

## MARY ESTELLE VAIANA

### EDUCATION

PhD, English Linguistics, Indiana University  
MA, English, University of Southern California  
BA, English, Pomona College

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1998-Senior Communications Analyst,  
RAND, Santa Monica, California  
1994-1997-Communications Director, RAND Health  
1990-1993-Head, Publications Department,  
RAND  
1978-1989-Director, Communications Consulting Group,  
RAND  
1976-1978-Assistant Professor of English,  
University of California, Los Angeles  
1974-1976-Fulbright Lecturer, Lodz, Poland

### RESEARCH AREAS

**Mary Vaiana PhD** is a senior communications analyst at RAND. She currently leads communications efforts for several major projects, including the RAND Center of Excellence on Health System Performance and the RAND-USC Schaeffer Opioid Policy Tools and Information Center (OPTIC). She also provides support to individual projects to meet their specific needs. Recent examples include health care redesign in Qatar, improving mental health for returning veterans, and the effects of prescription drug cost sharing on overall drug use and health. She has led writing teams on many complex, multi-authored manuscripts. She is skilled at developing derivative materials such as policy briefs, fact sheets, and special web features that highlight key findings in non-technical language. She also has extensive experience developing presentations for audiences ranging from practitioners and clinical health services researchers to private and public sector decisionmakers, Congress, and the media.

### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/HONORS

Gold Medal Award, RAND, 2017  
Impact Award, RAND, 2008  
Gold Medal Award, RAND, 2005  
Bronze Medal Award, RAND, 2003  
President's Award, RAND, 2001  
University Fellowship, Indiana University, 1969-1972  
Oakley Fellowship, University of Southern California, 1963-1965  
Phi Beta Kappa, Pomona College, 1963

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Ridgely MS, Ahluwalia SC, Tom A, Vaiana ME, Motala A, Silverman MR, Kim A, Damberg CL, Shekelle PG. What are the Determinants of Health System Performance? Findings from the Literature and a Technical Expert Panel, *Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety*, Volume 46, Issue 2, February 2020.

Damberg CL, Silverman MR, Burgette LE, Vaiana ME, Ridgely MS. Are Value-Based Incentives Driving Behavior Change to Improve Value? *American Journal of Managed Care*, Volume 25, Number 2, February 2019.

Ridgely MS, Duffy EL, Wolf LJ, Vaiana ME, Scanlon DP, Buttorff C, Leitzell B, Ahluwalia SC, Hilton L, Agniel D, Haviland A, Damberg CL. Understanding U.S. Health Systems: Using Mixed Methods to Unpack Organizational Complexity. eGEMS Volume 7, Number 1, 2019.

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Egel D, Vaiana ME, Williams C, Kline J, Anthony CR, Ries CP. *Cost of the Conflict Calculator*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2015. TL178.

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Liu JL, Lai D, Ringel JS, Vaiana ME, Wasserman J. *Small Ideas for Saving Big Health Care Dollars*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2014. RR390.

Rostker BR, Hosek SD, Vaiana ME. Gays in the Military: Eventually New Facts Conquer Old Taboos, *RAND Review*, Spring 2011.

Goldman DP, Vaiana M, Romley JA. The Emerging Importance of Patient Amenities in Hospital Care, *New England Journal of Medicine*, Vol. 363, December 2, 2010, pp. 2185-2187.

Ridgely MS, Adamson DM, Vaiana ME. Complete Checkup: Assessing the Vital Signs for U.S. Health Care Reform, *RAND Review*, Vol. 33, No. 2, Summer 2009, pp. 24-29.

Tanielian T, Jaycox LH, Schell TL, Marshall GN, Burnam MA, Eibner C, Karney BR, Meredith LS, Ringel JS, Vaiana ME. *Invisible Wounds of War: Summary and Recommendations for Addressing Psychological and Cognitive Injuries* MG-720 / 1-CCF, 2008.

Watkins KE, Ellickson PL, Vaiana ME, Hiromoto S. An Update on Adolescent Drug Use: What School Counselors Need to Know, *Professional School Counseling*, Vol. 10 No. 2, Dec 2006, pp. 131-138.

Schuster CR, Goldman DP, Vaiana M. *Medicare Facts and Figures: A California Perspective*. California HealthCare Foundation, February 2006.

Kanouse DE, Spranca M, Vaiana M. Reporting about Health Care Quality: A Guide to the Galaxy, *Health Promotion Practice*, Vol. 4, No. 3, July 2004, pp. 222-231.

Sood N, Alpert A, Goldman D, Vaiana M. Health Insurance: Should California Regulate Health Insurance Premiums? *California HealthCare Foundation, Issue Brief*, March 18, 2004.

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Stein BD, Tanielian TL, Vaiana ME, Rhodes HJ, Burnam MA. The Role of Schools in Meeting Community Needs During Bioterrorism," *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism*, Vol. 1, No. 4, December 2003, pp. 273-281

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Vaiana ME, McGlynn EA. What Cognitive Science Tells Us About the Design of Reports for Consumers, *Medical Care Research and Review*, Vol. 59, No. 1, March 2002, 3-35.

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Pebley AR, Vaiana ME. *In Our Backyard: How 3 L.A. Neighborhoods Affect Kids' Lives*, RAND, MR-1470-WMKF, 2002.

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