

## **Courtenay Kessler, M.S.**

(June 2010)

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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### **EDUCATION**

Master of Science, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA, 2008  
Department of Society, Human Development, and Health  
Concentration: Maternal and Child Health; Women, Gender and Health

Bachelor of Arts, Harvard College, Cambridge, MA, 2003  
Concentration: Women's Studies

### **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

Community Organizing: Direct Action and Power Relationships Workshop, Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute, February 2010

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, June 2010 – Present  
**Assistant Researcher**, Center for Urban Population Health. Support a variety of evaluation projects under the supervision of the Manager of the Design and Analysis team. Work closely with the Lead Evaluator to design and conduct evaluations for a variety of other community projects. Collaborate with partner community organizations to facilitate process and outcome data collection in aggregate and at individual levels for reporting back to funding agencies.

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, July 2008 – June 2010  
**UW Population Health Fellow**, City of Milwaukee Health Department/Sojourner Family Peace Center. Coordinated numerous projects at two community settings. Major projects included:

- ◆ **Milwaukee County Health Care Intimate Partner Violence Consortium.** Currently coordinating meetings and public activities for local partnership between five healthcare systems, Medical College of Wisconsin, Sojourner Family Peace Center, and Health Department. Support individual hospital

task force activities, including providing draft materials, reviewing assessments and coordinating trainings.

- ◆ **Child Witness to Violence.** Currently conducting qualitative needs assessment around child witness to domestic violence in Milwaukee. Develop interview guide and analysis plan. Interview providers about strengths and gaps in services. Maintain IRB approval.
- ◆ **Nurse-Family Partnership.** Created evaluation plan for local implementation of NFP model in collaboration with program staff and evaluator. Developed satisfaction survey.
- ◆ **H1N1 Risk Communication.** Organized six informational summits, including identification of co-sponsors and invitees, event communication, and material development. Developed planning activity survey for community contacts. Assisted in designing H1N1 website and created content for professionals.
- ◆ **Health indicators data analyses.** Created figures showing trends and national comparisons of health and economic indicators for the City of Milwaukee. Currently creating analysis plan for city sexual assault data. Prepared sections for 2009 Community Health Assessment and edited final report.
- ◆ **Men's Health.** Created initial content for new City of Milwaukee Men's Health website (to be launched 2010).
- ◆ **Grant-writing.** Contributed to several grant proposals, including background, methods, and budget sections.

Brigham and Women's Hospital, September 2006 – June 2008

**Project Manager**, Orthopedic and Arthritis Center for Outcomes Research

Coordinated multi-site NIH-funded study to design a model for the treatment and prevention of osteoarthritis. Administered budget, including sub-contracts. Led internal meetings and developed agendas and content for investigator meetings. Coordinated IRB and data use agreements. Assisted with development of numerous publications.

Brigham and Women's Hospital, July 2004 – August 2006

**Research Assistant**, Arthritis Research Center

Designed forms, letters of invitation, and recruitment materials. Prepared Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) data request packet. Coordinated correspondence with CMS contacts, data managers, and form producers. Tracked patient recruitment. Designed figures using SAS Maps. Assisted with development of numerous publications.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, May 2007 – June 2008

**Program Assistant**, Center for Health Promotion and Wellness

Prepared semiannual progress reports on grant activities for Grant to Reduce Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus. Developed evaluation and needs assessment instruments. Coordinated campus-wide grant advisory group meetings.

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, September 2004 – April 2008

**Certified Rape Crisis Counselor/Peer Back-up**

Provided direct support, referrals, and information to crisis hotline callers. Supported other counselors on high crisis calls, mentored new counselors, and provided training.

Harvard University, September 2001 – June 2003

**Co-director/Counselor**, Response Peer Counseling

Provided direct support, referrals, and information to crisis hotline callers and drop-in clients related to sexual assault and dating violence on Harvard University's campus. Planned and led trainings and coordinated counseling and outreach schedule. Served as spokesperson to outside organizations and Peer Counseling Advisory Board.

Harvard University, May 2003 – August 2003

**Editor**, Women's Studies Office

Produced *Guide to Gender-Related Courses, Programs, and Resources at Harvard* for all first-year students.

## **FUNDED PROJECTS**

**Evaluator- Project LAUNCH – Wisconsin** (funded July 2009-present)

This five year project seeks to increase child wellness and school readiness in eight high-risk zip codes in the city of Milwaukee by providing increased access to home visitation programs, parent readiness programs and mental health consultation. Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

**Evaluator – Wisconsin Arthritis Program** (funded January 2009-present)

Work with the Wisconsin Arthritis Program staff to evaluate their councils, partnerships and initiatives using quantitative and qualitative methods. Funded by the Centers for Disease Control

**Evaluator – Increasing Adolescent Immunization Rates through School Based Clinics**  
(funded July 2009-present)

This partnership with the City of Milwaukee Health Department seeks to increase adolescent immunization rates through application of a quality improvement (QI) process. The evaluation will focus on outcomes of school-based immunization clinics and the application of the QI process. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Losina E, **Kessler CL**, Wright EA, Creel AH, Barrett JA, Fossel AH, Katz JN. Geographic diversity of low volume hospitals in total knee replacement: Implications for regionalization policies. *Med Care*. 2006;44(7):637-45.

Losina E, Wright EA, **Kessler CL**, Barrett JA, Fossel AH, Creel AH, Mahomed NN, Baron JA, Katz JN. Neighborhoods matter: use of hospitals with worse outcomes following total knee replacement by patients from vulnerable populations. *Arch Intern Med*. 2007;167(2):182-7.

Katz JN, **Kessler CL**, O'Connell A, Levine SA. Professionalism, corporatism, and evolving concepts of quality. *J Gen Intern Med.* 2007;22(1):137-9.

Emrani P, Katz JN, **Kessler CL**, Reichmann WM, Wright EA, McAlindon TE, Losina E. Joint Space Narrowing and Kellgren-Lawrence Progression in Knee Osteoarthritis: An Analytic Literature Synthesis. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage.* 2008;16(8):873-82.

Losina E, Walensky RP, **Kessler CL**, Emrani PS, Reichmann WM, Wright EA, Holt HL, Solomon DH, Yelin E, Paltiel AD, Katz JN. Cost-effectiveness of total knee arthroplasty in the United States: patient risk and hospital volume. *Arch Intern Med.* 2009;192(12):1113-21.

Reichmann WM, Katz JN, **Kessler CL**, Jordan JM, Losina E. Determinants of self-reported health status in a population-based sample of persons with radiographic knee osteoarthritis. *Arthritis Rheum.* 2009;61(8):1046-53.

## **REFEREED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Kessler CL**, Phelan MB, Kramer A, Witzack B, Pitre C. Partnership to strengthen community-wide health care response to intimate partner violence. Poster presentation, National Conference on Health and Domestic Violence, New Orleans, LA, USA, October 9-10, 2009.

Melzer M, Beck B, Zahrt D, **Kessler CL**. Addressing violence in children. Workshop presentation, Wisconsin Public Health Association Annual Conference, Middleton, WI, May 26-27, 2010.

**Kessler CL**, Beck B, Pitre C, Skwierawski A, O'Brien M. Child exposure to violence: A local needs assessment to develop a community prevention agenda. Poster presentation, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. (Accepted)

## **AFFILIATIONS**

American Public Health Association  
Wisconsin Public Health Association