



DIABETES IN CALIFORNIA

AUTHORS' BIOS



ALLISON L. DIAMANT, MD, MSHS

Faculty Associate, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research
Assistant Professor, UCLA Medicine

Dr. Allison Diamant is an assistant professor of medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research, Department of Medicine, UCLA School of Medicine. She is a faculty associate of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. Her research focuses on access and quality of care for underserved and vulnerable populations, including studying disparities based on race and ethnicity, health insurance, income, gender, and sexual orientation. Dr. Diamant was the lead researcher on the California Health Interview Survey analyses focusing on diabetes in California. Dr. Diamant is also using CHIS to study the impact of sexual orientation and discrimination among women on their access to health care, health risk behaviors, and health status, through a grant from the Lesbian Health Fund.

Dr. Diamant has been the principal investigator on a number of studies focusing on access to and receipt of care through the safety net in Los Angeles County, including a study of adults receiving General Relief and two large studies focusing on receipt of medical care among patients treated in ambulatory settings in the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. In addition, she is the recipient of a career development award from the American Cancer Society to study racial disparities in colorectal cancer diagnosis and is a coinvestigator on a project focusing on the quality of breast cancer care among previously uninsured women.

Dr. Diamant received her training in health services research through the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program and the UCLA School of Public Health and received her MSHS degree in health services research. She attended the University of California, Berkeley, for her BA in Cultural Geography, Hahnemann University for her MD, and UCLA for her residency training in Internal Medicine.



SUSAN H. BABEY, PhD

Research Scientist, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research

Dr. Susan H. Babey is a research scientist at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. In this role, she directs a set of three research projects focused on Californians and chronic diseases — asthma, diabetes and cancer. Each of the studies utilizes newly collected data from the 2001 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS 2001).

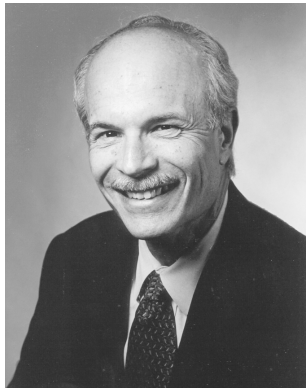
Prior to working at UCLA, Dr. Babey taught in the Psychology Department at the University of West Florida for three years. She also worked on a project examining treatment outcomes for people with a dual diagnosis of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and alcoholism.

Dr. Babey has a PhD in Social Psychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara, with a research specialization in stereotyping, discrimination, group relations, and attitudes. She earned her undergraduate degree in Psychology from Furman University.



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E. RICHARD BROWN, PhD

Director, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research
Professor, School of Public Health

Dr. E. Richard Brown is the director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and is a professor at the UCLA School of Public Health. He received his PhD in Sociology of Education from the University of California, Berkeley.

Center Director Brown has studied and written extensively about a broad range of issues and policies that affect the access of disadvantaged populations to health care. His recent research focuses on health insurance coverage, the lack of coverage, and the effects of public policies, managed care, and market conditions on access to health services, particularly for disadvantaged populations, ethnic minorities, and immigrants. California's governors, legislators, and advocates in crafting health insurance legislation and programs have used Dr. Brown and the Center's studies of health insurance coverage, uninsurance, and eligibility for public programs.

Dr. Brown is the principal investigator for the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), one of the nation's largest ongoing health surveys. CHIS generates statewide and local-level estimates for California's ethnically diverse population and covers a broad range of health issues, including health status and conditions and access to health care.

Extensively involved in the analysis and development of public policies, with particular emphasis on health care reform, Dr. Brown has served as a full-time senior consultant to the President's Task Force on National Health Care Reform, for which he co-chaired the work group on coverage for low-income families and individuals. He has served as health policy adviser to members of the United States Senate, where he has developed health care reform legislation. Dr. Brown also has developed legislation for the California Legislature and advised members on a variety of health policy legislative issues. He has presented invited testimony to numerous committees in both houses of the U.S. Congress and in the California Legislature and has provided consultation to many private, state, federal, and international agencies. He also has served on several National Academy of Sciences study committees. He is a past president of the American Public Health Association (APHA).



NEETU CHAWLA

Research Associate, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research

Neetu Chawla is a research assistant at the Center. She provides support to the research team working on a series of studies and reports on Californians and chronic diseases — asthma, diabetes, and cancer — using data from the 2001 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS 2001). Prior to joining the Center, Ms. Chawla worked as a research assistant and breastfeeding counselor at the Department of Pediatrics at Boston Medical Center working with underserved minority populations. Ms. Chawla has published in *Pediatrics* and *Zero to Three* and has worked abroad at Jagori, an NGO (nongovernmental organization) in New Delhi, India, researching contraception and family planning issues.

Currently, Ms. Chawla is an MPH candidate at the UCLA School of Public Health focusing on maternal and child health and international health. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley with a major in English Literature and a minor in South Asian Studies.