



Director's Welcome

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you have had a productive, interesting (but not too interesting!) and enjoyable year. It's my pleasure to share with you the many achievements of The CHOICE Institute faculty, students and alumni for fall 2019.

Beth Devine and **Anirban Basu** have launched an NHLBI-funded 3-yr, \$3M project to develop a simulation model that will give insight into the clinical and economic benefits of cures for sickle cell disease over the lifetime of the patients. The goal is to clarify the potential long-term benefits of genetic therapies for this genetic disease. **Ryan Hansen** and **Greg Guzauskas** recently presented at the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review's (ICER) New England CEPAC Meeting on Type 2 Diabetes at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island.

Kritee Gujral's recent NBER working paper, "The Impact of Rural and Urban Hospital Closures on Inpatient Mortality," which used California's inpatient data from 1995-2011, showed that rural closures increase patient mortality by 5.9%, whereas urban closures have no measurable impact.

CHOICE recently hosted a [DARTH Workshop](#) on simulation modeling using R. Students and faculty enjoyed the 3-day workshop and headed to Portland, OR immediately after to attend

the Society for Medical Decision Making Annual Meeting.

CHOICE alumna **Blythe Adamson** at Flatiron led a study with FDA that was published in JAMA. The investigators used a set of interrupted time series regression models to look at the impact of an FDA alert and label change for immunotherapy that had received an accelerated approval for bladder cancer. Alumnus **Will Canestaro** at Washington Research Foundation was recognized as Health Innovation Northwest top 10 finalist for 2019 Health Innovators of the Year, and **Jon Watanabe** is a 2019-2020 National Academy of Medicine Emerging Leader in Health and Medicine Scholar.

Warm holiday wishes to you, your family, and friends! We hope to see you soon in the new year.

Sincerely,
Dave

David Veenstra, PharmD, PhD
Professor
Interim Director, The CHOICE Institute

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Fall Quarter Updates

Highlights from The CHOICE Institute



Welcome Dr. Jens Grueger to the CHOICE Faculty

The CHOICE Institute is pleased to welcome Dr. Grueger to the School of



CHOICE Team presents at the ICER CEPAC Meeting on Type 2 Diabetes

Ryan Hansen and Greg Guzauskas created a cost-effectiveness microsimulation model to evaluate the value of oral



Kritee Gujral and Anirban Basu Examine Impact of Rural Hospital Closures

Their recent NBER working papers showed that rural closures

Pharmacy as an Affiliate
Professor

semaglutide added to
ongoing background
diabetes treatment

increase patient mortality
by 5.9%, whereas urban
closures have no
measurable impact.



Teams at The CHOICE Institute and Fred Hutch look at emerging sickle cell disease therapies

The National Institutes of Health's National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) funded a unique collaborative: The Sickle Cell Clinical and Economic Impact Consortium, which brings together The CHOICE Institute at the UW School of Pharmacy (UWSOP), Fred Hutch, NHLBI, and The Emmes Corporation. The Collaborative enables the two teams at The CHOICE Institute and the Fred Hutch to develop models that will give insight into the clinical and economic benefits of cures for sickle cell disease over the lifetime of the patients. The UW School of Pharmacy team is led by Principal Investigator and CHOICE Director Anirban Basu, with CHOICE Professor Beth Devine and Seattle Children's M.A. Bender serving as co-investigators. Fred Hutch's team is led by Dr. Joshua Roth along with co-investigator Dr. Scott Ramsey.

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More Highlights and Publications

In October we were pleased to welcome the Decision Analysis in R for Technologies in Health (DARTH) Working Group to campus who led a three-day, hands-on workshop for students and faculty titled, Health, Cost Effectiveness Analysis and Decision Modeling Using R. [Learn more about the DARTH Working Group.](#)



After our DARTH Workshop concluded, we headed straight to Portland for the 41st Annual SMDM North American Meeting.

RECAP FROM SMDM

Anirban Basu began his 4-year term in October from 2019 – 2023 as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board for Value in Health Journal. Congratulations, Anirban!

CHOICE Alumnus **Will Canestaro**, '17, MS, PhD has been recognized recently by Health Innovation Northwest as a top

ten finalist for 2019 Health Innovators of the Year. [READ](#)

[MORE.](#)

Aasthaa Bansal was promoted to Associate Professor over the summer. Her research is among the many methods UWSOP faculty are tackling population health problems using novel approaches. [READ MORE.](#)

Doug Barthold, expanded his research program that studies risk factors and care for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD), and awarded a Pilot Grant from the UW Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC), to study the relationship between diabetes medications and Alzheimer's disease related neuropathology. [READ MORE.](#)

CHOICE alumna **Blythe Adamson**, '18, MPH, PhD led a study with FDA that was published in JAMA. They used a set of interrupted time series regression models to look at the impact of an FDA alert and label change for immunotherapy that had received an accelerated approval for bladder cancer.

Citation Details: Parikh RB*, **Adamson BJS***, Khozin S, Galsky MD, Baxi SS, Cohen AB, Mamtani R. Association between FDA label restriction and immunotherapy and chemotherapy use in bladder cancer. JAMA. 2019;322(12):1209-1211.

[doi:10.1001/jama.2019.10650](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2019.10650). *Co-first authors contributed equally to this study.

Jonathan Watanabe, '08, '12, PharmD, MS, PhD, BCGP and Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, University of California, San Diego was appointed by the National Academy of Medicine as a 2019-2020 Emerging Leaders in Health and Medicine Scholars. [READ MORE.](#)

PhD Student, **Nathaniel Hendrix** presented recent work on differences in medication persistence among psoriasis drugs in a podium presentation at the International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology and Therapeutic Risk (ICPE) in Philadelphia. His talk, entitled "Medication Persistence of Targeted Immunomodulators for Plaque Psoriasis," detailed the difficulties inherent in doing pharmacoepidemiological work with these drugs and proposed a claims-based method of comparing persistence between drugs. He is currently collaborating with faculty members David Veenstra and Zachary Marcum to develop a manuscript based on this work. Nathaniel was also recognized as a **2019 Outstanding Student Leader by the UWSOP.**

Gary Lyman, Professor in School of Medicine, Adjunct Professor in CHOICE, earned the honor of Web of Science Highly Cited Researcher. Each year, the Web of Science Group identifies the world's most influential researchers. The select few who have been most frequently cited by their peers over the last decade. In 2019, fewer than 6,300, or 0.1%, of the world's researchers, across 21 research fields, have earned this exclusive distinction.

Anirban Basu and colleagues published a commentary in the American Journal of Managed Care Pharmacy on the need to lay a clear path for incorporating reliable evidence on heterogeneity in value assessments to improve their applicability for healthcare decision making. [Read the commentary.](#)

PUBLICATIONS:

CHOICE PhD student **Woojung Lee** along with several CHOICE faculty was been published in Patient Preference and Adherence. This paper examined the association between current use of antihypertensive and having concerns about using an antihypertensive as a dementia prevention strategy.

Lee, W., Gray, S., Barthold, D., Crane, P., Larson, E., & **Marcum, Z.** Do Patient Concerns About Antihypertensive Use For Dementia Prevention Vary By Current Use Of Antihypertensive? Patient Preference and Adherence, 2019:13 Pages 1809–1815.

Bounthavong M, Suh K, Christopher MLD, **Veenstra DL, Basu A, Devine EB.** Providers' perceptions on barriers and facilitators to prescribing naloxone for patients at risk for opioid overdose after implementation of a national academic detailing program: A qualitative assessment. Res Social Adm Pharm. 2019 Oct 31. pii: S1551-7411(19)30065-8. doi: 10.1016/j.sapharm.2019.10.015. [Epub ahead of print]

Gray SL, Marcum ZA, Dublin S, Walker R, Golchin N, Rosenberg DE, Bowles EJ, Crane P, Larson EB. Medications acting on the central nervous system and fall-related injuries in community dwelling older adults: a new user cohort study. The Journals of Gerontology: Series A. 2019 Nov 22. pii: glz270. doi: 10.1093/gerona/glz270. [Epub ahead of print]

Guzauskas GF, Basu A, Carlson JJ, Veenstra DL. Are There Different Evidence Thresholds for Genomic Versus Clinical Precision Medicine? A Value of Information-Based Framework

Applied to Antiplatelet Drug Therapy. Value Health. 2019
Sep;22(9):988-994. doi: 10.1016/j.jval.2019.03.023

Kim DD, **Guzauskas GF, Bennette CS, Basu A, Veenstra DL, Ramsey SD, Carlson JJ**. Influence of Modeling Choices on Value of Information Analysis: An Empirical Analysis from a Real-World Experiment. Pharmacoeconomics. 2019 Oct 21. doi: 10.1007/s40273-019-00848-8. [Epub ahead of print]

Ward ZJ, **Rodriguez P, Wright DR**, Austin SB, Long MW. Estimation of Eating Disorders Prevalence by Age and Associations With Mortality in a Simulated Nationally Representative US Cohort. JAMA Netw Open. 2019;2(10):e1912925. doi:<https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.12925>

CHOICE BLOG: INCREMENTAL THOUGHTS



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