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**School of Public Health**  
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THE DREXEL-HEALTH PARTNERS GRAND ROUNDS LECTURE SERIES



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**Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007**  
**4:30 PM**

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**“Low Health Literacy:  
The Most Prevalent Issue in Public Health”**

**Sunil Kripalani, MD, MSc, Assistant Professor of Medicine,  
Emory University School of Medicine**

Sunil Kripalani, MD, MSc, is an Assistant Professor in the Division of General Medicine and Assistant Director of the hospitalist program at Grady Memorial Hospital. He is a clinically active internist, researcher, and medical educator, with expertise in health literacy, medication adherence, and transitions of care at hospital discharge. Since joining the faculty in the Division of General Medicine, Dr. Kripalani has focused his efforts on researching the pervasive problems of low health literacy and medication non-adherence, each estimated to affect about 50% of the U.S. population. He was recognized as a Pfizer Health Literacy Scholar in 2003, and he was named a Pfizer Visiting Professor in Health Literacy in 2006. He has served as a member of numerous national committees and task forces related to literacy and medication use, including being Chair of the NIH grant review panels for health literacy research, coordinating the health literacy interest group for the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM), and serving on the National Quality Forum workgroup to develop a national action plan for safe and effective medication use. In August 2006, Dr. Kripalani served as co-editor of the special issue on health literacy published by the Journal of General Internal Medicine. Dr. Kripalani is also active as an academic hospitalist in the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM), where he was Founding Chair of the Innovations in Hospital Medicine competition and chaired the Research Abstract Session over multiple years. In 2005, he received the SHM Young Investigator Award of Excellence. He continues to serve on the Advisory Board for the Young Hospitalists Section, helping to define paths for training future hospitalist leaders. He is Associate Editor of the book, Hospital Medicine Secrets.

Dr. Kripalani's current research is funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the American Heart Association, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the American Society of Health System Pharmacists Foundation.

**LOCATION:**  
**Drexel University**  
**Center City, Hahnemann Campus**  
**New College Building, Geary B Auditorium**  
**245 N. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Phila., PA**

**Learning Objectives:**

- 1) Characterize the prevalence of low health literacy in the United States
- 2) Describe the effect of low health literacy on disease prevention and control, as well as health care utilization
- 3) Discuss ways to address literacy in public health programs
- 4) Outline priority areas for future work in this area

**Target Audience:** Public health professionals, physicians, and health care practitioners.

**Accreditation Statement**

Drexel University College of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. **AMA:** The Drexel University College of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>TM</sup>. **AOA:** This program is eligible for 1 credit in Category 2A of the American Osteopathic Association. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Faculty Disclosure Statement**

Speakers at continuing medical education activities are required to disclose to the audience any financial relationships with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial products, goods or services. Any conflicts of interest must be resolved prior to the presentation and announced to the audience.

**Faculty Disclosure**

Dr. Kripalani has no commercial relationships to disclose.

**Acknowledgement of Funding**

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*For more information about Grand Rounds contact the School at 215-762-4110.*