

## Invited Speaker Seminar



**Title:** Function and Outcomes Research for Comparative Effectiveness in Total Joint Replacements (FORCE-TJR)

**Speaker:** Dr Norman Weissman, PhD

Professor, Dept of Quantitative Health Sciences,  
University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA

**Host:** Prof David Matchar, MD

Professor and Director  
Program in Health Services & Systems Research (HSSR)

DATE	VENUE	TIME
23 Jan 2014 (Thurs)	Duke-NUS Amphitheatre, Level 2	10.30am – 11.30am

### About the Lecture:

Primary total knee (TKR) and hip (THR) replacement surgeries are among the most common and costly inpatient procedures in the US. Despite the surgery's proven effectiveness in relieving advanced knee and hip arthritis pain, recent data suggest that all-cause US complication rates range from 2.2% to 8.9%, with a median of 4.2%. This variation underscores the urgent need for systematic evidence to inform patient and clinician decisions about optimal TJR surgical technique, device selection, patient selection and timing, and post-operative care. Led by a team of researchers and surgeons at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, we have transformed a network of more than 120 orthopedic practices into a research laboratory generating comparative effectiveness research. We defined a new paradigm for quality monitoring following TJR that highlights longitudinal patient reported outcomes (PROs), as well as device failures and post-operative complications. Thus far, we have prospectively enrolled nearly 15000 patients.

### About the Speaker:

Prior to joining the faculty at UMASSMED in 2009, Dr. Weissman spent 14 years at UAB, preceded by twenty-four years in the U.S. Public Health Service, most of them as Director of Extramural Research at predecessor organizations of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). He is an Associate Editor of the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Healthcare, and a consultant on health services research to many governmental agencies and private organizations. He has recently served as Chairman of the VA-HSR&D Scientific Merit Review Board and on national advisory committees for the Association of University Programs in Health Administration, the Robert Wood Johnson Family Foundation, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the National Library of Medicine, and Morehouse College of Medicine. He is a member of the American Public Health Association, Society of General Internal Medicine, Academy Health and the Association of University Programs on Health Administration.

Dr. Weissman has received numerous honors and awards. At UAB, he was designated an Alabama Eminent Scholar and awarded the R.L. Jordan Endowed Chair in Health Services Administration. He is a Senior Scholar in the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy and was a member the Strategic Advisory Committee to the Pittman General Clinical Research Center. While at the Department of Health and Human Services, was appointed to the Senior Executive Service and recognized for contributions to the development of information on the delivery and financing of health care for persons infected with HIV. He was given a citation for contributions to Improving Medical Criteria for Disability Determination and for contributions to the development of Primary Care Research. Earlier in his career, Dr. Weissman received the NASA Apollo Achievement Award for Contributions to Space Missions.

**All are welcome**

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