Patient-Centered Cancer Treatment Planning: Improving the Quality of Oncology Care

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Improving the Quality of Oncology Care

- AHRQ: New Resources, Ongoing Priorities
- Improving Quality Through Patient-Centered Research
- The Affordable Care Act
- Patient-Centered Care and Quality Improvement
AHRQ Priorities

Patient Safety
- Health IT
- Patient Safety Organizations
- New Patient Safety Grants

Effective Health Care Program
- Comparative Effectiveness Reviews
- Comparative Effectiveness Research
- Clear Findings for Multiple Audiences

Ambulatory Patient Safety
- Safety & Quality Measures, Drug Management and Patient-Centered Care
- Patient Safety Improvement Corps

Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys
- Visit-Level Information on Medical Expenditures
- Annual Quality & Disparities Reports

Other Research & Dissemination Activities
- Quality & Cost-Effectiveness, e.g. Prevention and Pharmaceutical Outcomes
- U.S. Preventive Services Task Force
- MRSA/HAIs
CAHPS Survey for Cancer Care

- Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS)
- Asks questions about aspects of care where patients are the best source or those patients have identified as important
- Conducted between October 2009 - September 2011
- Results to be used for QI and consumer choice
- Rigorous cognitive and field testing
Prostate Cancer Intervention Versus Observation Trial (PIVOT)

- Designed to compare the benefits of radical prostatectomy and watchful waiting
- Results pending
Questions That Inform Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

- *Can* it work?
- *Will* it work?
  - For this patient?
  - In this setting?
- *Is it worth it?*
  - Do benefits outweigh harms?
  - Do benefits justify costs?
  - Does it offer important advantages over existing alternatives?
The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) included $1.1 billion for patient-centered outcomes research:

- To improve health outcomes by developing and disseminating evidence-based information to patients, providers, and decision-makers
- Investments in robust systems and infrastructure to inform everyday clinical decision-making
- More opportunities to evaluate patient-centered outcomes research among diverse populations and patient subgroups that are not always adequately represented in studies
The president’s proposed FY 2012 budget for AHRQ includes:

- $46 million for patient-centered health research, of which $24 million comes from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund
- $65 million for patient safety research, including $34 million to reduce and prevent healthcare-acquired infections
- $28 million for health information technology
Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: AHRQ’s Role

- Engage private sector
- Increase knowledge base to spur high-value care
- Aggregate best evidence to inform complex learning and implementation challenges
Challenges for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

- Making sure that it is "descriptive, not prescriptive"
- Creating a level playing field among all stakeholders, including patients and consumers
- Anticipating downstream effects of policy applications
- Using research to address concerns of patients and clinicians
AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program: A Foundation for Patient-Centered Care

- Funds researchers, research centers, and academic organizations to produce effectiveness and patient-centered outcomes research
- Produces research reviews, original research reports, summary guides
- Tailors research findings for clinicians, policymakers and consumers

effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov
Priority Conditions for AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program

- Arthritis and non-traumatic joint disorders
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular disease, including stroke and hypertension
- Dementia, including Alzheimer Disease
- Depression and other mental health disorders
- Developmental delays, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and autism
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Functional limitations and disability
- Infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS
- Obesity
- Peptic ulcer disease and dyspepsia
- Pregnancy including pre-term birth
- Pulmonary disease/Asthma
- Substance abuse
Effective Health Care Guides for Patients and Consumers

- Having A Breast Biopsy: A Guide for Women and Their Families
- Treating Prostate Cancer
- Understanding Radiotherapy for Head and Neck Cancer: A Guide for Adults and Caregivers
New Awards for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

- AHRQ announced $473 million in grants and contracts for projects to support patient-centered outcomes research (9/30/10)
- Intended to inform health care decisions by providing evidence and information on effectiveness, benefits and harms of different options
- Covers $300 million to AHRQ and $173 million for HHS Secretary by AHRQ

www.ahrq.gov/fund/cerfactsheets
### Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Grants and ARRA Awards: Cancer

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<thead>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Condition/Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Colorectal Cancer Risk After Colonoscopy in Elderly Diabetes Patients and Men</td>
<td>Cancer/Colorectal/Diabetes University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Off-Label Prescribing: Comparative Evidence, Regulation, and Utilization</td>
<td>Cancer/Mental Health Brigham and Women’s Hospital</td>
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http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

- Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
- New long-term program
- New opportunities for quality improvement at AHRQ
- New opportunities for patient-centered research, medical homes

http://healthcare.gov
Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute

- Called for in Affordable Care Act; independent, nonprofit entity with public and private funding
- AHRQ and NIH Directors serve on the Institute’s board and methodology committee
- CEO of National Alliance for Caregiving on Governing Board
- Sets priorities and coordinates with existing agencies that support patient-centered outcomes research
- Prohibits findings to be construed as mandates on practice guidelines or coverage decisions and contains patient safeguards
- Provides funding for AHRQ to disseminate research findings and to train researchers
A Patient-Centric View of the World

More of this... and less of this
AHRQ Mission

To improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans

AHRQ Vision

As a result of AHRQ's efforts, American health care will provide services of the highest quality, with the best possible outcomes, at the lowest cost

www.ahrq.gov