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Department of Medicine
Channing Division of Network Medicine

Channing Network Science Seminar

Oct 28 (Friday), 2016, 11am @ 5th floor conference room



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Patients' social networks and health outcomes

Every patient is embedded in a social network of interpersonal connections that influence health outcomes. My work aims to closely examine the effects of social networks on health outcomes using small and large datasets. In federally funded research, I map the personal networks of stroke survivors. The approach reveals the diversity of network structure and composition that relate to patient outcomes after stroke. I reveal that personal network information can be considered a risk factor as important as traditional cardiovascular risk factors such as hypertension and high cholesterol. A second project in my laboratory is to examine the movement of patients between hospitals and its impact on stroke and myocardial infarction outcomes. We use health administrative data to construct graphs of hospital connectivity, patient flow, and their influence on patient outcomes and hospital performance.

Bio: Dr. Amar Dhand is a neurologist and network scientist. He received his MD from Harvard Medical School and his DPhil from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. His graduate work with Professor Geoffrey Walford focused on peer learning among heroin users in New Delhi. He completed a medical internship, neurology residency and fellowship at UCSF. He is currently Assistant Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School with a joint appointment at the Network Science Institute at Northeastern University.

Hosted by Yang-Yu Liu