

---

## Acknowledgments

The research reported here was conducted in the summer and fall of 2001 under contract with the Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS) at the State University of New York at Albany (SUNY) as part of a national study funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). We are grateful to the CHWS Director, Ed Salsberg, and Deputy Director, Paul Wing, for the opportunity to participate in this timely and important research effort.

The study would have not been possible without the contributions of 79 non-physician clinicians (NPCs) and several physicians who generously gave their valuable time in attending "best informant" discussion sessions, participating in interviews and completing surveys. Their names are listed in the appendix.

Discussion sessions were held in three different cities to promote broad regional representation. Each meeting was well attended, and those who came showed up well prepared, sparking lively, productive discussions of pressing issues. In no small measure, their success was due to the graciousness of the hosts and the generous assistance of the hosting institutions at each site. In Lubbock, our host was the Dean of the Nursing School of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Dr. Alexia Green, assisted by Dr. Yondell Masten. In Laredo, we were guests of the Mid-Rio Grande Area Health Education Center and its Director, Dr. Gladys Keene, assisted by Ms. Edna De La Garza. The Dean of the School of Nursing of The University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Dolores Sands, made the third regional meeting possible.

Dr. Roderick Hooker, Chief of the Division of Health Services Research at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, consulted with the principal investigator throughout the study and authored one of the appendices. Dr. Dennis Blessing, Dr. Judith Longworth, and Dr. Jeanne Ruiz of the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio provided assistance during the conceptual development of the survey instrument.

Antonio Furino, Ph.D., Director  
Regional Center for Health Workforce Studies at CHEP