

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

Kenneth M. Langa, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

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| M.D. | 1994 | University of Chicago |
| Ph.D. | 1992 | University of Chicago |
| B.A. | 1985 | Amherst College |

Professional Record:

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| 2002-Present | Assistant Research Scientist, Institute of Gerontology, University of Michigan |
| 2000-Present | Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan |
| 1999-2000 | Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan |

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Langa's main teaching activities have been directed toward mentoring residents, fellows, and other junior faculty in the areas of health services and health policy research. He has spent significant time providing teaching and advice regarding: 1) conceptualizing research questions and data analyses; 2) the use of large administrative and survey databases for health services and health economics research; 3) writing research manuscripts; and 4) writing grant proposals. These teaching activities were supported, in part, by a grant that was received from the Hartford Foundation and the Society of General Internal Medicine to establish the University of Michigan Collaborative Center for Research and Education in the Care of Older Adults. As Co-Director of this Center since January 2003, he has provided research mentoring and teaching to fellows and junior faculty in the Divisions of Geriatric Medicine, General Medicine, Cardiology, and Neurology. This teaching has contributed to numerous senior-authored publications with these fellows and junior faculty, as well as successful applications for career development awards to the NIH. Dr. Langa's clinical teaching has included mentoring residents in the Ambulatory Care Clinic at the Ann Arbor VA for one half-day per week. As the result of this clinical teaching, he was voted one of the "Top 25" teachers in the Department of Internal Medicine (and received the Teaching Incentive Program bonus) during the 2004 academic year based on the teaching evaluations of senior medical residents. He has also taught first- and second-year medical students by leading small-group sessions for a number of different courses over the past six years. In addition, Dr. Langa has directed the Health and Retirement Study Seminar Series since 2001, and co-directed (with Matthew Davis, M.D.) the Ford School of

Public Policy Health Policy Seminar Series in 2001-2002. Dr. Langa presented lectures on the treatment of mixed dementia based on his recent *JAMA* article at a number of academic medical centers, including Harvard Medical School, Washington University Medical School, and Case Western Reserve Medical School.

Research: Dr. Langa's research has been in the general 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. He has received three highly competitive grants to support his work over the past five years. Since joining the General Medicine faculty, he has been the principal or co-principal investigator for 15 different grants with total costs of more than \$1.9 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. During the most recent budget period for the HRS, he was a member of the Health Status and Health Services working groups, and was a co-investigator for the Aging, Demographics, and Memory Study (ADAMS), a supplement to the HRS focused on the community-based study of dementia with a \$6.9 million budget over 4 years. As part of his work for the ADAMS, he led the design of a caregiver questionnaire that is being administered to about 850 caregivers throughout the United States. He has published 35 articles in peer-reviewed journals (21 first- or senior-authored papers), including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, *Journal of the American Geriatrics Association*, *Journal of Gerontology*, and the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. He has also published one book chapter in the *Encyclopedia of Aging*. 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. A clinical review, "Mixed dementia: emerging concepts and therapeutic implications," recently published in *JAMA* examined the important links among cardiovascular disease, strokes, and Alzheimer's disease, as well as potential treatments for each. This paper was widely reported in the lay press and was reviewed in *Scientific American*. In June 2005, he was invited to be a featured speaker on this topic and the related topic of the economic impact of treatments for dementia at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference on the Prevention of Dementia.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Langa KM, Larson EB, Wallace RB, Fendrick AM, Foster NL, Kabeto MU, Weir DR, Willis RJ, Herzog AR. Out-of-pocket health care expenditures among older Americans with dementia. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* 18(2):90-98, 2004.

Langa KM, Foster N, Larson EB: Mixed dementia: Emerging concepts and therapeutic implications. *JAMA* 292(23):2901-2908, 2004.

Langa KM, Vijan S, Hayward R, Chernew M, Blaum C, Kabeto M, Weir D, Katz S, Willis R, Fendrick AM: Informal caregiving for diabetes and diabetic complications among elderly Americans. *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 57B(3):S177-S186, 2002.

Langa KM, Chernew M, Kabeto M, Katz S: The explosion in paid home health care in the 1990's: Who received the additional services? *Medical Care* 39(2):147-157, 2001.

Katz S, Kabeto M, Langa KM: Gender disparities in the receipt of home care for elderly people with disability in the United States. *JAMA* 284(23):3022-3027, 2000.

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. This center was funded by a grant from the Hartford Foundation with the goals of: 1) producing physician-investigator teams among faculty in general medicine and geriatric medicine at the University of Michigan to build the clinical and system knowledge base to advance the care of older adults; and 2) identifying and developing the skills of outstanding physician-educators in general medicine to collaborate with geriatricians to transform the education and training of future physicians in the care of older adults.

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 Review:

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. Therefore, I enthusiastically recommend Dr. Kenneth Langa for promotion to Associate Professor, with tenure, in the Department of Internal Medicine.



Allen S. Lichter, M.D., Dean
*Newman Family Professor
of Radiation Oncology*

May 2006