

ACCELERATING CLINICAL KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND USE

JANUARY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Colleagues: This document provides preliminary highlights from the recent NAM-PCORI meeting, *Accelerating Clinical Knowledge Generation and Use*. Presentation slides are available at the meeting's [website](#). A more detailed meeting report is forthcoming and will be disseminated to meeting participants.

Meeting goals

1. *Identify compelling questions* on system performance, measurement, and operations that might be answered from structured and routine capture of care delivery data. Engage health system leaders on the priority of the questions and standardized data needed.
2. *Explore communication strategies* to help improve linkages, synergy, information, and progress among health care organizations with related interests.
3. *Characterize core clinical data elements and system characteristics* necessary to generate usable knowledge in real-time, including use of PCORI's common data model (CDM).
4. *Consider demonstration projects* that PCORI might support, along with approaches for expanding strategic priorities.

Representative observations

- The current health environment includes expanding health system networks, the consolidation of practices, the proliferation of research findings, and the movement toward value-based care and population health management. Within this environment, health executives rely on timely information in order to make informed decisions. Data must be rapid and actionable.
- PCORnet aims to help meet these needs by accelerating clinical research progress through development of a cooperative national infrastructure beneficial to multiple stakeholders, including delivery systems and researchers; and complementary to other national efforts such as the HHS Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative. A network of networks, PCORnet includes 13 Clinical Data Research Networks (CDRNs) and 20 Patient-Powered Research Networks (PPRNs) and covers every state in the union. 130 health delivery systems are currently involved and the system contains data on 90 million persons.
- Throughout the meeting, successful research insights highlighted the need for: data availability at the point of care; delivery system leaders helping to shape research priorities; shared leadership accountability; engaged clinicians; peer networks; dissemination and implementation plans; and early relationship-building between research and operations.
- Ideally, the same data could be used for clinical care, measurement, and reporting. To reach this goal requires a multi-stakeholder approach that includes executives, researchers, and payers amongst others, as well as consideration of incentives for front-line data collection. Potential incentives may include the opportunity for clinicians to participate in research activities or to be kept well-informed of research findings.
- There is a need for electronic health records to record core social determinants, patient preferences, and key behavior patterns.
- Outstanding topics for consideration include:
 - The training needs for future researchers within system settings.
 - Successful implementation and dissemination strategies within and between delivery systems. The Intravenous vs. Oral Antibiotics comparative effectiveness example raised three importance questions: why did it take 20 years to move from first innovation to implementation, how many patients were treated unnecessarily, and how can we make better use of our data to accelerate this knowledge generation and dissemination?

Vision • Research • Evidence • Effectiveness • Trials • IT Platform • Data Quality & Use • Health Costs • Value • Complexity • Best Care • Patients • Systems • Measures • Leadership



Collaborative activities for consideration

- The development and dissemination, to health care executives, of examples of practical research results and methodologies that are applicable in real-world settings.
- A collaborative paper exploring and proposing training and competencies needed for researchers embedded in delivery systems, as well as current medical education initiatives or fellowship programs that address this issue.
- A strategy meeting of health executives, patients, and health plans on approaches to access and integrate clinical and claims data.
- A discussion paper, and taxonomy, on strategies for disseminating and implementing new knowledge among and between health systems and the extent to which new information/findings are embedded in decision aides.
- A structured review of the information embedded within EHRs/EMRs and the potential impact of this information in delivering effective healthcare.
- An ongoing inventory of the issues most important to health executives, with strategic description of which issues can be addressed through cooperative networked efforts among health care organizations—e.g. efficient access and scheduling strategies—and which may require more formal studies of the sort undertaken by the National Academies—e.g. implications of pharmaceutical cost trends.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

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