Getting to Know PCORI: From Application to Closeout

September 22-23, 2014
PCORI Has a Broad and Complex Mandate

“The purpose of the Institute is to assist patients, clinicians, purchasers, and policy-makers in making informed health decisions by advancing the quality and relevance of evidence concerning the manner in which diseases, disorders, and other health conditions can effectively and appropriately be prevented, diagnosed, treated, monitored, and managed through research and evidence synthesis...and the dissemination of research findings with respect to the relative health outcomes, clinical effectiveness, and appropriateness of the medical treatments, services...”

-- from The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

PCORI’s Mission and Vision

- PCORI is an independent, non-profit health research organization authorized by The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010.
- PCORI funds and shares research that compares the clinical effectiveness of various choices that patients and healthcare providers have when selecting care.

**Mission**

PCORI helps people make informed healthcare decisions and improves healthcare delivery and outcomes by producing and promoting high integrity, evidence-based information that comes from research guided by patients, caregivers, and the broader healthcare community.

**Vision**

Patients and the public have information they can use to make decisions that reflect their desired health outcomes.
Strategic Goals

Increase Quantity, Quality, and Timeliness of Research Information

Speed the Implementation and Use of Evidence

Influence Research Funded by Others
Our National Priorities for Research

- Assessment of Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment Options
- Improving Healthcare Systems
- Communication & Dissemination Research
- Addressing Disparities
- Accelerating PCOR and Methodological Research
Our Program Directors

David Hickam, MD, MPH
Clinical Effectiveness Research

Steven Clauser, PhD, MPA
Improving Healthcare Systems

Jean R. Slutsky, PA, MSPH
Communication & Dissemination Research

Romana Hasnain-Wynia
MS, PhD
Addressing Disparities

Rachael Fleurence, PhD
CER Methods and Infrastructure
Key Features of PCORI Research

Our work answers patients’ questions:

“Given my personal characteristics, conditions, and preferences…”

...what should I expect will happen to me?”

...what are my options and what are the potential benefits and harms of those options?”

...what can I do to improve the outcomes that are most important to me?”

...how can clinicians and the care delivery systems they work in help me make the best decisions about my health and healthcare?”
Key Features of PCORI Research

We engage stakeholders at every step

- Advise Us on What to Study
- Review Proposals and Partner in Research
- Tell Us How We’re Doing
- Help Us Share the Findings
PCORI Emphasizes Engagement for Getting to Practical, Useful Research

- Generating and Prioritizing Research Questions
- Advising on What to Study
- Reviewing Proposals and Partnering in Research
- Telling Us How We’re Doing
- Helping Us Share the Findings
- Dissemination and Implementation

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Funded Projects to Date

Total number of research projects awarded: **313**

Total funds awarded: **$548.9 million**

Number of states where we are funding research: **38 states** (plus the District of Columbia and Quebec)
Snapshot of Funded Projects

**Selected Conditions Studied**
(Broad Funding Cycles through July 29, 2014)

- Cardiovascular Diseases: 44 studies
- Mental Disorders: 41 studies
- Cancer: 32 studies
- Endocrine System Diseases: 23 studies
- Nervous System Diseases: 20 studies
- Musculoskeletal Diseases: 14 studies

**Selected Populations Studied**
(Broad Funding Cycles through July 29, 2014)

- Racial/Ethnic Minorities: 102 studies
- Older Adults: 83 studies
- Socioeconomic Status: 72 studies
- Rural: 56 studies
- Children: 35 studies
- Urban: 29 studies
Current Funding Commitments
Funding by Geographic Distribution

- **West**: 48 awardees, 17.5% of total
- **Midwest**: 54 awardees, 19.6% of total
- **South**: 99 awardees, 36% of total
- **Northeast**: 70 awardees, 25.5% of total
- **Puerto Rico**: 1 awardee, 0% of total
- **Other**: 3 awardees, 1% of total
The Journey From Application to Closeout

- **STEP 1**: PFA Announced to Public
- **STEP 2**: Submission of LOI
- **STEP 3**: Submission of Full Application
- **STEP 4**: PCORI Merit Review Process
- **STEP 5**: PCORI Funding Decision & Notification
- **STEP 6**: Contract Review & Activation
- **STEP 7**: Research Administration & Contract Management
- **STEP 8**: Project Completion & Contract Closeout
Our Review Criteria

During a rigorous merit review process, proposals are evaluated to assess:

- Impact of the condition on health of individuals and populations
- Potential for improving care and outcomes
- Technical merit
- Patient-centeredness
- Patient and stakeholder engagement
Engagement Officers

- Engagement Officers, working closely with Program Officers, will support active portfolio management by:
  - Helping Awardees to outline engagement milestones
  - Participating in the Awardees' kick-off and interim phone calls, as well as in separate calls with key patient and stakeholder partners
  - Facilitating communication between Awardees to troubleshoot engagement challenges
  - Gathering promising engagement practices from the portfolio to feature in webinars and for use in updating or expanding the Engagement Rubric
Engagement Resources

PCORI Applicant FAQs (Engagement): [http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/funding-center/faqs-for-applicants/#engagement](http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/funding-center/faqs-for-applicants/#engagement)


PCORI Town Halls: [http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/funding-announcements/applicant-training/b](http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/funding-announcements/applicant-training/b)
  - PCORI will host Town Halls for applicants on Patient and Stakeholder Engagement; these sessions will be recorded and archived as resources for current and future applicants
Engagement Awards Strengthen the PCORI Research Enterprise

- **Build knowledge** about how consumers of healthcare information view PCOR/CER; how they receive and make use of PCOR/CER findings; and/or what evidence they need to reach health and healthcare decisions.

- **Grow capacity** for healthcare community engagement in PCOR/CER; train patients and other stakeholders to participate in PCOR/CER; create methods to connect patients and other stakeholders with the research community; and/or facilitate patient and other stakeholder engagement in PCOR/CER.

- **Develop channels** for D&I of PCOR/CER evidence; identify, build, and strengthen partnerships and facilitators for spreading PCOR/CER findings; and/or D&I PCOR/CER findings in creative ways, especially within PCORI’s priority populations.
Pipeline to Proposal Awards

Researchers who unsuccessfully submitted a PFA and need to improve proposal

Tier 1
Up to $15K
Up to 9 month term

Tier 2
Up to $25K
Up to 12 month term

Tier 3
Up to $50K
Up to 12 month term

PCORI Funding Announcement

Or submissions to other PCOR/CER Funders
Pipeline to Proposal Awards

► **Tier I:** building community and capacity around a topic of interest to patients, researchers or other stakeholders.

► **Tier II:** formalizing partnerships, identifying potential CER question to be researched, developing infrastructure or governance processes.

► **Tier III:** creating research proposal, including robust engagement plan for later submission to PCORI or other funders of PCOR.
Upcoming Opportunities

- Tier I funding will be available in Fall 2014
- Awards will be available through four regional (South, Northeast, Midwest, and West) and one national Pipeline Award Program Office(s)