



## Biomedical and Health Informatics Lecture Series

**Tuesday, November 25, 2008  
Room RR-134, 12:00-12:50 p.m.**

### **James D. Ralston, MD, MPH**

Assistant Investigator, Center for Health Studies, Group Health Cooperative  
Affiliate Assistant Professor, Department of Health Services, Univ. of Washington

#### **"Designing and testing mobile technologies for diabetes care at UW"**

Chronic medical conditions are a growing public health challenge. The focus on the clinic visit in current healthcare systems does not meet the needs of many patients with these conditions. The Institute of Medicine has suggested redesigning health care towards more continuous relationships between patients and providers. Chronic disease management programs that use web-based and mobile communications offer an opportunity to shift the focus in health care away from the office and towards patients' daily living environments.

Dr. Ralston leads a team at the University of Washington that is designing and testing a diabetes support program for patients based on Wagner's chronic care model. The program consists of patient access over the Web to the electronic medical record, secure electronic communications between patients and providers, and interactive disease management tools. Dr. Ralston will discuss results from recent design sessions that aimed at integrating mobile phones and wireless glucose meters into the program.

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James D. Ralston, MD, MPH, is an Assistant Investigator at the Center for Health Studies, Group Health Cooperative and an Affiliate Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Services at the University of Washington. He is a Health Informatics researcher with a focus in Web-based and wireless support for patients with chronic medical conditions. Dr. Ralston practices Internal Medicine at Group Health Cooperative.

**NOTE:** Podcasts from MEBI 590 Lecture Series talks from earlier this quarter are available at <http://courses.washington.edu/mebi590/schedule.htm>

Podcasts from MEBI 590 Lecture Series talks from Spring Quarter 2008 are available at <http://courses.washington.edu/mebi590/2008.Q2.Spring.htm>

Podcasts from Fall Quarter 2007 are available at <http://courses.washington.edu/mebi590/2007.Q4.Fall.htm>