



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**26 Exceptional Young Physicians Selected for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation®  
(RWJF) *Clinical Scholars* Fellowship**

Chapel Hill, N.C.—The *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars*® program is pleased to announce the selection of 26 of the country’s most promising physician leaders, who will develop the skills to lead the transformation of America’s health and health care. They will begin their two-year fellowships in July 2012.

“The *Clinical Scholars* program is one of RWJF’s flagship programs and is among the oldest and most prestigious fellowships awarded to physicians,” said David M. Krol, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P., Human Capital team director at RWJF and a *Clinical Scholar* alumnus. “*Clinical Scholars* have paved the way for physicians who want to take a leadership role in improving health and health care in the United States.”

The new *Clinical Scholars* are young physicians who were selected competitively from more than 90 applicants enrolled in medical and surgical residencies across the United States. Through a partnership of more than 30 years, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will support twelve of the 26 scholars through VA Medical Centers affiliated with the participating universities: Yale University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Michigan and the University of California, Los Angeles. These universities are also providing support for six of the 26 scholars in combination with RWJF and VA funding.

“Our new scholars will address a range of issues, including youth violence prevention, the impact of robots in surgery, childhood obesity, mental illness and the expansion of primary care in the United States, among many other challenges to improving the health and health care of Americans,” said Desmond K. Runyan, M.D., Dr.P.H., national program director for the *Clinical Scholars* program.

Through the program, scholars will spend two years examining the delivery, impact and organization of health care. In addition to training in leadership, health policy and health services research methods, *Clinical Scholars* are trained in community-based participatory research (CBPR). By engaging community members in the research process, the CBPR model creates a two-way exchange that aims to improve health behaviors while bringing resources and greater visibility to the health issues within a particular community.

Click [here](#) for a full list of the 2012 *Clinical Scholars*. For more information about the *Clinical Scholars* program visit <http://rwjfsp.unc.edu/>

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*The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and*

*health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 35 years, the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org).*

*For an overview of RWJF scholar and fellow opportunities, visit [www.RWJFleaders.org](http://www.RWJFleaders.org).*