Funding Evidence to Support Patient and Provider in Primary Care

Josie Briggs, MD
*Interim Executive Director*
*Acting Chief Science Officer*

National Academy of Medicine
Committee on Implementing High-Quality Primary Care
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Implementing High-Quality Primary Care

- PCORI’s funding complements that of federal colleagues at NIH, CMS, and AHRQ in funding evidence development
- PCORI works closely with AHRQ to support dissemination, and implementation/uptake, to improve primary care for patients
- PCORI has awarded over $350 million across more than 80 studies led by and/or sited with primary care
- PCORI is delighted that this committee includes
  - PCORI board member Dr. Jennifer DeVoe
  - Two PCORI awardees
    - Drs. Tumaini Coker and Shreya Kangovi
About Us

• An independent research institute authorized by Congress in 2010 and governed by a Board of Governors representing the entire healthcare community

• A mandate for patient-centered comparative effectiveness research.

• Reauthorized in December 2020 for ten years.
We Fund Comparative Clinical Effectiveness Research

- Generates or synthesizes evidence comparing benefits and harms of at least two different methods to prevent, diagnose, treat, and monitor a clinical condition or improve care delivery
- Measures benefits in real-world populations
- Describes results in subgroups of people
- Helps consumers, clinicians, purchasers, and policy makers make informed decisions that will improve care
- Informs specific clinical or policy decisions

Note: We do not fund cost-effectiveness research

Adapted from Initial National Priorities for Comparative Effectiveness Research, Institute of Medicine of the National Academies
PCORI’s Research Approach

PCORI’s CER approach meshes with primary care:

• Compares options that are of interest to patients, caregivers, clinicians, other stakeholders
• Measures outcomes that are relevant to patients
• Focuses on conditions that constitute a high burden to patients and society in terms of suffering and costs
• Uses both randomized and observational study designs, including natural experiments
• Conducts studies in “real world” populations and settings so results are more generalizable
What We Mean By…

“Patient-centeredness”
- The project aims to answer questions or examine outcomes that matter to patients within the context of patient preferences
- Research questions and outcomes should reflect what is important to patients and caregivers

“Patient and stakeholder engagement”
- Patients are partners in research, not just “subjects”
- Active and meaningful engagement between scientists, patients, and other stakeholders
- Community, patient, and caregiver involvement throughout study planning, conduct, and dissemination
Keeping Evidence Relevant and Useful

- PCORI’s commitment to engagement of the public and patients has proven valuable, in the work we do and the work we fund
- We encourage the committee to include patients and other stakeholders in primary care as partners in, not just informants to, your work to ensure your findings are patient-centered, relevant, and useful
- This will help establish trust and a sense of legitimacy in your findings
- Which will in turn encourage successful uptake and use of research results
Appendix
Targeted Funding Announcements of Interest to Primary Care

- Effectiveness of approaches to transitional care
- Treatment options for African Americans and Hispanics/Latinos with uncontrolled asthma
- Obesity treatment options in primary care for underserved populations
- Hypertension control in African-American and rural populations
- Comparative effectiveness of new treatment options for Hepatitis C
- Comparative effectiveness of novel oral anti-coagulants (NOACs)
- Therapeutic options for treatment-resistant depression
- Comparative effectiveness of disease-modifying treatments for MS
Pragmatic Clinical Studies of Interest to Primary Care

- Continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis vs hemodialysis in patients with end-stage renal disease
- Biologic agents in the management of Crohn’s disease
- Integration of mental and behavioral health services into the primary care of the general population
- Exercise coaching vs usual care for older adults who have experienced a low impact fracture due to a fall
- Annual vs risk-based mammography in women 40-80 yrs of age
- Routine daily vs symptom-based use of asthmas med for reducing exacerbations in African American, Hispanic adults
- Providing complex mental health care for patients in rural community health centers
PCORI Continues to be Interested in These and Other Primary Care Topic Areas

- **Telemedicine**: where do we go from here? Comparative implementations; workforce deployment; program innovations; policy impact – in all cases focus on patient-relevant outcomes, provider outcomes & resource use.

- **Shared decision-making**: comparative studies of how to build SDM into clinical care, especially at the level of primary care; acceptability to patients and providers, effects on patient outcomes, resource use.

- **Bridging clinical and community resources to address social determinants of health**: the expanding role of community health workers, peer coaching, clinic-community partnerships to strengthen self-support and community support for persons with chronic illness.

- **Collaborative care, patient navigators, mental health integration, care transitions**...
81 funded studies led by primary care clinicians or in primary care settings

Strategic Priority Areas
- Assessment, Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment Options (20)
- Improving Healthcare Systems (27)
- Addressing Disparities (17)
- Communications and Dissemination Research (14)
- Patient-Centered Outcomes and Methodological Research (3)

Total funding: $352.2 million