

Curriculum Vitae

John Abramson, MD MSc

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Place of Birth: Cambridge, MA

Education:

1970	BA cum laude	Harvard College	Social Relations
1971-2		Harvard College	Premedical courses
1974	BMS	Dartmouth Medical School	Medicine
1976	MD	Brown Medical School	Medicine

Postdoctoral Training:

1982	MS	Case Western Reserve University	Family Medicine
1976-77	Internship	Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill, NC	Family medicine
1979-81	Residency	University Hospitals of Cleveland, OH (Case Western Reserve University)	Family practice
1980-82	Fellow	Case Western Reserve University	Robert Wood Johnson Fellow in Family Medicine

Licensure and Certification:

1982	Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine. License No. 49182
1982	Diplomate, American Board of Family Practice 1982, recertified 1989, 1995, 2001, 2007

Academic Appointments:

1992-3	Senior Research Associate, Institute for Health Policy, The Heller School, Brandeis University
1997-2010	Clinical Instructor, Dept. of Ambulatory Care and Prevention, Harvard Medical School
2010-Present	Lecturer, Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School

Hospital or Affiliated Institution Appointments:

1982-2002	Medical Staff	Beverly Hospital
1994-2002	Medical Staff	Lahey Clinic

Other Professional Positions and Major Visiting Appointments:

1977-9	National Health Service Corps, US Public Health Service
1982-2002	Family physician, Hamilton-Wenham Family Practice, Hamilton, MA
1986-1993	Associate Medical Director, Pru-Care of MA
1994-2001	Chair, Department of Family Practice, Lahey Clinic, Burlington MA
2005-2012	Executive Director of Health Management, Wells Fargo Health Solutions
2005-Present	Expert in Litigation involving pharmaceuticals and medical devices

Hospital and Health Care Organization Service Responsibilities:

1989-1991	Member, Board of Trustees, Beverly Hospital
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Major Committee Assignments:

1993-5	Chair, Graduate medical Education Committee (Family Practice Residency), Beverly Hospital
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Professional Societies:

1982-2002 Massachusetts Medical Society
1982 American Academy of Family Practice

Awards and Honors:

1996, 1999 Community Newspapers "Readers' Choice Award for Best Doctor", Beverly, Hamilton, Wenham
1999 Center for the Study of Services "Guide to Top Doctors"
2000 Castle Connolly/Town and Country's Guide to Primary care Physicians
2001 Castle Connolly/AOL-Digital City "Guide to Top Doctors"
2002 Selected to be included in Lady's Home Journal: The Best Family Doctors in America (had left practice to write book so name did not appear in magazine)
2003 Profiled in Harvard Magazine article: "Doctored Research?" Nov-Dec issue

Part II:

Research, Teaching, and Clinical Contributions

A. Primary Care Clerkship and mentorship program: Harvard Medical School, preceptor of third-fourth year student for the next eight years. Teaching activities have also included the elective course and independent study in "Healing and Spirituality" as listed below.

D. Report of Teaching

1. Local Contributions

1992-1994 Harvard Medical School
Two years
Primary Care Mentorship Program
Mentor
One first-year medical student per year

1994-2001 Harvard Medical School
Eight years (One student per year)
Primary Care Clerkship
Preceptor

1999-2001 Harvard Medical School
Three years (average 12 students per year)
Healing and Spirituality in Medicine
Elective
Faculty 1999, Course Co-director 2000 and 2001

2002 Harvard Medical School
Independent Study
Healing and Spirituality

2002-2007 Harvard Medical School
Primary Care Clerkship
Tutor

2003 Harvard Medical School
Independent Study
Healing and Spirituality

2008-Present Harvard Medical School

Health Policy Course Tutor (HC750)

2. Presentations:

- 1981 A prepaid primary care network for private and AFDC patients: an alliance between the private and public sectors. National Governor's Association Conference on Primary Care Networks, New Orleans, LA.
- 1982 Participation of a residency based family practice center in an innovative case management program. Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, Chicago, IL.
- 1983 The economic impact of a primary care network on primary care physicians and Medicaid costs. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Princeton, NJ.
- 1984 Primary care of de-institutionalized retarded adults in the community. HCFA Meeting of Federal Surveyors of Intermediate Care Facilities, Portland, ME.
- 1991 The role of physicians in the Michigan Comprehensive Community Health Models Project. Pew Health Policy Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA
- 1999 The role of the physician/patient relationship in the healing process. Topics in Internal Medicine (Lahey Clinic), Portsmouth, NH
- 2002-5 Healing our Critically Ill Health Care System. Clinical Training in Mind/Body Medicine. Mind/Body Medical Institute/Harvard Medical School Continuing Education, Boston, MA
- 2004 The Quality of Our Medical Knowledge: Vioxx and Statins. Heller School for Social Policy
NCEP Recommendations: Preventing Heart Disease or Pushing Drugs?. Encino-Tarzan Regional Medical Center, CA.
Grand Rounds, Beverly Hospital Beverly MA: NCEP Recommendations: Preventing Heart Disease or Pushing Drugs?
- 2005 Williams College; Lessons from Vioxx: Misinforming Doctors, Harming Patients and Making money, 1/11/05
New York City Department of Public Health, Chronic Disease Grand Rounds, 2/4/05
Bellevue Hospital Medical Seminar 2/9/05
Denver Forum, Denver CO 2/10/05
Woman's National Democratic Club, Washington DC, 3/3/05
Congressional Task Force on Prescription Drugs, Washington DC, 3/3/05
Mind Body Medical Institute Harvard Medical School 3/23/05
San Diego City Club 4/8./05
Alternative Therapy Conference, San Francisco, Keynote Address: "Overdosed America." 4/9/05
University of Michigan (Undergraduate course in health policy) 4/05/05
Health Care Benefits Forum, Chicago Hyatt Regency, Keynote Address: 4/7/05
City Club of San Diego, 4/08/05
Alternative Health Conference, San Francisco CA 4/9/05
Harvard Medical School, Cabot Lecture Series, 4/25/05
Drug Therapy Conference, British Columbia 4/16/05
Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn NY, 4/27/05
Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton MA 4/29/05
Harvard School of Public Health, 5/02/05
Southern Vermont Area Health Education Center, 5/07/05
Chilten Club of Boston, 05/26/05
Hiram B. Curry Memorial Lecture, University of S. Carolina Dept Family Practice, 6/6/05
Harvard Medical School, Mind/Body Medical Institute Continuing Medical Education 6/15/05
Vermont Citizens Campaign for Health 6/16/05
Medical Foundation of Boston, 6/21/05

Harvard Club of Boston, 6/22/05
Hamilton Wenham Public Library 6/23/05
World Pension Forum, Chatham MA, 7/12/05
Boulderfest, Boulder CO, 7/14/05
Center for Popular Economic, Amherst MA, 8/1/05
Public Policy Virginia, Roanoke VA, 9/17/05
Fletcher Allen Hospital, Burlington Vermont 9/26/05
University of Vermont Medical School 9/26/05
Central Vermont Hospital 9/27/05
Vermont Medical Society 9/27/05
Cayuga Medical Center of Ithica, 9/30/05
Michigan State Medical Society Bioethics Conference, 10/08/05
Harvard Medical School, Mind/Body Medical Institute Continuing Education
Course 10/17/05
U Mass Med School, Community Medicine 10/19/05
Massachusetts Medical Society/Medical students 10/19/05
Rotary Club, Charleston, WV, 10/21/05
National Legislative Association on Prescription Drug Prices, Charleston, WV
10/21/05
League of Women Voters, Hamilton, MA, 10/30/05
Sharp Medical Center, San Diego, CA 11/04/05
Pacific College Symposium, San Diego CA 11/05/05
Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA 12/7/05

2006

LA Country Employee Pension Association 1/26/06
West Virginia House and Senate 2/1/06
George Washington Medical School panel about Drug reps on campus 2/9/06
HealthFirst Conference 2/22/06
Cambridge Health Alliance Family Medicine Grand Rounds 2/24/06
Harvard Medical School Pharmacology Patient Safety Session "The Vioxx
example" 2/28/06
Nieman Journalism Fellowship 3/1/06
Sudbury League of Women Voters 3/5/06
Bentley College, Business Ethics Lecture 3/7/07
Northwest Pharmacy Benefits Managers-Medical Directors Conference, Seattle
WA 3/10/06
Harvard Medical School Continuing Medical Education, Mind Body Medicine
3/13/06
Association of Health Care Journalists, Houston TX, 3/17/06
North Shore Seminars, Beverly MA 3/19/06
New England Biolabs, Ipswich MA 3/23/06
Florida State University Medical Grand Rounds, Tallahassee FL 3/30/06
Hampden County [MA] Medical Society 4/25/06
Boston Medical Center, Family Medicine Grand Rounds 4/25/06
Cooley Dickinson Hospital Northampton MA, Grand Rounds 5/1/06
University of Colorado Family Medicine Grand Rounds 5/3/06
American College of Lifestyle Medicine, Loma Linda CA 5/24/06
Harvard Medical School Lecture to students: Statins 5/30/06
The Regence Group Pharmacy Managers, Portland OR 6/14/06
Alta Bates Hospital, Berkeley CA, Grand Rounds 6/13/06
Harvard Medical School Mind/Body Medical Institute Continuing Medical
Education 6/21/06
Tufts Family Medicine Residency 6/23/06
Forum for Behavioral Science in Family Medicine 9/17/06
Biomedical Research and the Law, Hofstra Law School 10/4/06
Sharp Community Medical Group CME Conference 10/8/06

Harvard Medical School, Course on Mind/Body Medicine 10/20/06
Idaho State University Family Practice Residency 10/26/06
Idaho State University Conference on Health Care 10/26/06
American Public Health Association, panelist : "Drug manufacturers, the FDA,
and U.S. health care," Boston, MA 11/7/06

Loma Linda University, School of Pharmacy 11/3/06
Sharp Rees-Steely Community Group CME 11/4/06
Rollins College, Winter Park, FL, 11/13/06
Capital Health Plan, Tallahassee, FL, 11/15/06
National Federation of Women Legislators, Bachelor's Gulch, CO, 11/18/06
University of New Hampshire, Masters in Public Health Program Grand Rounds,
Durham, NH, 11/28/06
Washington University, "Pharm-Free Day," St. Louis, MO, 11/30/06

2007

Panelist at George Washington University: Relations with the Pharmaceutical
Industry, Washington, D.C., 1/25/07
Prescription Access Litigation Dinner, Keynote Speech, Washington D.C.,
1/25/07
McDougall Program Health Conference, Santa Rosa, CA, 2/2-4//07
Sutter Medical Center, Family Medicine Grand Rounds, Santa Rosa, CA 2/5/07
Renown Medical Center, Grand Rounds, Reno NV., 2/6/07
Gila River Health Indian Community Health Center: "The Growing Gap Between
Evidence-Based Medicine and Good Health Care," Sacaton AZ.,
2/8/07
Harvard Medical School: "Why Primary Care Don't Get No Respect." 2/13/07
Indian Health Services, National Combined Councils: "Can We Trust the
Evidence in Evidence-Based Medicine," San Diego CA. 2/25/07
Harvard Medical School Continuing Education: Mind/Body Medicine Clinical
Training, Boston MA. 2/28/07
University of Michigan, Family Medicine Grand Rounds, Ann Arbor, MI 3/14/07
University of Texas, Medical Branch, Galvaston TX, 3/15/07
Puerto Rican Third Annual Public Health Conference, San Juan PR, 5/8/07
Harvard Medical School Continuing Education: Mind/Body Medicine Clinical
Training, Boston MA. 6/25/07
International Academy of Law and Mental Health, Padua Italy, 6/29/07
Lee Memorial Health System, Continuing Education Conference, Sanibel Harbor,
FL, 7/15/07
Orlando Regional Medical Center, Continuing Education Conference, Orlando
FL, 7/16/07
American Association of Naturopathic Medicine Annual Meeting, Palm Springs,
CA 8/25/07
Dept. of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
10/5/07
North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, When the Facts Aren't True, What's a
Librarian to Do?, Woodstock VT, 10/29/07
Canadian Coalition for Health: Is Free Speech more Important than your Health,
Toronto, CA March 4, 2008
Benson-Henry Institutre for Mind Body Medicine/Harvard Medical School
Coninuing Medical Education Program. Understanding our Critically Ill Health
Care System and Offering a Real Alternative, Boston, MA, March18, 2008
Northwest Naturopathic Physicians Convention, Can We Trust the Evidence in
Evidence-Based Medicine? Vancouver, British Columbia, April 5, 2008

Therapeutics Initiative, University of British Columbia , Lookin' For Health in All the Wrong Places: The Commercial Distortion of Efforts to Reduce the Burden of Heart Disease, Vancouver, British Columbia, April 7, 2008
Direct to Consumer Perspectives National Convention, What's Wrong with the American Healthcare System (and How to Make it Right), Washington DC, April 16, 2008
Puerto Rican Third Annual Public Health Conference, San Juan PR, 5/8/07
Harvard Medical School Continuing Education: Mind/Body Medicine Clinical Training, Boston MA. 6/25/07
Lee Memorial Health System, Continuing Education Conference, Sanibel Harbor, FL, 7/15/07
Orlando Regional Medical Center, Continuing Education Conference, Orlando FL, 7/16/07
American Association of Naturopathic Medicine Annual Meeting, Palm Springs, CA 8/25/07
Dept. of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA 10/5/07
North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries, When the Facts Aren't True, What's a Librarian to Do?, Woodstock VT, 10/29/07

2008

Canadian Coalition for Health: Is Free Speech more Important than your Health, Toronto, CA March 4, 2008
Northwest Naturopathic Physicians Convention, Can We Trust the Evidence in Evidence-Based Medicine? Vancouver, British Columbia, April 5, 2008
Direct to Consumer Perspectives National Convention, What's Wrong with the American Healthcare System (and How to Make it Right), Washington DC, April 16, 2008
Leadership and Business Strategies for Integrative Health Care, American Hospital Association, Phoenix AZ, May 17, 2008
Conference on Integrative, Complementary and Alternative Medicine and Mental Health, Toronto, Canada, May 24, 2008
Countway Library, Boston MA, June 3, 2008
Federal Bureau of Investigation, "The Systematic Distortion of Medical Knowledge: Licit and Illicit," Boston MA. June 26, 2008
Ontario Association of Naturopathic Doctors, Niagara Falls Canada, October 19, 2008
Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine/Harvard Medical School Continuing Medical Education Program. , Boston, MA, March 18, 2008
Therapeutics Initiative, University of British Columbia , Lookin' For Health in All the Wrong Places: The Commercial Distortion of Efforts to Reduce the Burden of Heart Disease, Vancouver, British Columbia, April 7, 2008
Medical Grand Rounds, Tufts Medical Center, Boston MA. May 30, 2008
Univ. of Vermont Family Medicine Review Course, Burlington VT, June 12, 2008
Harvard School of Public Health CME course: Ethical Issues in International Health, Boston MA, June 13, 2008
Western Maine Health System, CME, August 18, 2008
N.Y. State Academy of Family Medicine CME, September 27, 2008
Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine/Harvard Medical School Continuing Medical Education Program, Boston, MA, October 2, 2008
Boston University Medical Students, Primary Care Week, October 6, 2008
Boston University Dept of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, October 23, 2008
Cambridge Health Alliance, Family Medicine Grand Rounds, December 9, 2008

2009

Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine/Harvard Medical School
Continuing Medical Education Program. , Boston, MA, March 18, 2008
Brookline Adult and Community Education, March 25, 2009
Cabot Lecture, Harvard Medical School, March 26, 2009
Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation, Mass General Hospital, March 27,
2009
University of Michigan Family Medicine Grand Rounds, April 8, 2009
Exeter Hospital, Grand Rounds, June 2, 2009
Harvard School of Public Health, continuing education course on Ethical Issues
in International Health, June 12, 2009
Pharmacy Benefits Academy, Chicago, IL, August 4, 2009
Back to Democracy, Trumansburg, NY, April 17, 2009
Needham Public Library, Needham, MA, November 1, 2009

2010

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, March 30, 2010
St. Joseph's Hospital, Combined Family and Internal Medicine Grand Rounds,
March 31, 2009
Transylvania University, Lexington KY, April 1, 2010
Indian Health Services Regional Pharmacy Conference, Scottsdale AZ, April 24,
2010
Coley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton, MA, June 18, 2010
St. Lukes/Roosevelt Hospital ER Physicians July 19, 2010
Kaiser Permanente/Wells Fargo, Atlanta, GA August 19, 2010

2011

Dartmouth Institute MPH Course, Hanover NH, April 8, 2011
Dartmouth Institute Faculty Workshop, Lebanon, NH, April 8, 2011
American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, October 31, 2011

2012

Holy Cross College, April 12, 2013
Co-Occurring Collaborative Serving Maine (Community Mental Health),
September 19, 2012

2013

Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine, Mass General Hospital, Harvard
Medical School Continuing Medical Education Course, "Understanding Our
Critically Ill Healthcare System...And Offering a Real Alternative." September 18,
2013
Co-Occurring Collaborate Serving Maine [Community –based mental health
services] September 19, 2013

2014

Grand Rounds Palliative Care Mass. General Hospital/Brigham and Women's
Hospital "How Commercial Influence on Medical Knowledge Compromises
Patient Care," January 15, 2014
Harvard Law School: Health Law "Commercial Distortion of Medical Knowledge,"
March 12, 2014
Edwin J. Safra Center for Ethics: Corruption in the Drug and Medical Device
Industries: The Success and Limitations of Litigation in Protecting the Public
Interest., May 2, 2015

2015

University of Michigan Center for the History of Medicine and Institute for
Healthcare Policy & Innovation: Market Failure in Medical Knowledge: The
Divergence of Public and Private Interest in American Medicine, Public Health,
and Health Policy, October 2, 2015

Lahey Clinic, Medical Grand Rounds: RightCare Requires RightEvidence:
October 16, 2015

2016 Keynote Presentation at AMDA – The society for Post-Acute and Long-Term
Care Medicine Annual Conference, Can We Trust the Evidence in Evidence-
Based Medicine? March 18, 2016

Medical Grand Rounds, Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton MA: A Thinking
Person's Guide to National Guidelines, April 4, 2016

E. Report of Clinical Activities

1982-2002 Family Physician, Hamilton-Wenham Family Practice

1997-2001 Hamilton-Wenham School District Physician

Bibliography

Original Articles

- 1987 Competition, capitation, and case management: barriers to strategic reform. *Milbank Quarterly* 1987;65:3: 348-370
- 2003 Medical Reporting in a Highly Commercialized Environment: A family doctor prescribes eight guiding principles for accurate and fair coverage of research findings. *Nieman Reports*. 2003; Summer: 54-57
- 2003 Comments on the MRC/BHF Heart Protection Study. Correspondence. *The Lancet*. 2003; 362: 745-746
- 2005 When Health Policy is the Problem (with Bruce Spitz). *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 2005; 30(2):327-366.
- 2005 The Effect of Conflict of Interest on Biomedical Research and Clinical Practice Guidelines: Can We Trust the Evidence in Evidence-Based Medicine? (With Barbara Starfield, MD, MPH). *Journal of the American Board of Family Practice*, 2005; 18:414-418.
- 2007 Are Lipid-lowering guidelines evidence-based? (With James M. Wright MD, PhD), *The Lancet*, 2007: 369:168-169.
The Reliability of Our Medical Knowledge as a Product of Industry Relationships. *Hofstra Law Review*, 2007; 35: 691-704.
- 2010 Cholesterol Lowering, Cardiovascular Diseases, and the Rosuvastatin-JUPITER Controversy (with Michel de Lorgeril et al), *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 2010; 170: 1032-1036
- 2012 Clinical Trial Data is a Public Good (with Marc A. Rodwin), *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2012;308:871-2
- 2013 Abramson J, Rosenberg H, Jewell N, Wright JM, Should people at low risk of cardiovascular disease take a statin? *BMJ* 2013; 347
doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.f6123> [Correction: Godlee F. Adverse effects of statins. *BMJ* 2014; DOI:10.1136/bmj.g3306]

Book

- 2004 *Overdosed America: The Broken Promise of American Medicine. How the Pharmaceutical Companies Distort Medical Knowledge, Mislead Doctors, and Compromise Your Health* (HarperCollins, Sept. 2004)

OP-EDS (Major Newspapers)

LA Times Drug Guidelines Fatten Bottom Line 7/25/04

NY Times Information is the Best Medicine 9/18/04

LA Times Physician Know Thy Patient 10/24/04

LA Times Drug Profits Infect Medical Studies 1/7/06

LA Times Healthcare Code Blue 11/3/06

Atlanta Journal Constitution Cold-hearted tug fails women 2/2/07

New York Times, Don't Give More Patients Statins, 11/13/2013

Partial list of National Media Appearances:

9/30/04 CBS Evening News

Lou Dobbs

CNN Headline News

NPR Radio: All Things Considered

10/1/04 The Today Show

CNN American Morning

10/18/04 FOX News Linda Vester: Bush and Kerry Health Plans

11/04/04 ABC News Vioxx article and editorial in Lancet

11/06/04 CNN "In the Money" DTC advertising

11/18/04 CNN HEADLINE NEWS Vioxx Hearings:

11/19/04 CNN AMERICAN MORNING Vioxx Hearings: Why didn't Doctors know?

11/22/04 FOX LINDA VESTER Merck's role in funding Vioxx research

11/29/04 Lou Dobbs Are We A Nation of Hypochondriacs?

12/05/04 C-Span BookTV: From Collected Works, Brattleboro, VT (Recorded 11-05-04)

12/14/04 (taped)TV Ontario, What to do after Vioxx?

12/17/04 CNN with Betty Nguyen

CNN Wolf Blitzer (interviewed by Mary Snow)

CNBC Closing Bell with Tyler Mathisen

Lou Dobbs Tonight

CNN Headline News

12/18/04 Ron Insana Show (radio)

NBC Nightly News

12/20/04 Fox News: Neil Cavuto

WBUR Radio: On Point

News Night with Aaron Brown

CNN Headline News

NPR Radio: All Things Considered

12/21/04 CNN American Morning

CNN Live

MSNBC Market Wrap with Ron Insana

MSNBC Ron Insana: The Death of a Wonder Drug

12/22/04 The Today Show

CNN Live From

12/26/04 WSJ Report with Maria Bartiromo

1/13/05 MSNBC (Over the Counter Statins)

1/24/05 CBS Evening News: Celebrex

2/18/05 MSNBC Bull's Eye

2/19/05 CNN In the Money

Fox News

CNN Headline News

2/25/05 CNN Prime News

2/28/05 CNN Lou Dobbs Live

5/27/05 CNN Lou Dobbs Live

CNN Judy Woodruff Inside Politics

5/28/05 Fox with Bob Sellers

7/27/05 Fox and Friends, National
8/15/05 Fox 25, Boston
3/22/06 CNBC Live interview FDA, ADHD drug labeling
6/23/06 CNBC Morning Call: Zocor pricing