



*Second Conference on
Aging in the Americas*



*Key Issues in
Hispanic Health
and Health Care
Policy Research*

*September 21-22, 2005
Bass Lecture Hall*

*Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs
The University of Texas at Austin*

Program

Wednesday, September 21

6:00 p.m.

Cocktail Reception and Dinner

(by invitation)

Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum
2313 Red River Street
Tenth Floor, Atrium

Hosted by LBJ Library and Museum
Director Betty Sue Flowers

Thursday, September 22

7:30–8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m.

Introductions and Welcome

Jacqueline Angel, The University
of Texas at Austin

Ken Shine, UT System Executive Vice Chancellor for
Health Affairs

8:45 a.m.

Introduction of Opening Keynote Speaker

Victoria Rodríguez, Vice Provost and Dean, Office of
Graduate Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

8:50–9:30 a.m.

Opening Keynote Speaker

Julio Frenk Mora, Secretary of Health, Ministry of
Health, Mexico

“Challenges in Public Health along the Texas-Mexico Border”



- What are the growing challenges in Latino health in Mexico and in the United States for the young, the old, and the poor?
- Do Mexican-origin individuals, families, and communities along the U.S.-Mexico Border have unique health care service needs?
- From a public health perspective, what behavioral, social, and mental health risk factors are most important to study?

9:30–9:45 a.m.

Break

Session I: Exploring the Health Consequences of Hispanic Mortality

9:45–11:00 a.m.

Key investigators involved in the Longitudinal Study of Elderly Mexican American Health, the Sacramento Area Health and Aging Study, as well as nationally recognized demographers will present their current analytic work on the effects of dementia and physical morbidity on mortality in the older Mexican-origin population.

Presenter

Adela Gonzalez, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth

Panelists

Karl Eschbach, James Goodwin and Sohan Al Snih, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston
Kyriakos Markides, Karl Eschbach, Kristen Peek, and Laura Ray, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston

Mary Haan, Vivian Colón López and Hector González, University of Michigan

Discussants

Alberto Palloni, University of Wisconsin
Mark Hayward, The University of Texas at Austin
Robert Hummer and Sarah McKinnon, The University of Texas at Austin

Points of Discussion

- What factors make Mexican-origin adults vulnerable to leading causes of morbidity and chronic illness?
- What are the effects of socioeconomic status and international migration on health behavior and health status?
- What can the Mexican American epidemiological paradox tell us about healthy aging? How do language and social capital influence these health outcomes?

11:00–11:15 a.m.

Break

Session II: The Economics of Hispanic Aging: New Findings from Mexican Health and Aging Studies

11:15–12:30 p.m.

Participants will focus on several issues, including the extent to which the timing of immigration from Mexico and other Latin American countries affects how Hispanics grow old, their propensity to use informal and formal supports, and how these outcomes are associated with indicators of cultural and structural incorporation.

Presenter

Andres Villarreal, The University of Texas at Austin

Panelists

Rebeca Wong, University of Maryland, and Monica Espinoza, Princeton University

V. Nelly Salgado de Snyder, National Institute of Public Health of Mexico

Discussants

Roberto Ham-Chande, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte
Felicia Knaul, Fundación Mexicana para la Salud
Peter Ward, The University of Texas at Austin

Points of Discussion

- How does the timing of immigration, citizenship, and length of time spent in the United States affect how Mexican-origin people grow old in the United States?
- What is the economic security of families in the United States and Mexico as they face the burdens of caring for children and elderly?
- What are the influences of the “disability trajectory” on the probability of living and care arrangements among older individuals of Mexican origin?

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Lunch

Session III: Health Insurance and Access to Acute and Long-term Care Services among Hispanics

1:30–2:45 p.m.

Policy Roundtable

Participants will examine the ways in which intra-group diversity in the Mexican-origin population affects the health and social welfare of individuals and family members. Because Latino elders in South Texas are a particularly vulnerable and underserved population, emphasis will be placed on the unique health care needs of older Mexican Americans and their providers along the Texas-Mexico border. The issue is especially important in light of the growing fiscal crisis manifesting itself in the state of Texas.

Presiders

Fernando Trevino and Alberto Coustasse-Hencke,
University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort
Worth

Panelists

David Warner, The University of Texas at Austin
Sharon Brown, The University of Texas at Austin
Elena Bastida, The University of Texas at El Paso, and
Shelton Brown, The University of Texas at Brownsville
David Espino, The University of Texas Health Science
Center, San Antonio
Rogelio Saenz, Texas A&M University and Mercedes
Rubio, American Sociological Association, Minority
Affairs

Points of Discussion

- Do elderly Mexican-origin persons have health insurance, and what are the barriers to obtaining insurance?
 - What are the barriers to access acute and long-term care services?
 - Does chronic poverty in and of itself explain the differential access to and quality of acute and chronic care?
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Session IV: Poster Session

2:45–3:30 p.m. (Refreshments will be served)

Researchers engaged in population health, health care policy, and aging research will participate in this session. The session will examine the lessons learned from other nations and their implications for the health and social welfare of older Mexican-origin individuals.

Presenter and Chair

Cynthia Buckley, The University of Texas at Austin

Student Coordinator

Terrence Hill, The University of Texas at Austin

Poster Session I—“Aging in the Americas: Lessons from Abroad”

Poster Session II—“Public Policies and Hispanic Aging”

Poster Session III—“Biobehavioral Factors and Hispanic Health”

3:30–3:45 p.m.

Break

3:45–4:00 p.m.

Poster Awards Presentation

Judges

Juan Sanchez, Vice President of Research, The University of Texas at Austin

Toni Miles, University of Louisville Medical School

Helen Hazuda, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

4:00 p.m.

Introduction of Closing Keynote Speaker

Keith Whitfield, The Pennsylvania State University

4:05–5:00 p.m.

Closing Keynote Speaker

Ronald Angel, Professor of Sociology, The University of Texas at Austin

“Realistic Solutions for the Health Insurance Crisis”



- What realistic health care financing reforms are politically possible and economically desirable in the next decade, and how might they affect Hispanics?
- Since a large number of the uninsured are employed, could employer subsidies extend coverage to a significant fraction of uninsured Hispanics?
- Can future health insurance reforms targeted toward Hispanics include market-based solutions or be based on public/private partnerships?

5:00–5:15 p.m.

Final Remarks

Adolph Falcón, National Alliance for Hispanic Health

5:15–7:00 p.m.

Wine and Cheese Reception

View winning posters

Sponsors

*Center for Population Health and Health Disparities
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston*

*Janet F. Harte Lectureship in Population Issues
LBJ School of Public Affairs*

*Population Research Center
The University of Texas at Austin*

*Center on Population Health and Aging
The Pennsylvania State University*

National Alliance for Hispanic Health

Foundation for Insurance Regulatory Studies in Texas

*Latin American Initiative
Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost
The University of Texas at Austin*

*Building Disciplines Program, Connexus
The University of Texas at Austin*

AARP Global Aging Program

*Task Force on Minority Issues in Gerontology
The Gerontological Society of America*

National Institute on Aging



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