

Lewis Kazis, Sc.D. Biosketch

Dr. Kazis is Professor of Health Law, Policy and Management, Director of the Health Outcomes Unit HOU (formerly called Center for the Assessment of Pharmaceutical Practices (CAPP est. 2002) at Boston University School of Public Health. Dr. Kazis is a national authority on patient reported outcome assessments. He has conducted research projects for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), NIH-National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institute on Aging (NIA), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the National Institute for Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), the Social Security Administration and the Shriners Hospitals for Children Research Program. He has over 200 publications in peer reviewed journals including those in health outcomes, Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs) using legacy measures and medication effectiveness related studies. The Center that he directs is dedicated to programs in research and education and includes a multidisciplinary team of investigators. Dr. Kazis was the recipient of the prestigious Research Career Scientist Award from the VA for almost a decade where his work focused on legacy measures including the development of the well-known VR-12. Dr. Kazis also was a special consultant to the Office of Quality and Performance in the VA and is currently a consultant to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the evaluation of the Medicare Advantage Program using PROs. For over 25 years, he has been involved in the study of patient reported outcomes and quality of life assessments and is a recognized national leader in PROs. Dr. Kazis is the principal developer of the VR-12 which has been administered to over 7 million individuals nationally, in the VA, CMS and other research programs nationally and internationally in China and Western Europe. Professor Kazis has collaborated as a lead investigator with the Shriners Hospitals for Children for more than 15 years working with children and adults with traumatic burn injuries. He has been one of the leads in the development of the Burn Outcomes Questionnaires (BOQ), the translations of these assessments and the development and validation of tracking recovery using the BOQ assessments. This work was featured in 8 papers that were published in the fall of 2012 in the Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery and most recently in a seminal paper on burn recovery in children published in JAMA/Pediatrics in 2016 where Dr. Kazis was the senior author and PROs were used in a 4 year cohort tracking recovery in burn children. Dr. Kazis also published a few more recent articles on the Validation of the Young Adult Burn Outcomes Questionnaire. Importantly, Dr. Kazis was funded about 4 years ago as the PI on a five year project supported by the NIDILRR to develop computer adaptive tests (CATs) as outcome assessments related to the community re-integration of adult burn survivors. Dr. Kazis has developed new innovative outcome assessments with a focus on social re-integration using IRT/CAT technologies.

Dr. Kazis is also now the director and PI for a program to use the Work Disability Functional Assessment Battery (WD-FAB) CAT for the adjudication process for disability claimants in the Social Security Administration. Dr. Kazis provides ongoing training opportunities for junior faculty, pre and post-doctoral fellows and students involved in the MPH, Sc.M. and Ph.D. programs at Boston University School of Public Health.