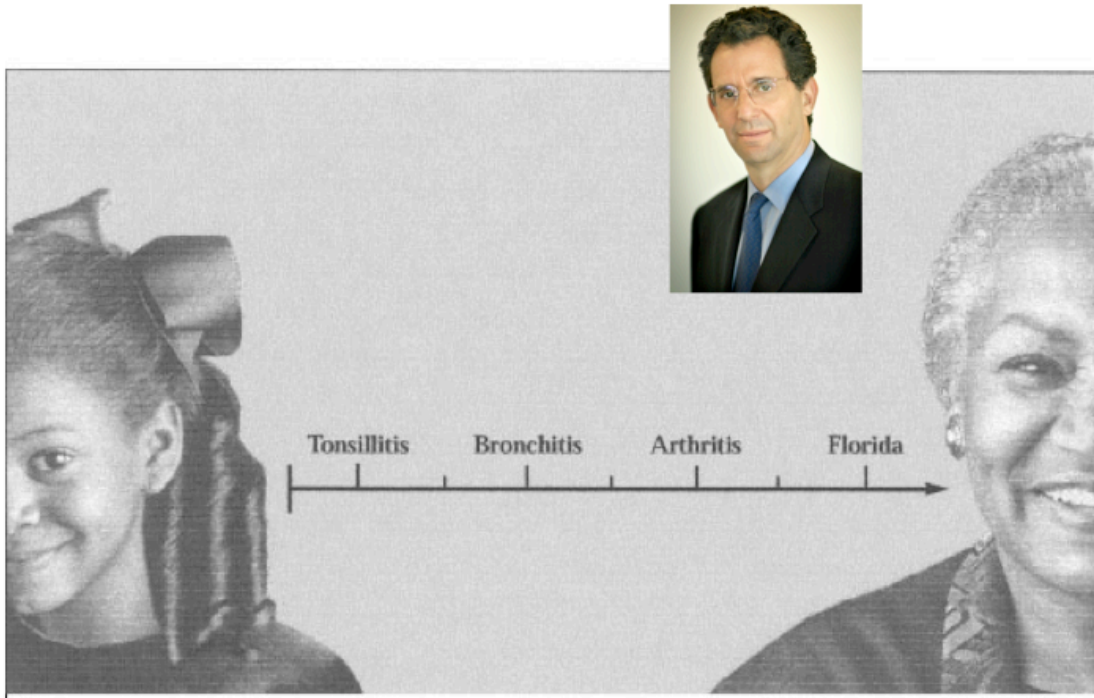


# The Jacob Marschak Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Mathematics in the Behavioral Sciences at UCLA

Young Research Library Conference Room 11360 | February 5, 2015 at 3-4:30 pm  
To sign up for e-mail announcements, write to [marschak@ssc.ucla.edu](mailto:marschak@ssc.ucla.edu)



## Leveraging the Science of Health Development: Designing Systems That Help Children Thrive

Speaker: Neal Halfon, Professor Pediatrics, Public Health, and Public Policy and Director of the Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities, UCLA

Host: Mark A. Peterson, Professor of Public Policy, Political Science, and Law

In the past two decades there has been revolution in the understanding of how health develops over the lifecourse. Research in life course sociology, life span human development psychology, chronic disease epidemiology, epigenetics, and neurodevelopment have all converged to generate a very different and dynamic model of health development. This new conceptual understanding has given rise to an analytic approach that is transforming how health systems are designed and how health care services will be organized and paid for. As the 1.0 medical care system that has focused on rescues care and acute and infectious diseases is currently being transformed, with the help of Obamacare, into a 2.0 health care system focused on chronic disease prevention and management, the seeds of a 3.0 health system focused on optimizing lifelong health is already emerging. Starting point of this new approach is child health development, and the recognition of how much lifelong health potential is telescoped into the first years of life. This talk will cover the scientific and theoretical basis of this transformative process as well as practical and policy implications, challenges and opportunities.

Dr. Halfon received his MD at the University of California, Davis, and his MPH at University of California, Berkeley. He completed his pediatric residency at UC San Diego and UC San Francisco. Dr. Halfon was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at both UC San Francisco and Stanford University. He has been instrumental in advancing research, policy, and systems innovations focused on the healthy development of children at local, national, and international levels. This includes work on place-based early childhood initiatives in the US, like First 5 in California and Brighter Futures in Connecticut, and similar efforts in the UK, Canada, and Australia. Dr. Halfon's research has spanned clinical, health services, epidemiologic, child health, and social policy domains. He has played a significant role in developing new conceptual frameworks for the study of health and health care, including the Life Course Health Development (LCHD) framework. Dr. Halfon currently directs the WK Kellogg funded Transforming Early Childhood Community Systems (TECCS) Initiative, which works with more than 50 communities across the US in an attempt to launch data-informed innovations that improve early childhood development and school readiness. The TECCS communities are partnering with local, state, and national efforts from Project Launch to Strive to elevated the visibility of early childhood outcomes, and to focus attention on cross-sector approaches to achieving lasting gains. Dr. Halfon has further spearheaded the Child Health System Transformation Initiative (CHSTI), a national collaborative effort to utilize the implementation of the ACA as a way of catalyzing more widespread improvement in child health and health care systems. CHSTI has recently launched Moving Health Care Upstream, an ambitious project funded by the Kresge Foundation, designed to help health care providers, health systems, and communities. (Gray picture from Blue Shield of California advertising campaign.)