

Overview of PCORI Funding Announcements (PFAs), Priority Topics, and Methodology Standards

David Hickam, MD, MPH, Program Director, Clinical Effectiveness and Decision Science (CEDS)

Scott Solomon, MBA, MSE, Director of Contracts Management and Administration

Layla Lavasani, Program Officer, Science, Clinical Effectiveness Research

Parag Aggarwal, Senior Program Officer, Science, Addressing Disparities

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Welcome!



Dave Hickam
*Program Director,
Clinical Effectiveness
and Decision Science
(CEDS)*



Scott Solomon
*Director, Contracts
Management and
Administration
(CMA)*



Layla Lavasani
*Program Officer,
Science, Clinical
Effectiveness
Research (CER)*



Parag Aggarwal
*Senior Program Officer,
Science, Addressing
Disparities*



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The Model of Comparative Effectiveness Research

- Research that Provides Improved Evidence for Healthcare Decision Makers
- Driven by the Needs of Stakeholders
- Guided by Well Defined Evidence Gaps
- Partnerships among Researchers and Clinical Partners
- Based on Rigorous Scientific Methodology



What is Evidence-based Information?

- Clinical evidence: valid data about the outcomes experienced by patients who receive specific clinical interventions
 - The clinical characteristics of the population are well defined and comparable to that of the patients for whom the evidence will be applied
 - The clinical interventions are well defined and reproducible
 - The study measures the right outcomes: those which are important to patients and their clinicians



What is the Starting Point of Comparative Effectiveness?

- Examine the choices people make about the options for managing a disease
- Consider how compelling it is to make a choice among these options
- Consider how the need to compare these options could inform the focus of new research
 - Heterogeneity of the patient population
 - Understanding the important benefits and harms
 - Clarity about gaps in the current evidence base
- Engagement with partners facilitates these steps



PCORI's Research Funding Programs

- Assessment of Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment Options
- Improving Healthcare Systems
- Addressing Disparities
- Communication and Dissemination Research
- Improving Methodology
- Pragmatic Clinical Studies
- Targeted Research Initiatives



Assessment of Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment Options

- Decision Makers: Patients and their Clinicians
- Choices among Clinical Options
- Head to Head Comparisons



Improving Healthcare Systems

- Decision Makers: Healthcare Managers
- Choices among Options for Organizing and Delivering Care
- Often Address the Marginal Value of Additional Services



Addressing Disparities

- Decision Makers: Members of Disadvantaged Populations and their Caregivers
- Choices among Options for Eliminating Barriers to High Quality Care
- Often Address Strategies for Improving Access



Communication and Dissemination Research

- Decision Makers: People who Implement Programs for Improving Quality of Care
- Choices among Options for Implementing Best Evidence
- Can Address Shared Decision Making or Dissemination Strategies



Improving the Methodology of Comparative Effectiveness Research

- Decision Makers: Researchers who Desire to Use Better Methods
- Choices among Options for Measuring Outcomes and Analyzing Data
- Can Address Techniques for Improving Collaboration among Researchers and Partners



Pragmatic Clinical Studies

- Cross-Cutting Program across most of the PCORI Research Areas
- Decision Makers: Everyone Involved with Health Care
- Most Projects are Randomized Controlled Trials
- Large Sample Sizes: Heterogeneity of Treatment Effects
- Larger Budgets and Longer Durations



Targeted Funding Initiatives

- Focused Funding Announcements that Respond to Stakeholder Input
- Single Clinical Topics
- One-time Opportunities



We Work to Improve Research Methodology

In any study, methods matter. That's why we've developed methodology standards that all research should follow, at a minimum.

Methodology Standards: 11 Broad Categories

- Formulating Research Questions
- Patient-Centeredness
- Data Integrity and Rigorous Analyses
- Preventing/Handling Missing Data
- Heterogeneity of Treatment Effects
- Data Networks
- Data Registries
- Adaptive and Bayesian Trial Designs
- Causal Inference
- Studies of Diagnostic Tests
- Systematic Reviews



Questions?

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Thank You!

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