911 and John Snow: Emergency Medicine and the Power of Maps
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Abstract
911, what’s your emergency?” Understanding where emergencies happen out in the communities where we live, work, and play is key to building intelligent systems of emergency care that can deliver resources where and when they are most needed, build resilient and prepared communities, and improve health and access to care. In this micro-seminar, we will explore the power of maps (and the techniques of geospatial analysis) to help us understand where emergencies happen in large urban environments, find “hot spots” where our limited resources will do the most good, and suggest ways in which hospitals, emergency departments, and 911 services can help build better communities. Along the way, we will look at examples of emergencies including stroke, violent crime, and opioid overdoses and see how mapping can improve our ability to deliver emergency care. As a class project, we will focus on opioid overdoses, learn basic clinical skills including recognizing a potential opioid overdose, and consider how and where we could use naloxone, the life-saving opioid overdose reversal kit.

Faculty Biography
Dan Dworkis, MD-PhD, is an Board-Certified Emergency Physician and a Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. His work focuses on using mapping and geospatial analysis to explore how hospitals and communities can work together to understand where emergencies happen, build resilient communities that are prepared for emergencies, and optimize delivery of out-of-hospital emergency care.