Anne W. Riley, Ph.D., is Professor in the Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health, at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. She holds a joint appointment in the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine at Johns Hopkins and is a Research Associate at the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, Maryland.

Dr. Riley is a clinical psychologist and health services researcher, with expertise in assessment of health and functioning, including mental health, of children and adolescents.

Dr. Riley led the team at Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health in the development and validation of the Child Health and Illness Profile-Child Edition (CHIP-CE), a set of health status instruments for children 6-11 years of age and their parents to report on the child's health, mental health, functioning and well-being. This research and development project was funded by the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). The project began with cognitive interviewing studies and has subsequently been carefully validated in multiple field studies in the U.S. The CHIP-CE has the same domain structure as the CHIP-AE that allows adolescents to report on their own health, an instrument developed under the leadership of Dr. Barbara Starfield. The CHIP instruments are being used in more than 25 countries around the world.

Dr. Riley is the primary contact for most international efforts using the CHIP instruments. Dr. Luis Rajmil (contact information available on the CHIP website) is the contact for Spanish versions of the CHIP-CE and CHIP-AE.

Working with Drs. Forrest and Bevans at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Dr. Riley and the CHIP team have expanded their research and measurement work in several ways. A cohort of more than 2,000 elementary school children living in rural areas in Maryland and West Virginia has been assessed over a four-year period to better understand the ways in which health influences school performance and academic achievement over the critical transition into middle school. The research papers from this study will be appearing in late 2009. This group is also collaborating on the development of computerized adaptive test methods that will allow child and adolescent health to be effectively assessed within 10-15 minutes. This work is in the early development stages and will be not available for practical application until 2010.

The broad conceptualization of health that guided the CHIP development and the concept that health is a resource for adaptation and functioning are now generally accepted ideas. The understanding that positive health is critical for a child to really flourish in life is beginning to be more widely accepted. That all aspects of health in early life are the foundation for health and success over the lifespan is now being more clearly recognized and will help shape the nature of family supports and education, and health promotion and prevention efforts the world over.