

Sangeeta C. Ahluwalia

PERSONAL DATA

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EDUCATION

PhD	Health Services and Policy Analysis, University of California, Berkeley. Concentration: Health Policy	2007
MA	Political Science, University of California, Berkeley. Concentration: American Politics	2006
MPH	Community Health Sciences, University of California, Los Angeles.	2001
BA	Medical Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley.	1999

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

RAND Corporation		
Senior Policy Researcher		2018-present
Policy Researcher		2014-2018
Adjunct Affiliate Research Staff		2011-2014
Assistant Adjunct Professor, Department of Health Policy Fielding UCLA School of Public Health		2012-present
Assistant Professor, Department of Health Management and Policy Oregon State University College of Public Health and Human Sciences		2013-2014
Research Health Scientist, Center for the Study of Healthcare Provider Behavior Greater Los Angeles VA Healthcare System		2009-2013

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Ahluwalia SC**, Giannitrapani K, Dobscha S, Cromer R, Lorenz KA. “It encourages them to complain”: A qualitative study of the unintended consequences of assessing patient-reported pain. *Journal of Pain*, 2018 May;19(5):562-568

2. Giannitrapani, K., **Ahluwalia, SC.**, McCaa, M., Pisciotta, M., Dobscha, S., Krebs, E., Lorenz, K., Barriers to Using Non-pharmacologic Alternatives and Reducing Opioid Use in Primary Care. 2017 Oct 20 [Epub ahead of print], *Pain Medicine*
3. Giannitrapani K, **Ahluwalia SC**, Day R, Pisciotta M, Dobscha S, Lorenz KA. Challenges to Teaming for Pain in VA Primary Care. 2017 Jul 12 [Epub ahead of print], *Healthcare*
4. **Ahluwalia SC**, Harris BR, Lewis VA, Colla CH. End-of-life care planning in accountable care organizations: Associations with organizational characteristics and capabilities. *Health Services Research*, 2017 May 30 [Epub ahead of print]
5. Ramchand R, **Ahluwalia SC**, Xenakis L, Apaydin E, Raaen L, Grimm G. A systematic review of peer-supported interventions for health promotion and disease prevention. *Preventive Medicine*, 2017 Aug;8; 101:156-170.
6. **Ahluwalia SC**, Damberg CL, Silverman M, Motala A, Shekelle PG. What defines a high-performing health system: A systematic review. *Jt Comm J Qual Patient Saf*, 2017 Sep;43(9):450-459.
7. Bekelman DB, Johnson-Koenke R, **Ahluwalia SC**, Walling AM, Peterson J, Sudore RL. Development and feasibility of a structured goals of care communication guide. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 2017 Sept;20(9):1004-1012.
8. Walling AM, **Ahluwalia SC**, Wenger NS, Booth M, Roth CP, Lorenz KA, Kanwal F, Dy S, Asch SM. Palliative care quality indicators for patients with end-stage liver disease due to cirrhosis. *Digestive Diseases and Sciences*, 2017 Jan;62(1):84-92.
9. Baum HC, Xenakis LE, Chen EK, Hanson M, **Ahluwalia S**, Ryan G, Lunney J, Lorenz KA. A Qualitative Inquiry on Palliative and End of Life Care Policy Reform. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 2016 Apr;19(4):400-7.
10. Singer AE, Ash TA, Lorenz KA, **Ahluwalia SC**. A systematic review of health informatics interventions to improve the quality of ICU family meetings. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Care*, 2016 Sep;33(8):797-806.
11. Singer AE, Goebel JR, Kim YS, Dy SM, **Ahluwalia SC**, Clifford M, Dzung E, O'Hanlon C, Motala A, Walling AM, Goldberg J, Meeker D, Ochotorena C, Shanman R, Cui M, Lorenz KA. Populations and Interventions for Palliative and End-of-Life Care: A Systematic Review. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 2016 Sep;19(9):995-1008.
12. Walling AM, Tisnado D, Ettner SL, Asch SM, Dy SM, Pantoja P, Lee M, **Ahluwalia SC**, Schreiber-Baum H, Malin JL, Lorenz KA. Palliative Care Specialist Consultation is Associated with Supportive Care Quality in Advanced Cancer. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 2016 Oct;52(4):507-514.
13. Sadeghi B, Walling AM, Romano PS, **Ahluwalia SC**, Ong MK. A Hospital-Based Advance Care Planning Intervention For Patients With Heart Failure (HF): A Feasibility Study. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 2016 Apr;19(4):451-5.
14. **Ahluwalia SC**, Schreiber-Baum H, Prendergast T, Reinke LF, Lorenz KA. Nurses as middlemen: How critical care nurses perceive their role in family meetings. *American Journal of Critical Care*,

2016 Jan;25(1):33-8.

15. **Ahluwalia SC**, Tisnado DM, Walling AM, Dy SM, Asch SM, Ettner SL, Kim B, Pantoja P, Schreiber-Baum H, Lorenz KA. Association of early patient-physician care planning discussions and end of life care intensity in advanced cancer. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 2015 Oct;18(10):834-41.
16. **Ahluwalia SC**, Bekelman D, Huynh A, Prendergast TJ, Shreve S, Lorenz KA. Barriers and strategies to an integrated model of advance care planning. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Care*, 2015 Dec;32(8):817-23.
17. Lendon J; **Ahluwalia SC**, Walling AM, Lorenz KA, Oluwatola T, Anhang-Price R, Quigley D, Teno JM. Measuring family experience and satisfaction with end of life care: A systematic literature review. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 2015 May;49(5):904-15.
18. Jones JJ, Nowels CT, Sudore R, **Ahluwalia S**, Bekelman DB. The present gets in the way of talking about the future': A qualitative study of heart failure patients and their informal caregivers. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 2015 Feb;30(2):176-82.
19. **Ahluwalia SC** and Enguidanos S. Advance care planning among patients with heart failure: A review of challenges and approaches to better communication, *Journal of Clinical Outcomes and Management* 2015 Feb;22(2).
20. Goebel JR, **Ahluwalia SC**, Chong K, Asch SM, Goldzweig CL, Shreve S, Lorenz KA. Developing an Informatics Tool to Advance Supportive Care: The VA Palliative Care National Clinical Template (PC- NCT). *Journal of Palliative Medicine* 2014 Mar;17(3):266-73.
21. York L, Bruce B, Luck J, Bowman C, Midboe A, Smith NZ, Elenes M, Girard J, Griffith D, Edwards G, **Ahluwalia SC**, Zisser A, Asch SM. Online Toolkits for Metric-Driven Quality Improvement: The Veterans Health Administration Managed Grassroots Approach , *The Joint Commission on Quality and Patient Safety*, 2013; 39(12): 561-570.
22. **Ahluwalia SC**, Levin JR, Lorenz KA, Gordon HS. There's no cure for this condition": How physicians discuss advance care planning in heart failure. *Patient Educ Couns*, 2013; 9(12):200-205
23. **Ahluwalia SC**, Gordon HS. Advance care planning safeguards. *JGIM*, 2012 Nov;27(11):1404.
24. **Ahluwalia SC**, Leos R, Goebel JR, Asch SM, Lorenz KA. Provider approaches to palliative dyspnea assessment: Implications for informatics-based clinical tools. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine* 2012; 30(3):231-238.
25. **Ahluwalia SC**, Gross CP, Chaudhry SI, Ning Y, Leo-Summers L, Van Ness PH, Fried TR. Impact of comorbidity on mortality among older persons with heart failure. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 2012; 27(5): 513-9
26. **Ahluwalia SC**, Levin JR, Lorenz KA, Gordon HS. Missed opportunities for advance care

planning during outpatient clinic visits. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 2012; 27(4): 445-51.

27. **Ahluwalia SC**, Chuang F, Antonio AM, Malin JL, Lorenz KA, Walling A. Documentation and discussion of preferences for care among patients with advanced cancer. *Journal of Oncologic Practice*, 2011; 7(6): 361-366.
28. **Ahluwalia SC**, Gross CP, Chaudhry SI, Leo-Summers L, Van Ness PH, Fried TR. Change in comorbidity prevalence with advancing age among persons with heart failure. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 2011; 26(10): 1145-51.
29. **Ahluwalia SC**, Gill TM, Baker DI, Fried TR. Perspectives of older persons on bathing and bathing disability: A qualitative study. *J Am Geriatr Soc*, 2010; 58(3): 460-6.
30. **Ahluwalia SC**, Fried TR. Physician factors associated with outpatient palliative care referral. *Palliat Med* 2009; 23(7): 608-15.

RAND REPORTS

1. Chan EW, Krull H, **Ahluwalia SC**, Broyles JR, Waxman D, Gurvey J. Options for maintaining deployment clinical proficiency during peacetime. Santa Monica, California: RAND Corporation, PR-2177-A, 2016.
2. **Ahluwalia SC**, Broyles J, Ginsburg P, MacCarthy S, Matthews L, Hirshman S, Gulden T, Watkins K. Improving access to VA Care. In Resources and Capabilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to Provide Timely and Accessible Care to Veterans. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2015. http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR1165z2.html.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

1. **Ahluwalia SC**, Damberg CL, Haas A, Shekelle PG. "How are medical groups identified as high-performing? The effect of different approaches to classification of performance". *Under review, Annals of Internal Medicine*.
2. **Ahluwalia SC**, Giannitrapani KF, Dobscha SK, Cromer R, Krebs E, Lorenz KA. "Sometimes you wonder, is this really true?": The subjective experience of pain in the context of clinical assessment. *Under review, Pain Medicine*

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Ahluwalia SC**, Wenger NS, Lorenz KA. Let people make their own end-of-life decisions. *Newsweek*, July 15, 2015
2. Halpin H, McMenemy S, Bellows N, and **Ahluwalia SC**. California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP). (2005). Analysis of Senate Bill 415 Prescription Drugs for Alzheimer's

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

Shekelle P, Haas A, **Ahluwalia SC**, Damberg C. How are Medical Groups Identified as High-Performing? *Poster Presentation* 2017 Academy Health Annual Research Meeting.

Ahluwalia SC, Harris BR, Lewis VA, Colla CH. End-of-life care planning in accountable care organizations: Associations with organizational characteristics and capabilities. *Poster Presentation* 2016 Academy Health Annual Research Meeting.

Neville TH, Smith IM, Bando J, Yamamoto M, Prendergast T, Lorenz KA, **Ahluwalia SC**. Implementation and Use of an ICU Family Meeting Template. *Poster Presentation* 2015 American Thoracic Society Annual Meeting.

Ahluwalia SC, Tisnado DM, Walling AM, Dy SM, Asch SM, Ettner SL, Kim B, Pantoja P, Schreibeis-Baum H, Lorenz KA. Association of early patient-physician care planning discussions and end of life care intensity in advanced cancer. *Paper presentation*, 2014 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Annual Assembly.

Ahluwalia SC, Schreibeis-Baum H, Prendergast T, Lorenz KA. Nursing roles, experiences and perspectives on family meetings: “We’re the most consistent person with our patients”. *Paper presentation*, 2014 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Annual Assembly.

Ahluwalia SC, Huynh A, Lorenz KA. Crossing Boundaries: What is needed to realize a continuous model of advance care planning? *Hamolsky Paper Presentation*, 2013 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting.

Braun U, Anderson K, **Ahluwalia SC**, Sharma RK, Skold A. Quality of life factors at the end of life: Palliative Care Clinical Update. *Workshop*, 2013 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting.

Ahluwalia SC. Planning for end of life care: Challenges, opportunities, realities. *Invited Presentation*, 2013 Center for Healthy Aging Colloquia, Oregon State University.

Ahluwalia SC, Das L, Mittman B, Currow DC, Lorenz KA. “Improving the state of quality improvement: Lessons from down under”, *Poster Presentation*, 2012 Academy Health Annual Research Meeting.

Goebel JR, Lorenz KA, **Ahluwalia SC**, Chong K. “Why, how, what and so what! Developing clinical informatics tools for determined skeptics”, *Workshop*, 2012 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Annual Meeting.

Brokaw FC, **Ahluwalia SC**, Rubenstein LV, Krasnoff M. “Palliative care integration into primary care practice: Opportunities and threats”, *Workshop*, 2012 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting.

Ahluwalia SC, Levin JR, Lorenz KA, Gordon H. “Missed opportunities for advance care planning with heart failure patients during outpatient clinic visits”. *Paper Presentation*, 2011 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting.

Ahluwalia SC, Leos R, Goebel JR, Asch SM, Lorenz KA. “Provider approaches to palliative dyspnea assessment”, *Paper Presentation*, 2011 American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Annual Meeting.

Bekelman D, Nowels C, **Ahluwalia SC**, Jones J. “Living with the future of chronic heart failure”. *Poster Presentation*, 2011 VA HSR&D Annual Meeting

Ahluwalia SC, Gross CP, Chaudhry SI, Ning Y, Van Ness PH, Leo-Summers L, Fried TR. “Comorbidity and Mortality in Advanced Heart Failure”, *Paper Presentation*, 2010 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting.

Ahluwalia SC, Goebel JR, Lorenz KA. “Development and testing of an EMR-based standardized template for measuring and improving the quality of inpatient palliative care consultation”, *Workshop*, 2010 National Veterans Administration Hospice and Palliative Care Conference.

Ahluwalia SC, Gill TM, Baker DI, Fried TR “A Qualitative Analysis of Bathing among Older Persons”, *Poster Presentation*, 2009 American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting.

Ahluwalia SC. “Managing Cost and Quality in a Healthcare System Facing Reform”, *Invited Lecture and Discussant*, 2009 Yale Healthcare annual conference.

Ahluwalia SC. “The Impact of Comorbidity on Outcomes among Persons with Advanced Heart Failure”, *Invited Presentation*, 2008 NIA Technical Assistance Workshop.

Ahluwalia SC. “The Influence of Comorbid Conditions on Survival among Elderly Patients with Advanced Heart Failure”, *Invited Presentation*, 2008 Grantmakers in Aging Conference.

Ahluwalia SC., “The Graying of America – Preparing for the Baby Boomers”, *Invited Lecture and Discussant*, 2007 and 2008 Yale Healthcare annual conference.

Ahluwalia SC and Fried TR. “Physician Factors Associated with Outpatient Palliative Care Referral”, *Poster Presentation*, 2007 Gerontological Society of America Annual Assembly and 2008 American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting

RESEARCH TRAINING

VA HSR&D Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Healthcare Provider Behavior 2009-2011
Greater Los Angeles VA Medical Center

NIA T32 Postdoctoral Trainee in Geriatric and Clinical Epidemiology 2007-2009
Yale University School of Medicine

Visiting Policy Fellow, Personal Social Services Research Unit 2005
London School of Economics

Graduate Researcher, Center for Health and Public Policy Studies
University of California, Berkeley 2003-2005

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Permanente Medical Group, Quality and Operations
Senior Consultant 2003-2005
Consultant 2002-2003
Senior Analyst 2001-2002

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Oregon State University College of Public Health 2013-2014
Health Sciences 210: Introduction to the US Healthcare System
Health Sciences 319: Health Policy Analysis
Health Sciences 538/638: Public and Private Insurance

UCLA Fielding School of Public Health 2012
Health Policy and Management 287: Politics of Health Policy

UC Berkeley School of Public Health 2004-2006
Public Health 150D: Introduction to Health Policy & Management
Public Health 200D: Applied Public Health Practice

UCLA School of Public Health 2000-2001
Community Health Sciences 210: Introduction to Community Health

FELLOWSHIPS

Implementation Research Institute Fellow 2012-2014
National Institute on Aging T32 Training Grant 2007-2009
Grantmakers in Aging Research Fellow 2008
RAND Summer Institute on Aging Fellow 2007
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Predoctoral Traineeship (\$40,000) 2003-2006
University of California Dissertation Mentored Research Award (\$15,000) 2006-2007
University of California Summer Institute for Preparing Future Faculty Traineeship 2006

AWARDS

Finalist, SGIM Milton W. Hamolsky Junior Faculty Award for Outstanding Scientific Abstract 2013
Finalist, SGIM Outstanding Scientific Abstract in Geriatrics 2011
Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowship Honorable Mention 2004
University Outstanding Teaching Assistant of the Year, UCLA 2001-2002
Cal Alumni Association Scholarship, UC Berkeley 1994-1996

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) 2009-present

American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine 2009-present
Academy Health 2007-present

COMMITTEE SERVICE

Professional Committees

SGIM End of Life Task Force 2011-present
SGIM Geriatrics Task Force 2011-present
SGIM Distinguished Professor in Geriatrics Workgroup 2011-2015

University Committees

Admissions, Oregon State University College of Public Health 2013
Health Admissions, UCLA School of Public Health 2012, 2013

EDITORIAL SERVICES (Journals and National Conferences)

Annals of Internal Medicine 2010-2012
Journal of Pain and Symptom Management 2010 and 2011
Society of General Internal Medicine 2012 and 2013 Annual Meetings, Abstract and Workshop Review Committees 2011 and 2012
Journal of the American Geriatrics Society 2010
Journal of Palliative Medicine 2009 and 2012

CURRENT GRANTS/CONTRACTS

NCP Clinical Guidelines for Palliative Care Systematic Review

(Ahluwalia) 02/01/2018-07/31/2018

National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care, NCHPC-02-2018

This study is a systematic review of palliative care evidence to support the 4th edition update to the National Consensus Panel Clinical Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care.

Group visits for advance care planning among older adults with heart failure

(Ahluwalia) 03/01/2017-02/29/2019

NIA, 1R21AG053716

This study will evaluate the acceptability, feasibility and preliminary impact of group visits for advance care planning among older adults with heart failure.

Destigmatizing Supervisory and Peer Reporting of Behaviors of Concern

(Ahluwalia/Etchegaray) 08/31/2017-10/31/2018

Office of Secretary of Defense, ND8718

This study will elucidate the types of stigma perceived by potential reporters when deciding whether to report a behavior of concern exhibited by a supervisor or peer, the extent to which the different types of stigma impact willingness to report behaviors of concern, and destigmatization approaches that will increase the likelihood of reporters filing future reports.

Development and Maintenance of Post-acute Care Cross Setting Standardized Patient Assessment Data

(Saliba) 09/25/2015-10/01/2020

CMS, HHSM-500-2013-13014I

This 5-year study will develop a single comprehensive patient assessment standardized for implementation across four post-acute care settings: skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, long-term care hospitals, inpatient rehab facilities. The final instrument will be implemented nationally by CMS to collect quality of care and quality assessment data.

Understanding the Relationship Between Health Care Delivery Systems and PCOR Processes and Outcomes

(Damberg)

09/01/2015 - 08/31/2020

AHRQ, 1U19HS024067-01

This establishes a Center of Excellence to identify, classify, track, and compare healthcare delivery systems ranging from integrated delivery systems to Accountable Care Organizations across the U.S. to help improve the speed of adoption and diffusion of CER-recommended practices through systems.

COMPLETED GRANTS/CONTRACTS

Peer support for promoting service member, veteran, family and caregiver well-being: A map of the evidence

(Ahluwalia/Ramchand)

10/01/2015 - 11/30/2016

Bristol Meyers Squibb Foundation BMSF-10.01.15

This project will provide an overview of the focus, quantity, and quality of existing research on peer-led interventions related to health promotion and disease prevention.

Core Competencies for Amputation Rehabilitation

(Krull/Etcheagaray)

09/25/2015 – 10/01/2017

Department of Defense/Veterans Administration, AR5A502-1000

This study examines current gaps in amputee care in the Military Health system and VA Healthcare System, and seeks to identify and define core clinical and non-clinical competencies for healthcare providers in light of the current military drawdown and increase in returning service-members with extremity trauma and/or amputation.

Maintaining Deployment Clinical Proficiency during Peacetime

(Krull)

10/01/2014-09/01/2015

Army Office of the Surgeon General W74V8H-06-C-0001

Identify gaps in training and skill development that currently exist or may arise during peacetime missions that result in a shortage of clinical proficiency during a deployment and develop recommendations for how the Army Medical Department best develops and maintains the clinical skills required for deployment while engaged in garrison healthcare delivery.

VA CHOICE

(Hussey and Ringel)

12/01/2015-09/01/2015

CMS/MITRE 97254-TO12

One of 12 independent assessments of the VA health care delivery system mandated by the Veterans Access Choice and Accountability Act (VACAA), to provide timely and accessible care ensure that current and project VA health care capabilities and resources align with the current and projected needs of veterans.

Pain as the Fifth Vital Sign: Enhanced Screening for Pain (ESP)

(Lorenz)

06/01/12-5/31/15

VA HSR&D CRE-12-030

In this three-site randomized controlled trial we will evaluate the impact of a computer-based pain assessment protocol compared with usual pain screening on the detection of patient pain-related disability, on patient and clinician satisfaction, and on clinician adherence to recommended pain management protocol.

Role: Co-Investigator

Trajectories and Palliation Study (TAPS)

(Lorenz)

09/27/2011-07/31/2015

NINR 1R01NR013372-01

This study will evaluate trajectories of serious chronic illness using data from the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) and the Health and Retirement Survey (HRS) to characterize function, pain, emotional wellbeing over time among patients and their caregivers. We will also use the RAND Health Future Elderly Model to consider the impact of the highest priority policy scenarios to implement palliative care services on patients, caregivers, and Medicare utilization and cost.

Role: Co-Investigator

An Implementation-Based Approach to Palliative Care - ICU Integration

(Ahluwalia)

07/01/12-06/30/14

National Palliative Care Research Center Career Development Award

This study will evaluate the feasibility of implementation and impact of an informatics-based intervention to systematize the conduct of family conferences in the ICU at two pilot sites.

Role: PI

Hospice Experience of Care Survey CAHPS project

(Lorenz)

09/24/2012-03/23/2014

CMS HHSM-500-2012-00126G-GS10F-0275P

The aim of this study is to develop and pilot-test a Hospice Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey, to be added to the existing complement of CMS CAHPS surveys. We are currently conducting a systematic literature review to identify domains and questions for inclusion. Future work includes publishing a Call for Measures, convening a Technical Expert Panel, and developing the survey instrument.

Role: Co-Investigator

Assessing Symptoms, Side Effects and Indicators of Supportive Treatment (ASSIST)

(Lorenz)

10/1/2010-06/30/2013

VA-IIR 09-097-2

This study will characterize the quality of supportive and palliative care for veterans with advanced cancer in a national sample and estimate the impact of palliative care services on quality of supportive cancer care.

Role: Co-Investigator