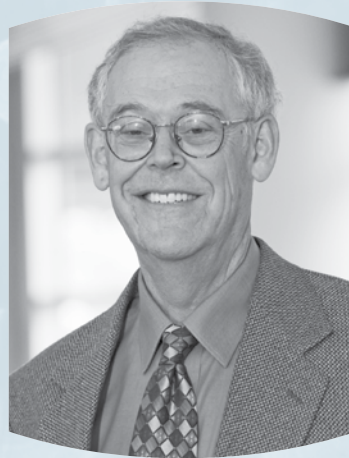


RESEARCH & TEACHING AWARDS



2010

Morris F. Collen Research Awards
Teaching Awards for Excellence



Morris F. Collen, MD

In 1948, Morris F. Collen, MD, became one of the seven founding physicians of The Permanente Medical Group. As a clinician, researcher and teacher, Dr. Collen made significant contributions to the Medical Group and Kaiser Permanente members. Today he is recognized internationally for his pioneering work in applying computer technology to medicine.

From 1953 to 1961, Dr. Collen served as Physician-in-Chief in San Francisco. He became Director of Medical Methods Research (now the Division of Research) in 1961, ending his tenure in 1979 when he became Director, Division of Technology Assessment.

Dr. Collen's work in medical computing soon attracted national attention. He was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science in 1981, and served as Chair of the Library of Medicine's Board of Scientific Counselors from 1985 to 1987. As a Scholar-in-Residence from 1987 to 1993, he wrote a history of medical applications of the computer.

Since 1983, Dr. Collen has served as a Consultant with the Division of Research, and he remains an enthusiastic supporter of research and teaching in TPMG.

"To be a good physician, you have to keep up with what is new, which means you have to be involved in research and training. So patient care is our first obligation, and to maintain a good quality of care, we must also research and teach. And we do."

~ Morris F. Collen, MD

The TPMG

Research and Teaching Awards
were established in 2003 to
acknowledge the extraordinary
accomplishments of practicing
clinicians who also excel in
research and teaching.



Ralph Brindis, MD, MPH

Cardiology, East Bay Area

Few have done more to advance the nationwide collection, analyses and distribution of cardiovascular clinical outcomes data than Ralph Brindis, MD.

In 1998, the American College of Cardiology asked Dr. Brindis to chair its newly created National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR). Dr. Brindis was among the first to recognize the registry's potential value and champion its creation and expansion. Under his leadership from 1998 to 2008, the registry grew to gather clinical outcomes data from over 2,400 hospitals and more than 11 million patient records. It has expanded from one to six separate cardiovascular registries.

Today, the registries play an increasingly important role in helping our nation's hospitals and physicians assess and improve the quality of cardiovascular care. The registries have also become an instrumental tool in post-market drug and medical device surveillance and in comparative effectiveness research. A growing number of public and private agencies, including KP, use NCDR data to help achieve health care that is effective, equitable and safe.

Dr. Brindis has co-authored nearly 100 major papers and is in great demand as a lecturer around the world. In March 2010, he was elected President of the American College of Cardiology, an honor that attests to the high regard of his colleagues.

**Morris F. Collen
Research Award**

**ORIGINAL RESEARCH
BY A
TPMG CLINICIAN**



Marketa Dolnik, MD

Critical Care Medicine, Santa Clara

Marketa Dolnik, MD is recognized for her outstanding work as reported in the article “Hetastarch increases the risk of bleeding complications in patients after off-pump coronary bypass surgery: A randomized clinical trial,” published in *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* (September 2009).

Dr. Dolnik served as the lead investigator on a study that was designed to help resolve an active debate about whether the intraoperative use of hetastarch for volume replacement in coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery increases the risk of postoperative bleeding, a major concern in bypass surgery.

Prior studies, conducted elsewhere, had already determined that hetastarch use in patients undergoing on-pump CABG is associated with an increased risk of postoperative bleeding. Dr. Dolnik’s study took the next step in resolving the hetastarch debate by looking at its use during off-pump coronary artery bypass (OPCAB) procedures.

She and her team designed a double-blinded randomized clinical trial to investigate the question. Study findings were strong and definitive – the intraoperative administration of hetastarch does indeed carry an increased risk of postoperative bleeding after OPCAB.

Her study significantly adds to the body of knowledge about hetastarch use during bypass surgery and raises serious questions about the advisability of its use as the default volume expander in CABG surgery.

Morris F. Collen Research Award

ORIGINAL RESEARCH
BY A
TPMG CLINICIAN



TEACHING EXCELLENCE
AWARD IN GRADUATE
MEDICAL EDUCATION

William Raskoff, MD

Cardiology, San Francisco

Inspired by his own professors while still a medical student at Stanford University, William Raskoff, MD has gone on to become an inspirational educator in his own right.

In the past 35 years, he has taught generations of general internists and aspiring cardiologists. With the recent establishment of a Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship at KPSF, his skills as a teacher are now enhancing the education of advanced trainees.

During his own training, Dr. Raskoff was deeply impressed by the humanity of many of his teachers and their ability to apply the most modern technology and science without sacrificing compassion for their patients. He now models this delicate balance between science and compassion for his own students.

From him, they learn that everything about a patient counts – not just their disease. They learn the importance of identifying the unique characteristics of each patient, and shaping treatment accordingly.

As a former resident recalls with admiration, “I have watched Bill patiently help countless interns and residents retain humanity and consideration for the lives they are responsible for, even while imparting more complex and sophisticated technical knowledge and skills. Every last one of these people winds up being a better doctor, and sometimes even a better person.”



TEACHING EXCELLENCE
AWARD IN CONTINUING
MEDICAL EDUCATION

Kevin Walsh, MD

Chemical Dependency Recovery Program

North Valley

Physicians throughout the North Valley are communicating better than ever with their patients. Since becoming a communication consultant in 1995, Dr. Kevin Walsh has worked tirelessly and with great skill to teach physicians how to communicate more effectively with their patients, colleagues and support staff.

In 1997, he became one of the original teachers of the Patient-Provider Interaction class – a course that has proven so effective it's a standard throughout the region.

In recognition of Dr. Walsh's skills as a teacher, in 2004 he was asked to help develop and deliver Let's Rap, an intensive two-day communication skills program. His courses are credited with helping many physicians improve their patient satisfaction scores, and today the North Valley leads the region in the Member Patient Satisfaction survey results.

Over the past several years, the North Valley Continuing Medical Education department has granted 4,000+ hours to physicians for attending Dr. Walsh's programs. He also spends considerable time recruiting and training other physicians to teach communication skills, to expand the availability of training to the nearly 1,000 physicians in the North Valley service area.

In addition, he presents popular lectures on clinical topics relating to chronic pain, addiction and mind-body health.