

NATIONAL
ACADEMIES

Sciences
Engineering
Medicine

Standing Committee on Primary Care Primary Care Research

Kevin Grumbach, University of California San Francisco,
Standing Committee member



Definition Primary Care Research

Barbara Starfield, Journal of Family Practice, 1996

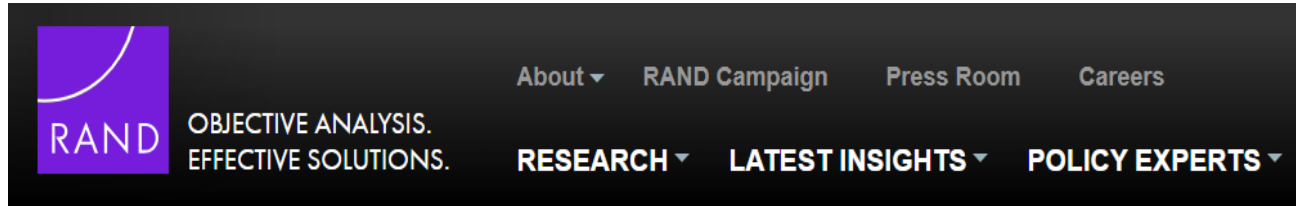
- “In my view, the only meaningful definition of primary care research is ‘research done in a primary care context.’”
- Domains:
 - **Basic research** (e.g., measurement development on continuity, person-centered primary care measure)
 - **Clinical research** (e.g., efficacy of headache treatment in primary care, practice-based interventions to increase colon cancer screening and eliminate racial inequities, polypharmacy and multimorbidity)
 - **Health services research** (e.g., association of primary care comprehensiveness with patient health outcomes and costs; predictors and remedies of burnout among primary care workers)
 - **Health systems research** (e.g., association of PCP supply with life expectancy and inequities in outcomes; measuring and defining PC clinicians and practices; impact of corporate consolidation and investor ownership on primary care practice and outcomes)



AHRQ Definitions Primary Care Research (PCR)

- Congressional language in 1999 authorizing AHRQ Center for PCR
 - Research concerning “(A) the nature and characteristics of primary care practice; (B) the management of commonly occurring clinical problems; (C) the management of undifferentiated clinical problems; and (D) the continuity and coordination of health services.”
- AHRQ Notice of Funding Opportunity for PCR R01 Proposals
 - “Research conducted for the purpose of better understanding or improving primary care; more specifically, it is research that is a) conducted in a primary care setting, b) about primary care patients, clinicians, or teams, or c) on a topic that is integral to, or has direct implications for, the delivery of primary care.”

Congressionally Commissioned Study, 2021



RAND / Research & Commentary / Research Reports /

Health Services and Primary Care Research Study

Comprehensive Report

[Peter Mendel](#), [Courtney A. Gidengil](#), [Andrada Tomoaia-Cotisel](#), [Sean Mann](#), [Adam J. Rose](#),
[Kristin J. Leuschner](#), [Nabeel Qureshi](#), [Vishnupriya Kareddy](#), [Jessica L. Sousa](#), [Daniel Kim](#)

RESEARCH — Published Jul 19, 2021

- PCR represented 1% of research projects funded by federal agencies 2012-18
- Recommendation: Provide targeted funding for a hub for federal PCR to adequately support research on core functions of primary care and coordinate PCR across federal agencies

NASEM 2021 Report *Implementing High-Quality Primary Care*

- Action 5.2: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services should form an Office of Primary Care Research at the National Institutes of Health and prioritize funding of primary care research at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, via the National Center for Excellence in Primary Care Research.
- FY24 Appropriation for AHRQ National Center for Excellence in Primary Care Research: \$2M

