



Michelle J. Ko, M.D., Ph.D.

Research/Academic Interests

Dr. Ko's research examines how policy, healthcare, and social structure are interconnected, and their impacts on disadvantaged communities. Dr. Ko has conducted studies on a variety of topics, including the healthcare safety net, Medicaid, long-term care, access to healthcare for minority populations, diversity in medical education, and the healthcare workforce.

Dr. Ko also has a strong commitment to supporting the success of first-generation, under-represented and otherwise disadvantaged students to succeed in undergraduate and health professions education.

Title Assistant Professor

Specialty Health Policy

Department [Public Health Sciences](#)

Division [Health Policy and Management](#)

Center/Program Affiliation [Public Health Sciences](#)
[Center for Healthcare Policy and Research](#)

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Education M.D., UCLA School of Medicine, Los Angeles CA 2004
Ph.D., Health Policy and Management, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, Los Angeles CA 2012
B.A., Harvard University, Cambridge MA 1994

Internships UCLA, Los Angeles CA 2004-2005

Professional Memberships Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy
American Public Health Association

Honors and Awards Delta Omega Honor Society, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, 2012
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Pre-doctoral Training Fellowship, merit-based award for the top one/two students in the UCLA Department of Health Policy and Management 2006, 2007, 2012
UCLA Graduate Division University Fellowship, 2012
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health Celia and Joseph Blann Fellowship Awarded annually to the top two senior doctoral candidates, 2011



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Select Recent Publications

To view a detailed list of Dr. Ko's publications, please [click here](#).

2. Ko M, Newcomer R, Harrington C, Hulett D, Kang T, Bindman AB. Predictors of nursing facility entry by Medicaid-only older adults and persons with disabilities in California. *Inquiry*. 2018. doi: 10.1177/0046958018768316

1. Ko M, Sanders C, de Guia S, Shimkhada R, Ponce NA. Managing diversity to eliminate disparities: A framework for health. *Health Affairs*. 2018. Sep;37(9): 1383-93

Ko M, Cummings JC, Ponce NA. Changes in the supply of rural health centers, 2000-2011: Implications for rural minority communities. *Journal of Rural Health*. 2016 June; 32.3 (2016): 245-253.

Cummings JR, Wen H, Ko M. Decline in public substance abuse disorder treatment centers most serious in counties with high shares of black residents. *Health Affairs*. 2016 June;35:1036-1044.

Ko M, Murphy J, Bindman AB. Integrating health care for the most vulnerable: Bridging the differences in organizational cultures between U.S. hospitals and community health centers. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2015 November;105 (Supp. 5):S676-9.

Ponce NA, Ko M, Liang SY, Armstrong J, Haas JS. Early diffusion of gene expression profiling in breast cancer patients associated with areas of high income inequality. *Health Affairs*, Editor's Pick for Top Ten in 2015. 2015 April;34(4): 609-15.

Ko M, Newcomer RJ, Kang T, Hulett D, Chu P, Bindman AB. Payment rates for personal care assistants and the use of long-term services and supports among those dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. *Health Services Research*, Best of Academyhealth Annual Research Meeting 2014



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Ko M, Derose KP, Needleman J, Ponce NA. Whose social capital matters? The case of U.S. urban public hospital closures and privatizations. *Social Science and Medicine*. 2014 August;114: 188-196.

Ko M, Needleman J, Derose KP, Laugesen M, Ponce NA. Residential segregation and the survival of U.S. urban public hospitals. *Medical Care Research and Review*. 2014 June;71(3): 243-60.

Ko M, Ponce NA. Community residential segregation and the local supply of Federally Qualified Health Centers. *Health Services Research*. 2013. Feb: 48(1): 253-70.

Cummings, JR, Wen H, Ko M, Druss BG. Geography and the Medicaid mental health care infrastructure: Implications for health care reform. *JAMA Psychiatry*. 2013 Oct;70(10):1084-1090.

Ko M, Heslin K, Edelstein R, Grumbach K. The role of medical education in reducing healthcare disparities: the first ten years of the UCLA/Drew Medical Education Program. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 2007 May;22(5):625-31.

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