

Project Title: The Medical Care Communication Experience of Vulnerable Patients in Pain

Investigator: Kelly Haskard

Department: Psychology

Project Summary:

This project was a correlational study involving 6 student research assistants completing ratings of 187 videotaped physician-patient interactions using the Physician-Patient about Communication Scale, a reliable and valid 52-item rating scale that has been used in previous research to judge communication about pain. This study attempted to answer several research questions, including the following: 1) How does physician-patient communication about pain relate to patient satisfaction with medical care? 2) What is the process of communication for patients who are in pain and possess low income, minority ethnicity, and/or limited education? Preliminary analyses indicated that patients with greater pain and other socio-demographic vulnerabilities experienced more negative communication from their physicians, less involvement in their care, and less satisfaction with their medical care.

Publications:

N/A

Presentations:

Haskard, K.B. (2008, March). Development and validation of the Physician-Patient Communication about Pain Scale. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, San Diego, CA.

External Grants Applied:

American Psychological Foundation Visionary Grant, "Screening for Distress in a Diverse Cancer Patient Population" (Kelly Haskard Zolnierrek, PI) - Submitted March 13, 2009. \$10,006.

National Institutes of Health, R21, "Implementing communication-enhanced home exercise for stroke patients" (Kelly Haskard Zolnierrek, Co-Investigator) – Submitted May 25, 2009. \$435,177 direct + indirect costs.

Student Number: 6