

## BARBARA STARFIELD, MD, MPH



Dr. Starfield was a University Distinguished Service Professor with appointments in the departments of Health Policy and Management and Pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins University schools of Public Health and Medicine. She was also the director of the Johns Hopkins University Primary Care Policy Center. Dr. Starfield's overriding concerns were understanding the impact of health services on health, especially with regard to the relative contributions of primary care and specialty care on reducing inequities in health. Her focus was both on clinical care and services to populations, as well as the interrelationships between the two.

Trained in pediatrics and epidemiology, she devoted her energies to health services research and its translation into health policy at the national, state and local levels. Her specific research interests were in primary care measurement, the relationship between the processes and outcomes of health care, quality of care, health status measurement (particularly for adolescents and children) and child health policy.

Dr. Starfield's work has involved the development of methods to measure primary care, health status in children and ambulatory case mix. Her book, *Effectiveness of Medical Care: Validating Clinical Wisdom*, summarizes what is known about the impact of access to care on children's health, focusing heavily on the problems of access for low-income children and the effect of Medicaid on access and health. Her book entitled *Primary Care: Concept, Evaluation, and Policy* (Oxford University Press, 1992) summarizes what is known about the impact of primary care within a health services system, as well as an approach that is useful for examining the extent of primary care in populations and in clinical facilities. Her 1998 book, *Primary Care: Balancing Health Needs, Services, and Technology*, provides innovative methods to evaluate the attainment and contributions of primary systems and practitioners. It complements the earlier primary care book by highlighting two additional areas: equity in health services and health, and overlap between clinical medicine and public health. It provides an important basis for future directions in health policy. Dr. Starfield's work in developing a method to measure ambulatory case mix has applications for both management and research, as it provides a basis for prospective payment and a means of standardizing or controlling for differences in a patient's health status in administrative and research efforts.

Dr. Starfield was the co-founder and first president of the International Society for Equity in Health, a scientific society devoted to contributing knowledge to assist in the furtherance of equity in the distribution of health. She was also founder and first editor-in-chief of the *International Journal for Equity in Health*.

A member of the Institute of Medicine, she was the recipient of numerous national awards, most recently including the first Pew Primary Care Research Award (1994), the Distinguished Investigator Award of the Association for Health Services Research (1995) and the American Public Health Association's Martha May Eliot Award (1995). Dr. Starfield was named an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners (UK) in 2000 and she received the Ambulatory Pediatric Association's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002; in 2004, she was awarded the Baxter International Foundation Prize for Health Services Research.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Dear Friend,

I am inviting you to join me in remembering Barbara Starfield by helping to establish the Barbara Starfield Scholarship Fund at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

All of us who had the honor of knowing Barbara have been touched by her dedication and tireless efforts to improve health and health care locally, nationally and globally. Not only did she contribute some of the most significant research and methods in the field; equally importantly, she also mentored and motivated scores of researchers and leaders throughout the world.

What better way could we find to honor Barbara's passion than to establish The Barbara Starfield Scholarship? I can think of few more fitting ways to continue her legacy.

Thank you in advance for helping us remember Barbara in this way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Klag". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael J. Klag, MD, MPH  
Dean

## CONTINUE HER LEGACY

*The Barbara Starfield Scholarship Fund supports doctoral students at the School who focus their studies in health services research or health policy with priority given to those interested in the organization, delivery and outcomes of primary care and in understanding the impact of equity on health.*

Michael J. Klag, dean of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, has made student scholarships his number one funding priority. He recognizes that it is essential to have enough financial assistance available to attract the most talented students in public health.

As the oldest and largest school of public health in the world, the School has an international reputation for consistently producing graduates who go on to join the ranks of senior leadership in their field. Most of the School's 2,200 students from 86 countries receive some form of financial aid, and in the current economic climate it is difficult to find funding. Thank you for your support.

Contributions can be forwarded to:  
**Barbara Starfield Scholarship Fund**  
Office of External Affairs  
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
615 N. Wolfe Street, E2132  
Baltimore, MD 21205  
[www.jhsph.edu/BarbaraStarfieldScholarship](http://www.jhsph.edu/BarbaraStarfieldScholarship)

Questions can be directed to 410-955-5194.

**YES, I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT**  
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**THE BARBARA STARFIELD SCHOLARSHIP**



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