

Massachusetts General Hospital Primary Care Practice-Based Research Network (MGPC-PBRN)

Co-Director, Steven J. Atlas, MD, MPH

Background/Description

This primary care practice-based research network (PBRN) represents the adult primary care practices and clinicians that are affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital. Its mission is to support collaborative studies to answer community-based health care questions and translate research findings into practice.

Location

The MGPC-PBRN comprises 15 primary care practices (5 community health centers, 6 community-based practices, 4 hospital-based practices) that serve a diverse patient population in eastern Massachusetts. All sites are part of Massachusetts General Hospital Primary Care.

http://www2.massgeneral.org/primarycareweb/primary_locations.htm

Clinicians

Approximately 180 primary care physicians

Patients / Population

Approximately 155,000 patients within the network

Available Data

Data sources include: 1) Longitudinal Medical Record of Partners Health Care and OnCall developed by the MGH Laboratory of Computer Science (the electronic medical record systems used by the network); and 2) billing data.

Data elements include:

- Ambulatory visit data
- Hospitalization data
- Emergency department visits
- Medication prescribed
- Laboratory results data
- Imaging results data

Research Interests

- Screening, prevention, and tobacco control
- Chronic disease management
- Common primary care conditions
- Health information technology and patient safety
- Quality assessment and improvement
- Care of vulnerable populations
- Health policy and the organization, coordination, and delivery of primary care

Potential study opportunities

- Observational research using medical records
- Epidemiologic and health services research using claims data
- Physician and/or patient surveys
- Trials of treatments at the patient level
- Trials of treatments at the group practice level

Contact Info

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Research Coordinator

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Other administrative information

Research project will need to be reviewed by MGH Research Management and approved by the Partner's IRB.

All work requires collaboration with an investigator within the MGPC-PBRN.

<http://www2.massgeneral.org/facultydevelopment/orcd/at+mgh.html>

Partners Research and Education Program (PREP)

Co-Medical Directors:

Marc Pfeffer, MD, PhD

Maurizio Fava, MD

Program Manager:

Courtney Vitale

Background/Description

Partners Research and Education Program (PREP) is a collaborative effort between Partners HealthCare System and Partners Community HealthCare, Inc (PCHI).

Location

Approximately 14 sites across eastern Massachusetts

Clinician Investigators

25 providers (3/4 cardiologist and 1/4 primary care)

Patients / Population

Approximately 750,000 – 1,000,000 patients within the network

Available Data

Data sources include: 1) the Longitudinal Medical Record, Centricity, and On-call (the three electronic medical record systems used by the network); and 2) billing data.

- Ambulatory visit data
- Hospital data
- Emergency room data
- Pharmacy prescribing
- Laboratory results data
- Imaging results data

Research Interests

- To improve patient care by extending clinical trials to community providers and their patients;
- To offer new, innovative therapy in the community setting;
- To foster relationships between community and tertiary providers, extending beyond research into referrals and other clinical collaborations;
- To enhance existing Partners clinical research by expanding their breadth and reach;
- To extend educational forums in support of clinical research to all Partners physicians and staff; and
- To improve the competitiveness of PCHI provider practices through development of professional and intellectual expertise and the diversification of practice revenue streams.
- Specific clinical research interests and expertise include; cardiology, internal medicine, gastroenterology, and endocrinology.

Potential study opportunities

- Observational research using medical records
- Physician and/or patient surveys
- Trials of treatments at the patient level
- Trials of treatments at the group practice level

Contact Info

Courtney Vitale

Program Manager

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Other administrative information

PREP assists in all aspects of conducting trials including regulatory documents, budgets, and contracts.

Approval required by the Partner's IRB or pharmaceutical central IRB.

All work requires collaboration with an investigator within PREP.

The Brigham and Women's Primary Care Practice-Based Research Network

Director, Jeffrey A. Linder, MD, MPH

Background/Description

Primary care practice-based research network (PBRN) group of primary care clinicians and practices working together to answer community-based health care questions and translate research findings into practice.

Location

12 clinics and 19 practices across eastern Massachusetts. All sites are part of Brigham and Women's Primary Care.

<http://www.brighamandwomens.org/primarycare/practices.aspx>

Clinicians

Approximately 95 primary care providers

Patients / Population

75,000 adult patients (approximately 250,000 visits)

Available Data

Data sources include: 1) Longitudinal Medical Record 2) the electronic medical record system of Partners Healthcare system and 3) billing data.

Data elements include:

- Ambulatory visit data
- Hospitalization data
- Emergency department visits
- Medication prescribed
- Laboratory results data
- Imaging results data

Research Interests

- Screening, prevention, and tobacco control;
- Chronic disease management;
- Common primary care conditions;
- Health information technology and patient safety;
- Quality assessment and improvement;
- Care of vulnerable populations; and
- Health policy and the organization, coordination, and delivery of primary care.

Potential study opportunities

- Observational research using medical records
- Epidemiologic and health services research using claims data
- Physician and/or patient surveys
- Trials of treatments at the patient level
- Trials of treatments at the group practice level

Contact Info

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Other administrative information

Research project will need to be reviewed by BWH Research Administration and approved by the Partners' IRB.

All work requires collaboration with an investigator within the BWH PBRN.

<http://www.brighamandwomens.org/research/researchadmin/researchadmin.asp>

Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates Richard Marshall, MD

Director of Research, Teaching, and Education

<http://www.harvardvanguard.org/>

Background/Description

Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates (Harvard Vanguard) is a multi-specialty, multi-site physician group providing comprehensive healthcare services to approximately 460,000 adult and pediatric patients in the greater Boston community. Harvard Vanguard is an affiliate of Harvard Medical School, and many of its physicians teach or support clinical research.

Harvard Vanguard is also the largest affiliate of Atrius Health, an alliance of five Massachusetts-based medical groups.

Location

Harvard Vanguard has more than 20 offices in eastern Massachusetts including several in the Boston metropolitan area.

Clinicians

Harvard Vanguard has more 625 physicians and 1000 other healthcare professionals such as nurses, physicians' assistants, speech therapists, and physical therapists.

Patients / Population

460,000 adult and pediatric patients at Harvard Vanguard

Data Sources

Data sources include: 1) Epic, the Harvard Vanguard electronic medical record system, 2) billing data, 3) insurance claims data for capitated patients (40-50% of patients). Data elements include:

- Ambulatory visits (dates, diagnoses, full text records)
- Hospitalizations
- Emergency department visits
- Medications prescribed
- Medication dispensed
- Laboratory orders
- Laboratory results (limited)

Harvard Vanguard has a longstanding relationship with the Department of Ambulatory Care and Prevention (DACP) for the conduct of health services research and teaching programs.

Potential study opportunities

- Observational research using medical records
- Epidemiologic and health services research using claims data
- Physician and/or patient surveys
- Trials of treatments at the patient level
- Trials of treatments or changes in process of care at the group practice level

Research Interests

- Improving clinical practice and outcomes
- Evaluating the effectiveness of drug treatments and protocols
- Increasing patient involvement in their care
- Increasing staff involvement in research

Contact Info

Anita Chan

Administrator for Research

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Other administrative information

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care's IRB is the IRB of record for Harvard Vanguard.

Studies require collaboration with a Harvard Vanguard investigator.

The Pediatric Physicians' Organization at Children's (PPOC)

President and CEO: Gregory Young, M.D.

Director of Research and Analysis: Louis Vernacchio, M.D. M.Sc.

Background/Description

The Pediatric Physicians' Organization at Children's (PPOC) was founded in 1999 to bring together pediatricians, pediatric medical groups, and pediatric specialists at Children's Hospital Boston. Its core mission is to enhance member pediatricians' ability to deliver the highest quality patient care to the children they serve while improving the professional satisfaction and operational effectiveness of its members. The PPOC is committed to supporting the mission of the hospital itself while at the same time working with managed care organizations, HMOs, and insurers, and networking on behalf of both its members and Children's Hospital.

Location

Approximately 75 community-based pediatric practices across eastern Massachusetts. Approximately half are solo practices and half are group practices.

<http://www.childrenshospital.org/healthprofessionals/Site1392/mainpageS1392P4.html>

<http://www.childrenshospital.org/healthprofessionals/Site1392/mainpageS1392P4sublevel67.html>

Clinicians

Approximately 200 pediatric primary-care providers

Patients / Population

Approximately 140,000 pediatric patients (640,000 visits)

Available Data

Data sources include: 1) the electronic medical record system (30% currently on EMR; within 2 years all sites will be using common EMR (eClinicalWorks); 2) billing data.

Data elements include:

- Ambulatory visit data
- Hospitalization data
- Emergency department visits
- Medication prescribed
- Laboratory results data

Research Interests

- Common pediatric primary care conditions (e.g., asthma, obesity, otitis media);
- Pediatric chronic disease management (e.g., asthma, attention deficit disorder);
- Quality assessment and improvement; and
- Health policy and the organization, coordination, and delivery of primary care.

Potential study opportunities

- Observational research using medical records
- Epidemiologic and health services research using claims data
- Physician and/or patient surveys
- Trials of treatments at the patient level
- Trials of treatments at the group practice level

Contact Info

Louis Vernacchio, M.D., M.Sc.

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Other administrative information

Research projects will need to be reviewed by Children's Hospital Research Administration and approved by the Children's Hospital IRB.

All work requires collaboration with an investigator within the PPOC.