PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Public Health
Department of Health Management and Policy

Kenneth M. Langa, assistant professor of health management and policy, Department of Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of health management and policy, without tenure, Department of Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health [also associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Medical School].

Academic Degrees:
M.D. 1994 University of Chicago
Ph.D. 1992 University of Chicago
B.A. 1985 Amherst College

Professional Record:
2006-Present Associate Professor with tenure of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2005-Present Assistant Professor, Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health, University of Michigan
2002-Present Assistant Research Scientist, Institute of Gerontology, University of Michigan
2000-2006 Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
1999-2000 Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan

Teaching: Dr. Langa's teaching is directed towards residents, fellows, and junior faculty. He is an accomplished teacher, particularly in health sciences and health policy research. He has received very positive comments on his teaching performance from the junior faculty and residents in letters and in the teaching evaluations. Dr. Langa has been a guest speaker in a number of courses in the Department of Health Management and Policy and is currently serving on the dissertation committee for a doctoral student in Health Management and Policy. With his strong interests in long-term care policy and other public policy issues related to aging, Dr. Langa fits well with the interests of many faculty and students in the Department of Health Management and Policy.

Research: Dr. Langa's research is in the area of the economics of aging and the costs of chronic disease in older adults, with a focus on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and on long-term care. He has received several highly competitive grants to support his research. Since joining the faculty at the University of Michigan, he has been the principal or co-principal investigator for 16 different grants with total costs of more than $2 million. Dr. Langa has taken on increasingly significant responsibilities on the large-scale UM-based Health and Retirement Study (HRS), on which he has been collaborating since 1998. The HRS is a nationally representative longitudinal study of 22,000 US adults that has been continuously funded by the national Institute on Aging since 1990. He has published 47 articles in peer-reviewed journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA, Journal of the American Geriatrics Association, Journal of Gerontology, and the Journal of General Internal Medicine. His published research on the impact of chronic disease on the amount of time that families spend providing unpaid care to elderly individuals has been widely cited in the health services research literature, as well as the lay press. In addition, this research has had an impact at the national public policy level in that he was invited to present it to the National Advisory Council on Aging at the National Institutes of Health in 2003, and to the United States House of Representatives in 2004. He has also completed research that has informed the clinical treatment of
older adults. Dr. Langa has made major contributions to the health services and health policy literature regarding dementia and chronic conditions among older Americans.

Recent and Significant Publications:


Service: Dr. Langa has been the co-director of the UM Patient Safety Enhancement Program (PSEP) since 2001. In this administrative capacity, he has worked with Dr. Sanjay Saint (director of the PSEP) to improve the quality of patient care by conducting research that focuses on methods of avoiding or preventing adverse patient outcomes or injuries that stem from the processes of healthcare. He has also been the co-director of the UM Collaborative Center for Research and Education in the Care of Older Adults since 2003. Dr. Langa sees his own general medicine clinic patients one half-day per week in the Ambulatory Care Clinic at the Ann Arbor VA Medical Center. In his most recent annual review from the VA, he received the highest possible ranking of "outstanding" for his overall clinic competence.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "...Dr. Langa has established a national reputation as an independent scholar whose work is creative and innovative...His work is essential, and of major clinical and policy importance."

Reviewer (B): "His scholarly contributions have been excellent and sustained, and he is nationally recognized as a leader in geriatrics health services research."
Reviewer (C): "Ken meets, and indeed, exceeds all the benchmarks of academic success. He is well funded by both career development and investigator-initiated grants....He has been invited to present at several important national venues....Both the quality and quantity of his publications are impressive."

Reviewer (D): "Dr. Langa's high visibility and very high quality publications and funding trajectory, along with his receipt of highly prestigious awards such as the Paul Beeson Physician Faculty Scholars Award, place him among the top 5 percent of his peers in Geriatric and General Medicine health services research."

Reviewer (E): "Within Ken's area of specialization around the cost and disability associated with dementia, I believe him to be the leading Scholar in the United States, and I am not aware of anyone more influential internationally."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Langa is outstanding as a teacher, mentor, researcher, and clinician. His research on the critical interface between the cost of care for the chronically ill, elderly, and their medical conditions is a unique focus in gerontology and health services research. He is making a national, if not international impact, in this area. His expertise as a health services researcher along with being a practicing physician, is of great value to the research and teaching missions of the Department of Health Management and Policy. Therefore, we enthusiastically recommend Dr. Kenneth M. Langa for promotion to associate professor of health management and policy, without tenure, Department of Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health.

Kenneth E. Warner
Dean, School of Public Health

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean, Medical School

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