

Accelerating the Use of Findings from Patient-Centered Outcomes Research in Clinical Practice to Improve Health and Health Care: Workshop 2

Session 1: Possibilities for AHRQ-ASPE-PCORI Collaborations to Improve Health Equity

June 17, 2022



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“Strengthening the primary care system through education, research and training to improve health outcomes while advancing health equity.”



NBC News: Shortage of Black Male Doctors Having Public Health Impact

The number of Black male medical students peaked more than 40 years ago and has been declining ever since. *NBC Nightly News* reporter Ron Allen takes a look at how having more doctors who look like them affects Black male patients and what Morehouse School of Medicine is doing to address this issue.



“We are leading the creation and advancement of health equity”

PETAL Framework

We have developed the PETAL framework, the first to apply a health equity lens to a learning health system (LHS) approach to transform healthcare organizations and communities.



Prioritize Health Equity



Engage Community



Target Health Disparities



Act on Data

Learn and Improve

Brooks D, Douglas M, Aggarwal N, Prabhakaran S, Holden K, Mack D. Developing a framework for integrating health equity into the learning health system. Learning health systems. 2017 Jul;1(3):e10029.

Southeast Regional Clinicians Network

- 8 States
- AHRQ Practice Based Research Network
- Primary Care Associations (8)
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (203)
- Clinical Sites (1,778)
- 368,000 square miles
- Patients served: 4 million



My Perspective:

Applying a Health Equity Lens to PBRN Work

- PBRNs are well positioned to advance equity because of the nature of their structure and operations
- PBRN research already applying equity principles of
 - Engagement of patients, clinicians, and health systems
 - Representation
 - Community responsive
 - Setting
- Opportunity to measure our impact and move the needle on equity through data infrastructure, **engagement infrastructure**, and dissemination infrastructure

Westfall JM, Roper R, Gaglioti A, Nease Jr DE. Practice-Based research networks: strategic opportunities to advance implementation research for health equity. *Ethnicity & disease*. 2019;29(Suppl 1):113.

Some thoughts about how AHRQ/ASPE/PCORI might leverage PCORTF
Funding to advance health equity.
Focus: Support Meaningful Engagement



1. Support Research Engagement Infrastructure Because Engagement is Foundational to Equity

We have high level engagement infrastructure in our PBRN, which is challenging to sustain.

Consider funding mechanisms for longitudinal engagement infrastructure that spans projects so trust and skills are built upon and sustained over time.

Incorporate capacity building into this infrastructure for patient advisors AND researchers.

Consider building a space at AHRQ for patient, community, and clinician advisors to collaborate, share learnings, and provide peer support.

2. Prioritize and Require Equity Impact Measurement in CER.



Ask applicants to ground CER work and other implementation work in measurement of existing disparities and to evaluate the impact of the interventions on closing gaps in these disparities. ***What is the comparative equity impact of the interventions?***



What is the Comparative Effectiveness of interventions across different populations?



Prioritize discerning comparative acceptability to different populations or perceived sustainability or access to interventions for disproportionately impacted populations.

3. Build research/researcher capacity to have healthy engagement relationships.

Consider adding training activities around patient and stakeholder engagement in research for career development awards.

Utilize PCORI's work around the science of engagement to support these activities.

Encourage community or patient advisors with lived experience in the area of focus on mentorship committees .

4. Support engagement through the valuable resource of TIME.

Engagement bolsters the opportunity for equity to take root and blossom, but this requires time

To plan the work and align priorities

To reach meaningful impact

To do and interpret the work

A long runway for thinking through and building an application on strong foundations of relationships/trust can be helpful.

A long project period can support more time for engagement across the spectrum of research processes.

5. Build the PIPELINE of an equity focused workforce through engagement.

If funding or designing an FOA focused on health equity, require some pipeline infrastructure (mentorship program, scholar program, internship) focused on empowering youth or learners who are members of the disproportionately impacted group.

Jackson Heart Study

The Jackson Heart Study (JHS) is a collaborative effort involving Tougaloo College, Jackson State University, the Mississippi State Department of Health, and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. The Jackson Heart Study receives support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Research on Minority Health (ORMH) and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI). Within the Jackson Heart Study, Tougaloo College serves as the Undergraduate Training and Education Center (UTEC). UTEC's role in the JHS is to prepare students for careers in the biomedical and health sciences. The UTEC sponsors two programs: the Scholars Program for undergraduate students and the SLAM Program for high school students.

Learn more about the Jackson Heart Study



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS ON EQUITY CENTERED ENGAGEMENT IN RESEARCH AND IMPLEMENTATION



Find New COVID-19 Resources for you, your family, and community.

www.msm.edu/ncrn

LEARN MORE

Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19

National COVID-19 Resiliency Network
Morehouse School of Medicine

Funding Statement

This work was supported in whole by a \$40 million award from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office of Minority Health (OMH) as part of the National *Infrastructure for Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 within Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities* (NIMIC), and three-year cooperative agreement between OMH and Morehouse School of Medicine.

Grant #: 1CPIMP201187-01-00.

Program Objectives

Morehouse School of Medicine's National COVID-19 Resiliency Network is collaborating across the institution and with many partner organizations to achieve the following program objectives.

ENGAGEMENT

Identify and engage disproportionately impacted communities



PARTNERSHIPS

Nurture existing and develop new partnerships



INCLUSIVITY

Disseminate culturally and linguistically appropriate information



TECHNOLOGY

Leverage technology to connect communities to resources



EVALUATION

Monitor and evaluate



DISSEMINATION

Apply broad and comprehensive dissemination methods



Our Impact

PARTNERSHIP

400+

national and local partners

GRANTS

\$5.8M

funded in COVID-19 outreach and dissemination

FUNDING

75%

of NCRN federal grant funded to COVID-19 response

SUPPORT

13K+

users reached with critical health information

ACCESS

134K+

COVID-19 resource pageviews

COMMUNITY

630

NCRN community members

NCRN Partner Recommendations for Centering Equity in Engagement for Research and Implementation

Academic, private, and government partners **should be more adaptable in their approaches to align with the needs of disproportionately affected communities based on input from community members.**

Be conscious of the capacity around human capital, cost, and alignment of priorities when working in partnership with community-based organizations that serve disproportionately impacted populations; it is crucial that these *partnerships are equitable with respect to meaningful leadership, agency, power, and funding support.*

It is crucial to sustain and build upon the trust and partnerships across sectors that have been built during the COVID-19 pandemic, beyond the pandemic, *so that this hard earned, valuable trust is not squandered.*

When planning and executing implementation projects designed for disproportionately affected populations, be sure that the *governing board and leadership of the projects include community representatives and that the programmatic focus is prioritized by the community.*

When there are efforts around strategic planning to guide interventions in communities with under-represented populations, *strategic planning that is not majority centered should be designed to be intentionally inclusive of priority populations with respect to geography, language, culture, and disability.*

Thank You

ASPE/AHRQ/PCORI can leverage the PCORTF to advance equity

1. Support Research Engagement INRASTRUCTURE Because Engagement is Foundational to Equity
2. Prioritize and Require Equity Impact MEASUREMENT in CER.
3. Build research/researcher CAPACITY to have healthy engagement relationships.
4. Support engagement through the valuable resource of TIME.
5. Build the PIPELINE of an equity focused workforce through engagement.



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