

Celebrating PCRC Founding Director Rowena Dolor's Career and Retirement.



Former and current colleagues and friends gathered to honor Dr. Rowena Dolor as she transitions to Professor Emeritus after over 40 years of dedication to Duke. Dr. Dolor arrived at Duke in 1983 to attend college and received her

undergraduate degree in 1987 and her medical degree in 1991. She started her time with General Internal Medicine with her residency in 1994, followed by an Ambulatory Care/HSR fellowship at the Durham VA. She joined the faculty at the end of her fellowship, making her Duke career span over 4 decades.

Among Dr. Dolor's many legacies is the founding of Duke's [Primary Care Research Consortium](#), an AHRQ-registered Practice Based Research Network (PBRN), which recently celebrated its 28th anniversary and is co-chaired by Dr. Ranee Chatterjee. Dolor has worked to bring together the North Carolina PBRN's into the North Carolina Network Consortium, a statewide network of providers, academic institutions and patients that addresses pressing questions related to the delivery of primary care health services and the management of primary care problems.

Welcome Will Yancy, MD, New PCRC Co-Director

The Duke Primary Care Research Consortium (PCRC) is thrilled to announce that William S. Yancy, Jr., MD, MHS, FTOS has joined the PCRC as its new codirector as of Jan. 1.

Dr. Yancy is a board-certified general internist and obesity medicine specialist who is a professor of medicine at Duke University School of Medicine. He is medical director of the Duke Lifestyle and Weight Management Center and recently served as interim chief of the Duke Division of General Internal Medicine. He has led or collaborated on dozens of clinical research studies, resulting in over 150 scientific publications, primarily on obesity management using nutritional and medical approaches. Dr. Yancy is a fellow of The Obesity Society and a diplomate of the American Board of Obesity Medicine. He has received several awards for his research including research career development awards from the VA, The Obesity Society's Ethan Sims Young Investigator Award, the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), and the Nutrition & Metabolism Society Award for Excellence in Nutrition & Metabolism.



Dr. Yancy will serve alongside Ranee Chatterjee, MD, MPH, who is now the director for the PCRC after serving as co-director for approximately eight years. The PCRC celebrated outgoing director and founder Rowena Dolor, MD, MHS, in December as she transitioned to professor

emeritus. Thank you to all who helped us honor her lifetime of dedication to primary care research at Duke.

"I am thrilled to join PCRC as co-director with Ranee and want to thank all of you for welcoming me at recent gatherings and meetings. I am very excited about the lines of research PCRC is involved in and can't wait to become immersed in several current studies. I am very impressed and

grateful for the excellent foundation that Rowena and Raneé have built for PCRC. I wish Rowena the best in her retirement; her legend will endure. I look forward to helping PCRC's impact grow.”

— Will Yancy, MD, MHS, FTOS

Re-Think the Strip Paper published

NCNC Co-Director Katrina Donahue, MD MPH and colleagues published [“Re-Think the Strip: de-implementing a low value practice in primary care”](#).

This was a 12-month de-implementation project done in 20 Primary Care Clinics in North Carolina designed to reduce the odds of receiving a prescription for diabetes testing supplies for patients who have non-insulin treated type 2 diabetes.

In previous work ([link to monitor trial here](#)) these patients who test once a day vs those whose blood sugar control is monitored with quarterly A1c tests have the same outcomes.

While there was a decrease in the odds of receiving a prescription for diabetes testing supplies, there was no statistical difference between the 20 intervention clinics and non-intervention comparison clinics in the same health system.

A sensitivity analysis was performed that indicated there was a small intervention effect in the patients who were newly diagnosed with type 2 diabetes or were a new patient in a study clinic.

The authors noted that the baseline prescribing rate in these clinics was lower than previous estimates. Additionally, some of the comparison clinics had participated in the previous Monitor Trial and may have self de-implemented.

Additional limitations arose from the timing of the study during the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting reduction in clinic visits and the increase in staff turnover.

Kathleen Mottus earns the Tim Carey Mensch Award from the NC Translational and Clinical Science Institute at UNC.

The average person spends a third of their life at work, so it's fair to say it dramatically impacts our quality of life. The people we work with are a large part of how positively we view the time we spend at work.

A Mensch is a person who regularly demonstrates and exhibits reliability, kindness, and helps make your day just a bit nicer. They are the colleague you trust has your best interest at heart.

This award is named for Dr. Tim Carey, who led the Cecil G Sheps Center for many years before leading NC TraCS [until his retirement](#).



Kathleen was nominated for being flexible and supportive when it comes to keeping the NCNC group organized, patiently guiding co-workers with documents and spreadsheets, answering people's questions and sharing tips to make people's work easier and more efficient.

Acknowledgements

NCNC would like to thank UNC's [Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research](#) and the [NC Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute](#) for all they do that make our work possible.



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