Research-based health activism describes a growing sector of the medical and public health worlds where the classic skills of clinical research and epidemiology are combined with grass-roots advocacy to influence federal and state health policy, stemming the influence of private industry and market forces on public and community health. The Residency Program in Social Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine has a rich tradition of innovations in community oriented primary care and a history of progressive research and practice. Our faculty, together with experts from throughout the New York Metropolitan area, will provide training in this growing field of research-based health activism.

We have developed a unique course, which combines both didactic and project based approaches, to the teaching of research-based health activism. Didactic lectures will introduce three major topic areas: research methods, health policy, and advocacy skills. Individual and small group mentorship will be provided to help students utilize these skills by developing their own independent research proposal. Other sessions will include physician-activist guest lecturers and visits to state or private health organizations that both create and influence health policy. Finally, students will work in groups to develop a research proposal for a project which reflects their interests that can be used when completed to influence health policy. This proposal will be presented on the final day of the course at a luncheon including all students, the course directors, returning session leaders, and Peter Lurie, MD, MPH, from the Public Citizen’s Health Research Group.

FACULTY AND RESIDENTS: Galit Sacajiu, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Course Director, Research-Based Health Activism Course * Carolyn Chu, MD, HIV Research Fellow, Department of Family and Social Medicine * Aaron Fox, MD, Chief Resident, Primary Care and Social Medicine Residency Programs

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please visit our website on Public Citizen at: http://www.citizen.org/hrg/activistcourses/einstein.htm or contact us: Galit Sacajiu, MD, MPH, email: GSACAJIU@montefiore.org.