

HEALTH SUMMIT

“Leadership Culture for Quality and Value-Driven
Healthcare”

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Biographical Sketch

SHOSHANNA SOFAER, DR.P.H

Shoshanna Sofaer has been a member of the School of Public Affairs faculty since 1998. She previously held academic positions at the George Washington University Medical Center and the UCLA School of Public Health. She completed her M.P.H. and Dr.P.H. degrees at the UC Berkeley School of Public Health, specializing in health planning, policy and management. She received her undergraduate degree from Barnard College, Columbia University, in government. At the School of Public Affairs, Dr. Sofaer teaches courses in the health care policy track, including Community Based Health Planning, Health Policy, and Evaluation of Health Care Policies and Programs. She also teaches core courses such as Research Design and Analysis I and Management of Organizations in the Public and Non-Profit Sectors, and a general course in Program Evaluation. She serves as an advisor to students in the health care policy track. Dr. Sofaer has a wide range of research interests, which include: health care quality measurement and improvement; the development and assessment of materials and interventions to provide health care consumers with information to support them in choosing and using health care wisely; the development and assessment of broad based coalitions and partnerships, at the local and state level, to pursue community health improvement objectives; the assessment of innovative medical education programs to increase the extent to which physicians integrate biomedical knowledge with interpersonal skill and high level integrity and humanity in working with patients.

Dr. Sofaer also uses a wide range of research methods in conducting her studies, and is considered an authority on the use of qualitative and mixed methods in health services and health policy research. She is a methodological and/or substantive consultant to many research efforts based in other universities and research institutes. She is widely published. In addition to her teaching and research, Dr. Sofaer is active in working on a variety of important policy issues. For the last several years, she has been a member of the Institute of Medicine's Committee on the Consequences of Uninsurance, which has published a series of reports that will culminate in January, 2004 with a final report that articulates principles that should guide the development of proposals to achieve universal access to health care coverage; Dr. Sofaer chaired the sub-committee responsible for this particular report. A colloquium on this topic will be held at Baruch College in February, 2004. Other major health care organizations with whom Dr. Sofaer works include the ABIM (American Board of Internal Medicine) Foundation; The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; The Century Foundation; the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research; Academy Health; the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; the Center for the Advancement of Health; the National Committee for Quality Assurance; the Foundation for Accountability; RTI International; and Mathematica Policy Research.