

IHPI Master's Degree Program in Health and Health Care Research



IHPI Clinician Scholars Program University of Michigan

North Campus Research Complex
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michmed.org/HSRtraining

Questions? Please email the Program Coordinators, Brenette Logan (brenette@umich.edu) and Brittany Weatherwax (bweather@umich.edu).

About the Program

The Health and Health Care Research (HHCR) program is a one-year (two semester) master's degree program (M.Sc.) designed for clinicians who want to gain expertise in health policy, the sociocultural determinants of health, and an array of methods relevant to health services research.

Eligibility

A limited number of clinicians are accepted every year to the tuition-based master's program and study alongside scholars admitted to the two-year IHPI National Clinician Scholars Programs. Total class size is limited to 20.

Application Process

Interested applicants should contact the Program Coordinators, Brenette Logan (brenette@umich.edu) and Brittany Weatherwax (bweather@umich.edu) as soon as possible to schedule a meeting with the Program Director. They will also need to have a mentor from their department contact the Program Director to discuss the curriculum and program expectations. Applicants will then be notified by email regarding the next steps in the admission process for enrollment in the fall.

Leadership and Faculty

Director: Tammy Chang, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.

Co-Directors: Milisa Manojlovich, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN; Renu Tipirneni, M.D., M.Sc.

Senior Associate Directors: Joel Howell, M.D., Ph.D.; Laurence McMahon, M.D., M.P.H.

Associate Directors: Andrew Admon, M.D., M.P.H.; Mark Bicket, M.D., Ph.D.; Joshua Ehrlich, M.D., M.P.H.; Rodney Hayward, M.D.; Michele Heisler, M.D., M.P.A.; Tim Hofer, M.D., M.Sc.; Patricia Hurn, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN; Minal Patel, Ph.D., M.P.H.; Sheria Robinson-Lane, Ph.D., M.S.N., M.H.A., R.N.; Erica Solway, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.P.H.; Thomas Valley, M.D., M.Sc.

Core Faculty: HwaJung Choi, Ph.D.; Melissa DeJonckheere, Ph.D.; Mark Fendrick, M.D.; Jane Forman, Sc.D., M.H.S.; Rodney Hayward, M.D.; Tim Hofer, M.D., M.Sc.; Joel Howell, M.D., Ph.D.; Joyce Lee, M.D., M.P.H.; Minal Patel, Ph.D., M.P.H.; Mary Rogers, Ph.D., M.S.; Erica Solway, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.P.H.; Renu Tipirneni, M.D., M.Sc.; Tony Tsai, M.B.A.; Sandeep Vijan, M.D., M.S.; Brian Zikmund-Fisher, Ph.D., M.A.

Courses

The following courses make up the required curriculum for the HHCR master's degree:

**Social & Cultural Aspects of
 Research on Health & Society**

**Research Design
 & Analysis**

**Laboratory in Research Methods
 & Analysis**

**Leadership &
 Career Development**

**Research on Health Care
 Delivery, Financing & Policy**

Research Practica

Program Requirements

A minimum of 32 credit hours is required for the master's degree, 16 credits taken in both the fall and winter terms.

The master's degree program is administered by the University of Michigan Rackham School of Graduate Studies. The program follows the University of Michigan academic calendar. Classes typically begin in late August and conclude in April.

Social & Cultural Aspects of Research on Health & Society

6 Credits

This course introduces students to methods for evaluating critical issues in health and health care from a behavioral, societal, and cultural perspective. Students examine the use of the behavioral and social sciences and humanities to study health and health care, including evaluations of past research and suggestions for future work. The class is an introduction to essential themes and approaches, not a comprehensive analysis of a single discipline.

700. Res Hlth&Soc 1. (3 credits)

701. Res Hlth&Soc 2. Advisory pre-requisite: Completion of Social & Cultural Aspects of Research on Health and Society 1 (700). (3 credits)

Research Design & Analysis

6 Credits

Students develop competency in research design and data analysis using state-of-the-art methods for health services and health policy research.

710. Res Des&Analysis 1. Advisory pre-requisite: Completion of the Clinician Scholars Program (CSP) summer course, or equivalent with instructor approval. (3 credits)

711. Res Des&Analysis 2. Advisory pre-requisite: Completion of Research Design & Analysis 1 (710) or equivalent, with instructor approval. (3 credits)

Laboratory in Research Methods & Analysis

6 Credits

The accompanying laboratory enables students to master the use of statistical and qualitative methods software. Specific modules emphasize independent problem solving and generation of analysis plans, converting study objectives into a specific and actionable analytic design.

720. Lab Res Meth&Analy 1. Advisory pre-requisite: Completion of the CSP summer course, or equivalent with instructor approval. (3 credits)

721. Lab Res Meth&Analy 2. Advisory pre-requisite: Completion of the Lab Research Methods & Analysis 1 (720) or equivalent, with instructor approval. (3 credits)

Leadership & Career Development

2 Credits

This course develops students' leadership purpose and skills to impact health care at a systems level. The leadership curriculum is designed to guide students in identifying strategic goals for impact in their chosen area by focusing on their individual strengths, honing skills in oral and written communication, and navigating change in complex systems.

730. Lead&Career Dev 1. (1 credit)

731. Lead&Career Dev 2. Advisory pre-requisite: Completion of Leadership & Career Development Skills 1 (730). (1 credit)



“The program at Michigan is transformative. Throughout my two years as a fellow, I received incredible mentorship and support in both professional and personal domains. The program was a launch pad for my career as a physician-researcher who explores the intersection of the arts and health. Moreover, the HHCR master's degree was the perfect complement to the fellow experience as it provided me with a strong foundation in biostatistics as well as a broad understanding of the US healthcare system. Most importantly, I have made lifelong friends throughout my time as an NCSP fellow who will be colleagues for life. I have no doubt the people I connected with at the University of Michigan will be change agents in the US healthcare system in the years to come.”

John David Ike, M.D., M.Sc.



“The IHPI master's degree program in HHCR opened my eyes to the kind of career I wanted to have: one where clinical expertise and rigorous research methodology could actually change health policy and have real impact on people's lives. The opportunity to learn from and with such a diverse group of peers and faculty was inspiring each day and accelerated my professional growth in an unprecedented way. I could not be more grateful for the breadth and depth of experience I gained through this unique training program.”

Alex Peahl, M.D., M.Sc.

Research on Health Care Delivery, Financing & Policy

6 Credits

This course presents and stimulates investigation and discussion of a broad array of topics in health care and health policy to provide clinician-researchers with extensive context for their aspirations and efforts. The course aims to provide students with rigorous training in health policy analysis and illustrate how meaningful, timely research can inform policymaking.

740. Hlth Care Del Fin Pol 1. (3 credits)

741. Hlth Care Del Fin Pol 2. Advisory pre-requisite: Completion of Research on Health Care Delivery, Financing & Policy 1 (740). (3 credits)

Research Practica

8 Credits

In this independent study course, students progress from crafting an initial research question to analyzing secondary data to designing and presenting a research plan.

750. Research Practica 1. (4 credits)

751. Research Practica 2. (4 credits)

998. Independent Study. (3 to 12 credits)



**INSTITUTE FOR
HEALTHCARE POLICY & INNOVATION**
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The U-M Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation, where this program is based, is the nation's largest university-based group of health services researchers. Founded in 2011, IHPI brings together more than 650 faculty from across all three U-M campuses, and offers services and programs to help advance research and collaboration. IHPI's mission is to foster innovative, interdisciplinary research to inform policies and practices that advance the equity, quality, safety, and affordability of healthcare, and improve health for individuals, families, and communities.

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“If you are a clinician who wants to make an impact on health policy, this program has all the tools you need to get you there. Building on a foundation of quantitative health services research methods, the program also provides relevant and focused training in health policy, leadership and communication, and the social and cultural determinants of health—with just the right level of detail for a clinician with no time to waste. It also provides access to the unparalleled University of Michigan environment, as well as the local and national policy communities. Finally, the program creates a close-knit group of colleagues and mentors and an interdisciplinary community for personal and academic growth. I could not recommend it more highly.”

Karan Chhabra, M.D., M.Sc.



“The IHPI master's degree program in HHCR opened the door for me to be an independent researcher. It gave me the skills both from an analytic standpoint and a leadership standpoint to launch my career as a surgeon-scientist. The collaboration among health care providers led me to think about the delivery of health care from a new perspective.”

Jessica Billig, M.D., M.Sc.