancer Institute
This multi-site project aims to increase breast and cervical cancer screening and improve follow-up among low-income and minority women.

Cross Cultural Communication and Colorectal Screening Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Carol E. Smolen, PhD
Funding: National Cancer Institute
This study identifies the cultural, social, and psychological factors that influence the effectiveness of patient communication on colorectal cancer (CRC) screening, and develops and tests communication strategies that enable providers to bridge the most important cultural, social, and psychological differences for a CRC screening referral.

Ethnic Disparities in Childhood Stroke Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Sidney, MD, MPH
Funding: American Heart Association
This study evaluates the prevalence and incidence of childhood stroke and identifies differences in outcomes by race and ethnicity.

Ethnic Disparities in Perinatal Outcomes Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Gabriel J. Escobar, MD
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
This study aims to explore the relationship between perinatal outcomes and sociodemographic factors among racial and ethnic groups.

Increasing Effectiveness of Cancer Control Interventions: Enrolling Vietnamese and Chinese Women in Breast Cancer Treatment and Prevention Trials Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Carol P. Smolen, PhD
Funding: National Cancer Institute
This study explores the barriers inhibiting the participation of Asian women in breast cancer treatment and prevention trials.

Oncology eCare
Principal Investigator: Dr. Emily Hanke, MA
Funding: Sanofi-Pasteur Merieux North American Fund
This randomized clinical trial, web-based interviews will be conducted to determine if an eCare intervention can increase the ability of patients to function independently in activities performed daily, such as eating and dressing.

Epidemiology of Infections in Patients with HIV
Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Sidney, MD, MPH
Funding: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
This study examines the incidence and prevalence of HIV infection in an at-risk population.

Elderly

Disability of Functional Limitations in the Elderly (FLAIR)
Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Joe S. Soloff, MD, MPH
Funding: National Institute on Aging
This study examines physical functions that are often affected by illness in the elderly, specifically by understanding how people use the ability to function independently in activities performed daily, such as eating and dressing.

Eldership in the United States
Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Emily Hanke, MA
Funding: National Institute on Aging
This study examines the prevalence of elder abuse in the elderly over a 10-year period.

Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Disease Management Model of the Treatment of Depression Among Elderly Primary Care Patients in a Managed Care Setting
Principal Investigator: Dr. Emily Hanke, MA
Funding: California Healthcare Foundation
This study examines the impact of disease management in primary care on the treatment of older adults, particularly minority and socially economically limited.

Optimal Brain Health in the Elderly
Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Sidney, MD, MPH
Funding: National Institute on Aging
This study examines the relationship between brain function and age in a sample of patients aged 60 years or older.

Senior Immunization Status Validation Study Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Nancy P. Grimson, MD
Funding: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
This study links self-reported immunization status with new evidence in electronic medical records to assess the concordance of the two sources.

GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS

A Cohort Study of Risk Factors for Liver Cirrhosis Site Adjunct Principal Investigator: Dr. Arthur Kirkby, MD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Program
This project seeks to identify risk factors for liver cirrhosis in a large, diverse, multiethnic cohort of men and women.

Complications of Colonoscopy in Asymptomatic Patients Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Theodore L. Levin, MD
Funding: National Institute on Aging
This study examines the incidence and prevalence of colonoscopy done for screening, surveillance or other preventive screening tests as to better inform decisions making in asymptomatic average risk individuals.

Evaluating the Incidence and Prevalence of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) and Variation in Prevalence and Health Care Utilization for IBD among Ten Geographically Diverse Managed Care Organizations Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Lisa J. Harrington, PhD
Funding: Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America
This study describes the incidence and prevalence of Barrett’s esophagus.

Etiology and Incidence of Barrett’s Esophagus Site Principal Investigator: Dr. Douglas A. Oeser, MD, MPH, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Cancer Institute
This project evaluates the prevalence and incidence of Barrett’s esophagus and the potential risk factors among a sample of Barrett’s esophagus patients, and examines the potential for the development of gastrointestinal reflux disease.

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Etiologies/Surveillance of Barrett’s Esophagus
Principal Investigator: Douglas A. Corley, MD, MPH, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
This project evaluates endoscopic surveillance in patients with the preneoplastic condition of Barrett’s esophagus, and investigates environmental, dietary, and pharmacological risk factors for Barrett’s esophagus.

Inflammatory Bowel Disease Registry
Principal Investigator: Theodore R. Levin, MD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefits Programs
This project develops a database of patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) through linking of existing automated clinical and administrative databases. This data will be used to study practice patterns, health economics, and epidemiology of IBD.

Long-term, Prospective, Observational Study of the Risk of Cancer Among Pancreatitis Users
Site Principal Investigator: Douglas A. Corley, MD, MPH, PhD
Funding: Wyeth Pharmaceuticals
This study examines pregnancy outcomes in a population-based sample of women with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and women without IBD.

Natural History of Ulcerative Colitis Following Initial Hospitalization
Principal Investigator: Lisa J. Herrington, PhD
Funding: Protein Design Labs, Inc.
This study examines rates of remission, colostomy, referral, and steroid dependence, as well as length of stay and complications rates among this group of patients with severe ulcerative colitis.

Population-Based Study of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Incidence and Prevalence by Disease Subtype and Severity
Principal Investigator: Lisa J. Herrington, PhD
Funding: Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation
This project estimates the incidence and prevalence of IBD by disease subtype and severity using our existing population-based IBD registry assembled from computerized data.

Safety of Statins in Patients with Liver Disease
Principal Investigator: Theodore R. Levin, MD
Funding: Merck & Company, Inc.
The goal of this study is to examine the safety of statins and other statin medications in patients with minor derangements of liver tests.

Sentinel Surveillance for Chronic Liver Disease
Site Principal Investigator: M. Michelle Marus, PhD, MPH
Funding: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
This project seeks to determine the incidence of hepatitis C, HBV, HCV, and other persistent liver diseases and to identify risk factors for these diseases.

These new genetic risk factors or risk modifiers to improve the risk stratification and application of standard therapy for patients with idiopathic autoimmune hepatitis.

Genetics, Environment and Parkinson’s Disease: Studies in Four Unique Cohorts
Site Principal Investigator: Stephen Van K, Den Exter, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
This project aims to understand the relative contributions of genetic and environmental factors to the etiology of typical Parkinson’s disease using four unique populations, including the Parkinson’s Epidemiology in Kansas, or PEAK study population.

Genetic Vulnerability and Prenatal Exposure to the Etiopathogenesis of Schizophrenia: A Birth Cohort Study
Site Principal Investigator: Catharine Schluef, PhD
Funding: Essel Foundation
This study lays the groundwork for a series of investigations examining the interplay between genetic vulnerability and prenatal risk factors in the etiopathogenesis of schizophrenia.

Health Plan Members’ Attitudes Toward Genetic Research
Principal Investigator: Catharine Schluef, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefits Programs
This project supports a series of survey and focus group studies toward participation in genetic research.

Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) Homozygosity/Sharing and the Risk of Preeclampsia
Principal Investigator: De-Kun Li, MD, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefits Programs
This study examines whether prenatal sharing of the same HLA alleles and the transmission of the shared alleles to offspring, increase the risk of preeclampsia.

Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) Sharing and the Risk of Preeclampsia
Principal Investigator: De-Kun Li, MD, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefits Programs
This study examines whether prenatal sharing of the same HLA alleles and the transmission of the shared alleles to offspring, increase the risk of preeclampsia.
Inflammation/Thrombosis Genomics and Subclinical Coronary Atherosclerosis: A Coronary Heart Disease Risk Factors in Young Adults (CARDIA) Ancillary Study

Principal Investigator: Carlos Ferrier, MD, Ph.D.
Funding: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
This study assesses the association of common patterns of genetic variation (haplotypes) in a set of inflammation/ thrombosis genes with both quantitative intermediate phenotypes and early-onset coronary atherosclerosis.

Management Options for Women at Low to Moderate Risk for Inherited Breast Cancer in a Multidisciplinary Health Plan Population

Principal Investigator: Catherine Scherler, Ph.D.
Funding: National Breast Cancer Research Fund
This study used focused groups, a mailed survey, and telephone interviews to identify factors affecting women’s attitudes toward and participation in genetic testing for breast cancer susceptibility.

Oxidative Stress and Antioxidant Status in Human Breast Cancer

Principal Investigator: Stephen S. Lee, M.D., Ph.D.
Funding: Celera Diagnostics
This study examines the association of antioxidants that increase the risk of breast cancer with various chronic diseases in young women who were studied in the relationship to antioxidant status using a VTE.

Parental Sharing of HLA Alleles and Transmission of the Shared Alleles in Relation to the Risk of Crohn’s Disease

Principal Investigator: De-Kun Li, M.D., Ph.D.
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs
This study describes the relationship of genetic factors to the development of Crohn’s disease.

Pharmacogenetics of Martindale Transplant

Pharmacogenetics of Transplanter Antithrombotic Medication

Principal Investigator: Catherine Scherler, Ph.D.
Funding: National Institute of General Medical Sciences
This study examines the potential genetic determinants of the therapeutic and adverse effects of antiplatelet and anticoagulant medications.

HEALTH PROMOTION

Email-Based Diet and Activity Promotions in Worksite

Principal Investigator: Barbara Sturbrick, M.D.
Funding: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Cancer Institute (NCI) Preventive Health and Behavior Promotion
This study evaluates the efficacy of a diet, exercise, and physical activity intervention program, delivered by e-mail, within the workplace environment.

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH: COST

Care At The Person’s Place of Residence

Principal Investigator: John Hsu, M.D., M.B.A., M.S.C.E.
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs
This study examines the impact of a program that reduces the cost of care for people with chronic diseases.

Health Services Research: General

Accelerating the Cycle of Research Through a Network of Integrated Delivery Systems (Master Task Order)

Principal Investigator: Joe W. Selby, M.D., M.P.H.
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Policy
This study evaluates the impact of a network of integrated delivery systems on the cycle of research.

Innovative Technology for the Management of Cardiovascular Disease

Principal Investigator: John Hsu, M.D., M.B.A., M.S.C.E.
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Foundation
This study evaluates the impact of innovative technologies on the management of cardiovascular disease.

Golden Noodles in the Hay: Use of “Electronic Signatures” to Support Quality Improvement in Kaiser Permanente

Principal Investigator: Gabriel J. Elarie, M.D.
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Foundation
This project aims to develop a tool to identify potential quality improvement opportunities in electronic medical records and to support quality improvement initiatives.

Healthcare Information Technology (HIT) On Clinical Care

Principal Investigator: John Hsu, M.D., M.B.A., M.S.C.E.
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Policy
This study evaluates the impact of healthcare information technology on clinical care.

Information Technology for the Management of Cardiovascular Disease

Principal Investigator: Joe W. Selby, M.D., M.P.H.
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Foundation
This study evaluates the impact of information technology on the management of cardiovascular disease.

Measuring the Value of Dementia Management: RCT or CEAT?

Principal Investigator: Joe W. Selby, M.D., M.P.H.
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
This study supports a randomized controlled trial sponsored by the Division of Research and Clinical Medicine to examine the complex issues related to measuring the benefits and costs of dementia management programs.

Methods for Developing Actionable Evidence for Consumers of Health Services Research

Principal Investigator: Barbara Sturbrick, M.D.
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
This study identifies methods and tools to help close the gap between the creation and use of evidence for health care decision-making.

National Blotter: Syndromic Surveillance Demonstration Program

Principal Investigator: John Hsu, M.D., M.B.A., M.S.C.E.
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
This study evaluates the impact of syndromic surveillance on the management of infectious diseases.

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MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH DIABETES

Gestational Diabetes: Diagnostic Criteria and Outcomes
Principal Investigator: Assantra Ferrara, MD, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This study examines the prevalence of gestational diabetes and its outcomes in a large, diverse population. The study findings will inform the development of evidence-based guidelines for the management of gestational diabetes.

Impact of Postpartum Hypoglycemia on Maternal Outcomes
Principal Investigator: Assantra Ferrara, MD, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This study investigates the impact of postpartum hypoglycemia on maternal outcomes, including the risk of subsequent gestational diabetes and long-term health effects.

Pregnancy and Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) and Type 2 Diabetes
Principal Investigator: Assantra Ferrara, MD, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This study examines the relationship between pregnancy and risk factors for CVD and Type 2 diabetes, including maternal and fetal outcomes.

Maternal and Infant Health: Preconceptional Care
Principal Investigator: Assantra Ferrara, MD, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This study investigates the impact of preconceptional care on maternal and infant health outcomes, including the risk of gestational diabetes and preterm birth.

HMO Research Network CERT II: Enhanced Identification of Adverse Drug Reactions
Principal Investigator: Lisa J. Hempton, PhD
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

This study develops a novel method for the identification of adverse drug reactions using electronic health record data.

The CERT Prescribing Safety Program: Quality Improvement Intervention
Principal Investigator: Joe V. Salty, MD, MPH
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

This project aims to improve the safety of prescribing by developing and implementing a comprehensive program for clinicians, patients, and caregivers.

Systems Research Initiative
Principal Investigator: Gabriel J. Escobar, MD
Funding: The Permanente Medical Group, Inc.

This initiative supports research that enhances the delivery of high-quality care through the use of innovative technologies and strategies.

A Phase III, Randomized, Double-Blind, Multicenter Clinical Trial Comparing the Safety and Efficacy of Verapamil versus Placebo for the Prevention of Nosocomial Staphylococcal Sepsis in Premature Infants (BIRTH)
Principal Investigator: Gabriel J. Escobar, MD
Funding: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

This study evaluates the safety and efficacy of verapamil as a prophylactic agent for the prevention of nosocomial staphylococcal sepsis in premature infants.

MATERIAL AND CHILD HEALTH GENERAL

An Economic and Policy Analysis of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Stimulant Drugs
Principal Investigator: Laura L. Habel, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Mental Health

This study seeks to improve understanding of the economic and policy implications of ADHD and stimulant use, including the impact on healthcare costs and patient outcomes.

Type 2 Diabetes Among Children and Adolescents: Case Definition, Characteristics, and Quality of Care
Principal Investigator: Assantra Ferrara, MD, PhD
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This study develops case definitions and guidelines for the diagnosis and management of Type 2 diabetes in children and adolescents, with a focus on improving the quality of care provided to this vulnerable population.

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**Biologic Markers of Maternal Infections and Immune Function in Autism**

**Principal Investigator:** Lisa A. Cohen, PhD

**Funding:** National Alliance for Autism Research

This study analyzes newborn blood samples from a population-based sample of children with autism and control children to investigate the correlation of maternal infection and immune function during pregnancy to autism risk.

**California Center for Excellence for Autism Epidemiology**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Lisa A. Cohen, PhD

**Funding:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

This program seeks to describe a broad range of environmental factors contributing to the incidence and severity of childhood autism.

**Comprehensive Linked Data Collection of Medical Events and Immunization (Vaccine Safety and Development Datalink)**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Steven Stolz, MD and Henry R. Sheinfeld, MD

**Funding:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

This project expands and maintains a large linked database that contains comprehensive medical events file for an annual birth cohort of 256,000 children and assesses the rate of occurrence of medical events after immunization in children and adolescents.

**Does Rapid Increase in Newborn Feeding Lead to Intestinal Inflammation or Perforation? A Matched Case-Control Study on the Etiology of Necrotizing Enterocolitis in Very Premature Infants**

**Principal Investigator:** Gabrielle J. Escobar, MD

**Funding:** Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This project provides information permitting neonatologists to develop national feeding protocols for premature infants.

**Environmental Factors in Etiology of Autism**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Lisa A. Cohen, PhD

**Funding:** National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

This case-control study is the first large-scale epidemiological study examining autism in relation to a broad array of environmental exposures and exogenous susceptibility factors.

**Exposure to Bisphenol A and Reproductive Effects in Humans**

**Principal Investigator:** Deacon Li, MD, PhD

**Funding:** National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Conducted in China, this observational cohort study examines the reproductive effects of exposure to Bisphenol A, an endocrine disruptor widely used in consumer products, on exposed women, their spouses, and their offspring.

**Five-Year Outcome of Severe Neonatal Jaundice and Dehydration (SJF) Study**

**Adjoint Principal Investigator:** Thomas Newman, MD, MPH

**Funding:** National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

This study assesses outcomes in intelligence quotient and neurological status of children with severe jaundice and/or dehydration as newborns.

**Further Analysis of Data on the Relationship Between Perinatal Exposure to EME and the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Deann Li, MD, PhD

**Funding:** Foundation of California Department of Health Services

This study seeks to identify factors that may explain the observed association between magnetic field exposure and the risk of sudden infant death syndrome.

**Individual, Family, and Societal Outcomes of Infertility**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Gabrielle J. Escobar, MD

**Funding:** National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

This retrospective cohort study examines whether pregnancies occurring in infertile patients are at higher risk for adverse outcomes, including pregnancy complications, labor and delivery complications, neonatal and perinatal outcomes, as compared to pregnancies conceived by fertile women.

**Infant Functional Status and Discharge Management**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Gabrielle J. Escobar, MD

**Funding:** Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This project aims to identify optimal, evidence-based discharge strategies for premature infants.

**Longitudinal Maternal Health and Adverse Birth Outcomes**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Gabrielle J. Escobar, MD

**Funding:** National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

This study assesses the effects of preconceptional health status on perinatal outcomes in a multicenter, multicohort from the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Longitudinal Study of Mood Circumstances in Autism: A Pilot Project**

**Principal Investigator:** Lisa A. Cohen, PhD

**Funding:** National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

This pilot project examines the association between mood and diet in the first few years of life.

**Long-Term Prospective, Observational Study of the Risk of Cancer Among Participating Users**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Douglas Corley, MD, MPH, PhD

**Funding:** Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

This study determines pregnancy outcomes in a population-based sample of women with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and women without IBD.

**Placental Thrombosis and Neurologic Outcome (PLATO) Study**

**Principal Investigator:** Lisa A. Cohen, PhD

**Funding:** Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This retrospective cohort study examines the risk of neonatal impairment in early childhood associated with a history of placental thrombosis.

**Pregnancy Outcomes in Women with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Douglas Corley, MD, MPH, PhD

**Funding:** Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America

This project determines the overall fetal outcome in the IBD versus non-IBD pregnancy and predictors of poor outcome, with special attention to intrauterine growth restriction.

**Preventive Medicine Use and Misuse**

**Principal Investigator:** Deann Li, MD, PhD

**Funding:** National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

This study examines whether use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) during pregnancy, especially around the time of conception, increases the risk of pregnancy, perinatal, and neonatal complications.

**Prevention and Neonatal Risk Factors for Childhood Autism**

**Principal Investigator:** Lisa A. Cohen, PhD

**Funding:** Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This case-control study characterizes autism risk in relation to several perinatal, birth, and perinatal factors in a well-defined, insured population in the United States.

**Prevalence of Intermittent Outcomes and Data in Nebraska: The Kaiser Permanente Neonatal Minimum Data Set (NPMD)**

**Principal Investigator:** Gabrielle J. Escobar, MD

**Funding:** Kaiser Foundation Health Plan

The NPMD is a statewide network linking seven neonatal intensive care units and is being used to monitor neonatal outcomes and utilization, in addition to serving as an engine for evidence-based practice change in neonatology.

**Self-Reporting of Unintended Pregnancy Among Kaiser Permanente Members in Northern California**

**Principal Investigator:** Mary Anne Armstrong, MA

**Funding:** Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

This study establishes a baseline data about pregnancy intention among members and compares these data to national statistics about pregnancy intention.

**Stop: in Synth:** Establishing a Research and Quality Improvement Partnership Between Colorado and Northern California

**Principal Investigator:** Gabriel J. Escobar, MD

**Funding:** Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Programs

Using state-of-the-art risk adjustment methodologies, this project examines several outcomes affecting infant 1) recognition for jaundice and 2) hospitalization for dehydration.

**Risk Factors for Perinatal Stroke: A Population-Based Study**

**Site Research Principal Investigator:** Lisa A. Cohen, PhD

**Funding:** United Cerebral Palsy Research and Educational Foundation

This case-control study examines maternal and perinatal risk factors for perinatal stroke.

**Unidentified Infants: Low Risk Babies in a High Risk Place**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Gabriel J. Escobar, MD

**Funding:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

This project studies the infants who make up the majority of newborns who die, post-discharge (to age 3 months) in newborns in these infants.

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

**Ascertainment of Environmental Exposure during Pregnancy**

**Site Principal Investigator:** Gerald D. Dolezello, PhD

**Funding:** Tobacco Related Disease Research Program

Using a comprehensive battery of physiologic tests, this study examines the effect of maternal smoking during pregnancy. The study results will directly influence the development of a smoking cessation intervention for the revised California Birth Certificate and the U.S. National Immunization Program.

**High Risk Women Receiving Substance Abuse Intervention During Prenatal Care**

**Principal Investigator:** Mary Anne Armstrong, MA

**Funding:** National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

This study seeks to characterize the subgroup of pregnant women who initiate smoking during pregnancy and to identify factors associated with low risk of smoking during pregnancy.

**How Much Does She Really Drink? An HMO Intervention**

**Principal Investigator:** Mary Anne Armstrong, MA

**Funding:** National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

This study seeks to increase awareness of the importance of prenatal smoking during pregnancy and to demonstrate the applicability of a simple, targeted intervention in a managed care organization.

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MENTAL HEALTH
A Comparison of the Incidence of Suicide Attempts and Committed Suicides, Patient Compliance, Achievement Events, and the Need for Supplemental Antidepressants Medications Among Bipolar Patients Treated with Lithium (Extended and Immediate Release) or Desipramine in a Managed Care Setting
Site Principal Investigator: End M. Hunkeler, MA
Funding: Eli Lilly and Company
Title: Depression Initiative II
This study examines the prevalence of (1) detected and undetected depression, (2) depression and chronic pain, and (3) chronic pain alone, in a population of patients recently seen in the primary care setting of a managed care organization.
Understand Depression and Other Comorbidities to Develop Suicide Behavior Intervention for Adolescents
Principal Investigator: Constance M. Weikens, MD, MPH, FASAM
Funding: Eli Lilly and Company
This study addresses how to best identify at-risk youth, adolescents at risk for committing suicide, and how and where to best locate an intervention designed to prevent suicide or a suicide attempt.
METABOLIC DISORDERS
Bariatric Surgery Registry Development
Principal Investigator: Stephen Sidney, MD, MPH
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Garfield Memorial Fund
This study is a demonstration project to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of enrolling patients who have completed one of two weight management programs offered by Kaiser Permanente into a general Pediatric Weight Management Program.
Health Care Utilization Patterns Among Obese Children (Cost of Obesity)
Principal Investigator: Betty J. Cusick, M.D.
Funding: Hoffman-La Roche, Inc.
Title: describes study
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Weight Maintenance for Weight Management Interventions for Children
Principal Investigator: Betty J. Cusick, M.D.
Funding: Kaiser Permanente Garfield Memorial Fund
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This study is a demonstration project to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of enrolling children who have completed one of two weight management programs offered by Kaiser Permanente into a general Pediatric Weight Management Program.
NEUROLOGIC DISORDERS
Pre-diagnostic Markers of Infection and Risk of Multiple Sclerosis
Site Principal Investigator: Gerald N. DeLorenzo, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
This study investigates selected medial markers that may explain the inverse association that has been observed between smoking and Parkinson's disease.
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Collaborative Centers for Parkinson's Disease Environmental Research (CCPERD)
Site Principal Investigator: Stephen K. Van Den Eeden, PhD
Funding: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
This study seeks to evaluate gene-environmental risk factors for Parkinson's disease in a collaborative effort using four populations, including the PERSAR, or Parkinson's Epidemiology in Kaiser study population.
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Pilot Study of Retinal Lesions in Kessler Permanente - Principal Investigator: Stephen K. Van Den Eeden, PhD Funding: Retinal Lesions Syndrome Foundation

Epidemiology of Physical Activity and Ovarian Function - Site Principal Investigator: Barbara Sternfeld, PhD Funding: National Institutes on Aging

Influence of Physical Activity on Body Composition and Resting Energy Expenditure During the Menopause Transition - Principal Investigator: Barbara Sternfeld, PhD Funding: American Heart Association

Sleep During the Perimenopause in a Multi-Ethnic Cohort, a SWAN sub-study - Site Principal Investigator: Barbara Sternfeld, PhD Funding: National Institutes on Aging

SPECIALIZED CENTER OF RESEARCH (SCOR) Biostatistics Core: Reproductive Hormonal Risk Factors II - Site Principal Investigator: Stephen K. Van Den Eeden, PhD Funding: National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Specialized Center of Research (SCOR) Urinary Incontinence: Reproductive Hormonal Risk Factors I - Site Principal Investigator: Stephen K. Van Den Eeden, PhD Funding: National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Women's Health Initiative - Bone Health Disease Site Principal Investigator: Betty J. Caan, DPhil Funding: National Cancer Institute

Women's Health Initiative - The Memory Study (WHIMS) Site Principal Investigator: Betty J. Caan, DPhil Funding: National Cancer Institute

Renal Toward the Optimal Timing of Initiation of Dialysis: An Evidence-Based Approach - Site Principal Investigator: Alan S. Go, MD Funding: National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

The Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort (CRIC) Study - Principal Investigator: Alan S. Go, MD Funding: National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

Women's Health: Burden of Illness Associated with Premenstrual Syndrome - Site Principal Investigator: Barbara Sternfeld, PhD Funding: Eli Lilly and Company

This study describes the impact of premenstrual symptoms on functional status, productivity and health care utilization, and evaluates the economic burden associated with the spectrum of premenstrual symptoms.


Alexandrescu M, Gordon NP, Davis CC, Chen RS. Patient knowledge and acceptance of hypertension is suboptimal.


Sixty years ago, when Kaiser Permanente began providing health care to shipyard workers, Sidney Garfield, a co-founder, wrote that the organization should always provide its own research since health services research is essential to providing and maintaining a high quality of patient care and services.

This 2003-2004 Research Activities Report of the Kaiser Permanente Division of Research demonstrates that this goal of our founders is being fulfilled. The continuing growth and expansion of the Division of Research promises a rewarding future.

The high quality of research conducted by Kaiser Permanente has been acclaimed nationally as a model for prepaid group practices. The Division of Research has been applauded for its large and varied body of published research, for the research methods employed, for the research areas examined and reported, and for the effects of its research on medical practice.

Morris F. Collen, M.D., Director Emeritus
THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH conducts, publishes, and disseminates high-quality epidemiologic and health services research to improve the health and medical care of Kaiser Permanente members and the society at large. It seeks to understand the determinants of illness and well-being and to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care. To accomplish these goals, the Division of Research is committed to providing a supportive research environment that fosters independent thinking, creativity, continued learning and adherence to the highest scientific standards.