

AHRQ's Primary Care Practice Facilitation Forum

New & Noteworthy

PCMH Resource Center

The primary care medical home, also referred to as the patient centered medical home (PCMH), advanced primary care, and the healthcare home, is a promising model for transforming the organization and delivery of primary care.

We provide implementers, decisionmakers, and researchers with access to evidence-based resources about the medical home and its potential to transform primary care and improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of U.S. health care.

Please visit us at pcmh.ahrq.gov.

This electronic newsletter continues our efforts toward building a learning network for individuals with an interest in practice facilitation. We will use this listserv to share questions and answers submitted by learning forum members, as well as resources, research articles, and events of interest to the community.

Upcoming Newsletter Topic

Preparing and Presenting Performance Data

Achieving Positive Impacts on Workflow and Quality Improvement through Full Implementation of Electronic Health Records

With the increasing emphasis on data-driven improvement, practice facilitators will need to ensure they can collect and work with accurate data. The next edition of this newsletter will highlight how to summarize and present data in a way that makes it easy for members of the practice to understand and stimulate meaningful action toward improving the practice. This topic is the focus of [Module 9](#) of *The Practice Facilitation Handbook: Training Modules for New Facilitators and Their Trainers*. The upcoming newsletter will explore best practices for preparing and reporting data to a practice and its quality improvement (QI) team to enable data-driven improvement.

Related Resource

In case you missed it in the last edition of the newsletter, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has released a new [Evaluation Guide](#) for designing real-world evaluations of interventions such as the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) and other models to improve primary care delivery. Effective primary care can improve health and cost outcomes, and patient, clinician and staff experience, and evaluations can help determine *how best* to improve primary care to achieve these goals.

The [Guide](#), developed with researchers at Mathematica Policy Research under a contract with AHRQ, presents practical steps for designing an evaluation and is intended for evaluators affiliated with delivery systems, employers, practice-based research networks, local or regional insurers, and others who want to test an intervention in a relatively small number of primary care practices, and who may have limited resources to evaluate the intervention.

This [Guide](#) offers options to address some of the challenges that evaluators of small-scale projects face, as well as insights for evaluators of larger projects. The Guide answers six questions:

1. Do I need an evaluation?
2. What do I need for an evaluation?
3. How do I plan an evaluation?
4. How do I conduct an evaluation and what questions will it answer?
5. How can I use the findings?
6. What resources are available to help me?

In addition to this Guide, AHRQ has developed a number of [resources](#) for evaluators of primary care interventions like the PCMH. These include: a series of 11 briefs that describe research methods that researchers could use to evaluate PCMH models; white papers and briefs on designing strong evaluations and developing the evidence base for the PCMH; and evaluation tools, such as the Care Coordination Measures Atlas and PCMH-Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS).

We would appreciate it very much if you would share this [Guide](#) with colleagues and include a mention of it in your monthly newsletter or other announcements.

Upcoming Event

Supporting leaders to promote quality and patient safety: How practice facilitators can work with practice leadership to support a culture of safety and quality

Register Now! Thursday, December 18 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. ET

This is the third in a series of webinars designed to share AHRQ's development of tools and resources for training primary care practice facilitators (PFs). This session focuses on how practice facilitators can help support primary care practice leaders in building a culture that promotes quality and safety. It is important for practice facilitators to engage the practice's leaders when trying to promote safer patient care and improve the overall quality of care delivered. The role of leadership is essential to making the organizational changes necessary to introduce and sustain a culture of quality and patient safety.

The speakers have expertise in practice facilitation, leadership development, culture change and quality improvement, and will include:

- Lyndee Knox, PhD, CEO, LA Net Community Health Resource Network
- Tony Suchman, MD, Organizational Consultant and Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
- Carolyn Shepherd, MD, Former Senior Vice President for Clinical Affairs (Retired), Clinica Family Health Services
- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, BSN, RN, MBA, Program Director – Health Care Innovation Award (HCIA), TransforMED

To register, please click [here](#).

If you would like to listen to either of the first two webinars in the series, regarding [PF Case Studies](#) and [Use of Health IT](#), respectively, please click the appropriate link and register for the event you wish to listen to. If you have already registered for these events, simply sign in. This will bring you to all of the resources available during the live event, including audio with closed-captioning and a slide deck.

Upcoming Event

PRECIS Tool: Understanding your Research Intentions, the Pragmatic-Explanatory Continuum

Register Now! Thursday, December 11 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. ET

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is hosting an in-depth methodological webinar that will focus on the pragmatic-explanatory continuum indicator summary (PRECIS) tool. Kevin Thorpe, MMath, will discuss the development of the tool and the methods for its use by trialists to determine whether research design decisions are consistent with the stated purpose of the research trial.

Moderator: Rebecca Roper, MS, MPH, Director, Practice-Based Research Network Initiative, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Application for CME credit has been filed with the American Academy of Family Physicians. Determination of credit is pending.

To register, please click [here](#).

Brought to you by the AHRQ PBRN Resource Center

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