

ACE 2012 Preconference and Post-Meeting Workshops Descriptions

Saturday, September 8

1:00-5:00 pm Workshop 1: “Factors Impacting the Translation of Epidemiological Findings into Policies Affecting Health Disparities”

Minority Affairs Committee

Charles A. Oke, VMD, Centers for Disease Control

Kenneth Soyemi, MD, Illinois Department of Public Health

Damon Arnold, MD MPH, Former Director of Illinois Department of Health (Keynote).

Anne Murphy, PhD, Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force

Chinua Akukwe, MD MPH, George Washington University

Richard Warnecke, PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

Romana Hasnain-Wynia, PhD, Institute for Health Care Studies, and Northwestern University

Victor Schoenbach, PhD, University of North Carolina

This workshop will examine factors that have an impact on translation of epidemiologic findings into policies that affect health disparities. The workshop will include an overview of epidemiological research challenges among minority populations; a discussion of the disconnect between epidemiological research findings among minority population and gaps in subsequent policy action, and; strategies to reduce, remove or bypass bottlenecks to effective translation of researching findings into policy action among minority population.

Sunday, September 9

8:00 am-12 pm CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Workshop 2: “Bayesian Analysis - Part 1”

Sander Greenland, DrPH, University of California-Los Angeles

The objective of this workshop is to understand and learn to perform Bayesian and penalized regression with ordinary software. Part I assumes background courses in epidemiology and regression, while Part II further assumes Part I as background. Part I compares Bayesian approaches to a frequentist approach, and introduces the participant to Bayesian methods. Part II describes extensions of the basic Bayesian methods in Part I to analyses involving non-normal priors and general regression modeling, including hierarchical (multilevel) modeling.

Workshop 3: “Creativity and Innovation in Epidemiologic Research”

Peter Taylor, PhD, University of Massachusetts

Nancy Kreiger, PhD, FACHE, University of Toronto

Sandra Sulsky, PhD, ENVIRON

This workshop explores ways to open up new directions in epidemiological thinking and research. Participants will be introduced to tools and processes for individual reflection and group interaction designed to produce the insights and to deepen the people-connections valuable for seeing new paths and generating new opportunities.

Workshop 4: “Update on Available Datasets from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)”

*Jennifer Madans, PhD, NCHS
Rosemarie Hirsch, PhD, NCHS*

Data Resources of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS): This workshop will provide an overview of the major data collection activities of the NCHS, and describe data collection methods and analytic considerations in working with the wealth of NCHS data sets.

Workshop 5: “Causal Inference: Evaluation of Mediation and Moderation - Part 1”

David Mackinnon, PhD, Arizona State University

The two-part workshop will cover some of the recent developments in causal mediation analysis and provide practical tools to implement these techniques. Mediation analysis assesses the mechanisms and pathways by which causal effects operate. Moderation or interaction assesses when one variable changes the effect of another variable on the outcome. Part I will address traditional methods for evaluating mediation and moderation, while part II will address newer methods currently being used.

1:00-5:00 pm CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Workshop 6: “Ethics in Epidemiology: Exploring Contemporary Challenges”

*Kenneth W. Goodman, PhD, University of Miami
Edward S. Peters, DMD, ScD, Louisiana State University
Thomas M. Weiser, MD, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Chair Ethics Committee*

This workshop is designed to engage both students of epidemiology and teachers of ethics in schools of public health/epidemiology programs in a discussion of the fundamentals of research ethics, in general, and more specifically ethics in epidemiologic research. We will also discuss the teaching of ethics including examples from the ASPH Model Curriculum on Ethics and issues that come up for those who are actively engaged in teaching ethics to epidemiology graduate students.

Workshop 7: “Electronic Health Datasets for Use in Epidemiologic Studies”

*Suellen Curkendall, PhD, Thomson Reuters
Jay Margolis, PharmD, Thomson Reuters*

This Workshop is for both epidemiologists and graduate students who are interested in a primer on the use of healthcare claims data and electronic medical records data for conducting retrospective analyses. The workshop will cover three types of US databases: Healthcare claims, hospital EMR, and Physician office EMR, including a review of how the data are generated as a by-product of the process of care and how this affects the types of research questions that can be addressed using each type of database, as well as discussion of methodology used.

Workshop 8: “Bayesian Analysis - Part 2”

Sander Greenland, DrPH, University of California-Los Angeles

The objective of this workshop is to understand and learn to perform Bayesian and penalized regression with ordinary software. Part I assumes background courses in epidemiology and regression, while Part II further assumes Part I as background. Part I compares Bayesian approaches to a frequentist approach, and introduces the participant to Bayesian methods. Part II describes extensions of the basic Bayesian methods in Part I to analyses involving non-normal priors and general regression modeling, including hierarchical (multilevel) modeling.

Workshop 9: “Causal Inference: Evaluation of Mediation and Moderation - Part 2”

Tyler J. VanderWeele, PhD, Harvard University

The two-part workshop will cover some of the recent developments in causal mediation analysis and provide practical tools to implement these techniques. Mediation analysis assesses the mechanisms and pathways by which causal effects operate. Moderation or interaction assesses when one variable changes the effect of another variable on the outcome. Part I will address traditional methods for evaluating mediation and moderation, while part II will address newer methods currently being used.

Tuesday, September 11

2:00-4:30 pm POST-MEETING CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Workshop 10: Grant Proposals: The Process and Preparation

Denise Wiesch, PhD, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health

This workshop focusses on NIH funding mechanisms is directed towards students and early career epidemiologists. Topics covered in the workshop will include R-awards, K-awards, F-awards, and [NIH] loan repayment programs. Strategies for successful applications will be discussed, including submitting, the review process, and response to reviewers.

Workshop 11: “Health Literacy: Making Epidemiologic Findings Accessible to the Public”

*Lynn Sokler, Centers for Disease Control, Vital Signs Program Communications Director
Richard Schieber, MD, MPH, Centers for Disease Control, Epidemiology and Analysis Program Office*

The purpose of this workshop is to examine how best to make epidemiologic findings accessible to the public through clear, non-technical language. Information often is provided without context, and is written in excessively technical language; if the public cannot understand it, they will not be able to use it for themselves or explain it to help others. This workshop will teach scientists and others in public health to communicate more effectively, without loss of accuracy, using hands-on exercises in plain language.