



UNC
GILLINGS SCHOOL OF
GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

BIostatISTICS SEMINAR **Student Awards and Grizzle Lecture**

**Jean Orelie, President and CEO
SciMetrika LLC, Durham, N.C**

Population Health in the Era of Health Reform: Role of the Biostatistician

Several elements of health reform will affect entities that have a stake in improving the health of a group of people (i.e., population health) including large employers, health insurance companies, and state and federal health agencies. In particular, the adoption of electronic health records (EHR) will revolutionize population health in terms of conducting surveillance, monitoring quality of care, evaluating program effectiveness and gaining a better understanding of resource utilization. For example, EHR data could potentially render some traditional surveillance systems obsolete because for some outcomes it could produce data that are more timely (readily available) and easier to collect (no additional cost involved in primary data collection) than traditional surveillance systems. At the same time, EHR data could provide information on outcomes that was not previously available such as receipt of preventive services in the clinical setting. Biostatisticians will be called upon to provide analytics for the vast amount of data being gathered which will require forging collaborations with professionals from non-public health disciplines including information technology specialists, laboratory professionals or medical informaticists while continuing to collaborate with more traditional disciplines such as epidemiologists or health behavior experts. Specifically, biostatisticians will be expected to provide leadership on the development of algorithms that identify individual level encounters, methods for data capture and security, and tools that generate reports and data visualizations allowing timely response and decision. In the context of health reform, I will discuss how SciMetrika is positioning itself in the field of population health. I will also address the role that biostatisticians will play and how this role may impact new biostatisticians preparing to enter the workforce.

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Time: 3:00-4:30 PM

Place: 133 Rosenau

(Please note time and room change)