

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH CENTER NEWSLETTER

Emory University School of Medicine



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OVERVIEW

We're excited to share the latest updates and opportunities from the Health Services Research Center (HSRC) as we wrap up a successful academic year and look ahead to what's next.

In this issue, you'll find:

- Event Recap: Highlights from the 11th Annual Health Services Research Day, including keynote speakers and attendee reflections.
- 2025-2026 Seminar Series: Details on our upcoming Fall and Spring HSR Seminar Series and Research Work in Progress (WIP) sessions—plus how to get involved or suggest speakers and topics.
- Student Opportunities: Explore internship openings, including REAL-funded research assistant positions with opportunities for mentorship and applied research experience.

Dive in to stay connected and engaged with the latest from our vibrant HSRC community!

11TH ANNUAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH DAY 2025

INNOVATIVE RESEARCH SHARED DURING HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH DAY

The 11th Annual Health Services Research (HSR) Day, hosted by Georgia CTSA and the Emory Health Services Research Center, brought together over 160 researchers, faculty, staff, and trainees from across Georgia at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health. The event provided a vibrant platform to showcase health services research focused on healthcare quality, effectiveness, and value through featured talks, rapid-fire presentations, poster sessions, and a career panel.

Keynote speaker Jennifer DeVoe, MD, DPhil, from Oregon Health & Science University, delivered an inspiring presentation on the role of primary care research in improving system effectiveness and addressing disparities. Additional featured talks included Wilbur A. Lam, MD, PhD, on point-of-care diagnostics and Amaka Eneanya, MD, MPH, on health system transformation in nephrology.

Reflecting on the event, 2025 HSR Day Chair Jessica Harding, PhD, noted:

"It was inspiring to witness the breadth of academic HSR happening across campus and the meaningful collaborations that are forming. Our speakers sparked important conversations about the future of health care research, and the career panel offered valuable insight, especially during this time of funding uncertainty."

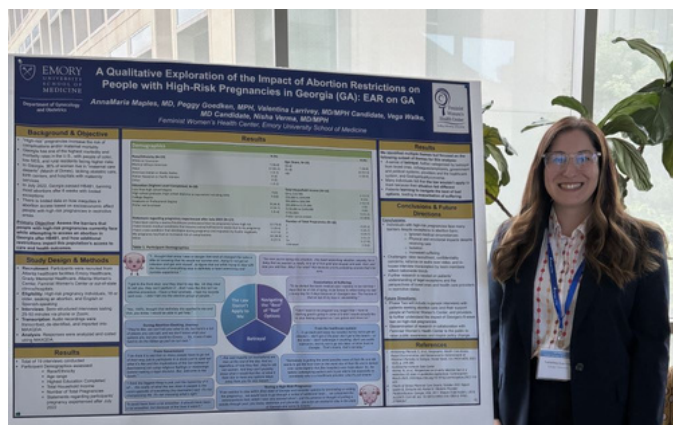
Co-Chair Ambar Kulshreshtha, MD, added:

"HSR Day brought together participants from across the state—including Emory, Grady, Morehouse, UGA, Georgia State, and Kaiser—to share diverse health services research and connect across institutions."

Special thanks to our planning committee, speakers, moderators, abstract reviewers, staff, and volunteers who made the day a success.

For a full recap of the day, including award winners and presentation highlights, visit:

<https://georgiactsa.org/news-events/news/2025/discovery/hsr-2025-highlights/index.html>



Sponsored by:



Health Services Research Center
Department of Medicine
and Department of Surgery

2025–2026 SEMINAR SERIES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The HSR Seminar Series, hosted by the Department of Health Policy and Management and the Health Services Research Center, will take place every **2nd Wednesday of the month from 12–1 PM ET** in the **Grace Crum Rollins Building (Room 721, 7th Floor)**.

This engaging series brings together expert speakers to discuss timely topics in health policy, health services research, healthcare delivery, and more.

As we plan for the upcoming academic year (Fall 2025 & Spring 2026), we'd love to hear from you!

- Are you interested in giving a talk or serving as a guest speaker
- Do you have topic suggestions or ideas for invited speakers?

We welcome your input and nominations.

Stay Connected

Email Melisa Meza at melisa.meza@emory.edu with your suggestions or interest in participating, or subscribe to our listserv to stay updated on upcoming seminars.



RESEARCH WORK IN PROGRESS (WIP) SEMINARS

FALL 2025 & SPRING 2026

Looking for a supportive platform to share your research and receive valuable feedback? The Research Works in Progress Seminar Series (WIP), a collaboration between the Department of Health Policy and Management and the Health Services Research Center, is here to help.

WIP seminars provide a unique opportunity for students, postdoctoral trainees, and faculty to present research at any stage, from early proposals to nearly finished papers. The seminars foster multidisciplinary discussions, promote community, and help refine work in preparation for grant submissions, manuscript drafts, oral presentations, or thesis defenses.

- **When: Every 4th Wednesday of the month, 12–1 PM ET**
- **Where: Grace Crum Rollins Building 7th Floor Rm 721**

Interested in presenting? Contact Melisa Meza at (melisa.meza@emory.edu) to secure your slot.

Stay Connected: Email Melisa directly or subscribe to our listserv to stay informed.



Join us to collaborate, learn, and advance your research in a welcoming and constructive environment!

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES



Now Hiring: Research Assistant – Health Services Research (HSR) Center

The Health Services Research (HSR) Center at Emory is seeking a highly motivated MPH student to join as a Research Assistant for the 2025–2026 academic year. This REAL-funded position offers hands-on experience in both qualitative and quantitative research, with a strong focus on health equity, kidney failure, transplant access, and health system improvement.

Mentor: Dr. Jessica Harding

Co-Mentors: Dr. Megan Urbanski & Dr. Neal Dickert

Estimated Hours: 10–15 hours/week (Fall & Spring semesters, with potential to extend into Year 2)

About the HSR Center:

The HSR Center supports studies that enhance healthcare systems to ensure high quality, value-based care and optimal patient outcomes. Our work informs both institutional change at Emory and broader national models.

Research Focus Areas Include:

- Disparities in access to kidney transplant (Dr. Harding)
- Psychosocial barriers and transition experiences in kidney failure care (Dr. Urbanski)
- Ethics and decision-making in clinical care (Dr. Dickert)

Key Responsibilities:

- Support HSR Center communications (reports, website updates, seminar coordination)
- Assist with IRB protocols and data use agreements
- Contribute to manuscript and grant preparation
- Perform quantitative and qualitative data analysis
- Participate in planning the Southeastern Kidney Transplant (SEKT) Coalition meeting
- Attend regular project meetings (in-person and virtual)

This position offers the opportunity to pursue a **practicum or thesis** with the HSR Center during your second year.

Interested?

To apply or learn more, contact Jessica Harding at jessica.harding@emory.edu.