

## Short Bio

**Lee Rivers Mobley** is a Research Economist at RTI International, in the Health Care Quality Program in the Division for Health Economics Research. Dr. Mobley has been rated as one of the world's top 50 health economist in a recent bibliometric study of publications in the nineties (Rubin and Chang, 2003, *Health Economics*). Dr. Mobley specializes in industrial organization of health care markets, spatial modeling, spatial economics, geographic information systems (GIS), and cartographic modeling. Dr. Mobley began her career as a sculptor, became interested in economics, earned her Ph.D. in economics from UCSB in 1990, spent ten years in academia where she developed interest and expertise in GIS and spatial modeling, and left a tenured position at Oakland University to join RTI in July 2001. Her work at RTI has included development of a market selection methodology for Medicare fee-for-service reform initiatives, with a supporting database and GIS platform for cartographic modeling. In her first GIS work for the CDC, she conducted geographic analysis of HIV/AIDS prevention services. Her current work for the CDC employs spatial clustering and spatial regression analyses to examine behavioral, economic, and environmental risk factors associated with coronary heart disease in women. In other CDC work, Dr. Mobley is leading the effort to promulgate GIS Science priorities for comprehensive cancer control, in joint work with NCGIA at UC Santa Barbara. In other work for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), as part of an evaluation of the Medicare PPO demonstration, Mobley uses spatial modeling and analysis to assess participation response by PPOs and constituent response by the elderly, and to guide decisions about sampling units for survey response data collection. In other ongoing CMS work, Mobley has mapped spatial clusters in the main reasons given for disenrollment from Medicare M+C plans, is in the process of mapping other survey-based CMS data, and is using spatial models to explain recent rising trends in hospital admissions for ambulatory-care-sensitive conditions. Dr.

Mobley's areas of research interest include: spatially-enabled analysis of variations in treatment effectiveness, regional quality variation, variation in outcomes and access, combined behavioral and geo-demographic risk assessment in understanding the incidence and prevalence of disease, correction for spatial multiplier bias, and examining the potential for spatial regression in hierarchical disease modeling. Mobley's published works employ GIS and spatial modeling in several areas: analysis of spatial decision support systems, spatial regression analysis of hospital interaction in pricing, analysis of access to health care, analysis of the impact of managed care on distance traveled, and analysis of managed care plan location decisions. A forthcoming paper examining clustering in cardiac disease risk factors in women will appear in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, in Fall 2003. Another forthcoming paper examines the independent effect of contextual factors on behaviors contributing to coronary heart disease in women. Other publications include analysis of hospital failure, antitrust analysis in hospital markets, assessment of competition and managed care penetration on hospital staffing decisions, hospital acquisitions, and other hospital behaviors.

## Education

Ph.D., Economics, University of California, Santa Barbara, California, June 1990

M.F.A., Fine Arts, University of California, Santa Barbara, California, June 1983

A.B., Art History, University of Georgia, Athens, June 1978 (Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa)

## **Selected Publications**

Bradford, W.D., and L. Mobley. "Employment-Based Health Insurance and the Effectiveness of Intra-Firm Competition between Insurance Providers", forthcoming, *Southern Economic Journal*.

Mobley, L. 2003. "Estimating Hospital Market Pricing: An Equilibrium Approach Using Spatial Econometrics." *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 33 (4): 489 - 516

Mobley, L., and J. Magnussen. 2002. "The Impact of Managed Care Penetration and Hospital Quality on Efficiency in Hospital Staffing." *Journal of Healthcare Finance* 28(4):24-42.

Sugumaran, V., and L. Mobley. 2002. "Integrating Spatial Regression into Healthcare Decision Support Systems." *International Journal of Healthcare Technology and Management* 4(1/2):132-147.

Frech, H.E. III, and L. Mobley. 2000. "Efficiency, Growth, and Concentration: An Empirical Analysis of Hospital Markets." *Economic Inquiry* 38(3)(July):369-384.

Mobley, L., and H.E. Frech III. 2000. "Managed Care, Distance Traveled, and Hospital Market Definition." *Inquiry* 37(1)(Spring):91-107.

Mobley, L. 1998. "Effects of Selective Contracting on Hospital Efficiency, Costs, and Accessibility." *Health Economics* 7:247-261.

Mobley, L., and J. Magnussen. 1998. "An International Comparison of Hospital Efficiency: Does Institutional Environment Matter?" *Applied Economics* 30:1089-1100.

Mobley, L., and W.D. Bradford. 1997. "'Profit' Variability Among Hospitals: Ownership, or Location?" *Applied Economics* 29:1125-1138.

## **Selected Working Papers**

Mobley, L., Finkelstein, E., Khavjou, O., Farris, R., and Will, J. "Spatial Analysis of BMI and Smoking Behavior among WISEWOMAN Participants", under consideration, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Finkelstein, E., Khavjou, O., Mobley, L., Haney, D. "Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Coronary Heart Disease Risk Factors among WISEWOMAN Enrollees", under consideration, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*.

Grefer, J., Mobley, L., and Frech, H.E., "Where do PPOs Locate? Debunking an Urban Myth", working paper (2002), under consideration, *Journal of Health Economics*.

Mobley, L. "Spatial Multipliers and Relational Aspects in Hospital Pricing", working paper (May 2003), presented at the 14th World Conference on Health Economics, San Francisco, June 2003, and to be presented at the ICHPR Conference in Chicago IL, October 18, 2003.