

Introductory Information

The Greater Plains Collaborative Clinical Data Research Network

The Greater Plains Collaborative (GPC) is a network of twelve leading medical centers in eight states committed to a shared vision of improving healthcare delivery through ongoing learning, adoption of evidence-based practices, and active research dissemination. The GPC builds on strong research programs at our sites, existing community engagement and informatics infrastructures and data warehouses developed through the NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) initiative at most of our sites, extensive expertise with commercial EHR systems and terminology standardization, and strong working relationships between investigators and healthcare system information technology departments.

The Principal Investigator (PI) of the GPC is Russ Waitman from the University of Kansas Medical Center, and he is joined by Gary Rosenthal from the University of Iowa as Co-PI for Phase II.

PCORnet

PCORnet, the National Patient-Centered Clinical Research Network, is an innovative initiative of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). PCORnet will transform clinical research by engaging patients, care providers and health systems in collaborative partnerships that leverage health data to advance medical knowledge and improve health care. PCORnet will bring together health research and healthcare delivery, which have been largely separate endeavors. By doing so, this national health data network will allow us to explore the questions about conditions, care and outcomes that matter most to patients and families.

PCORnet integrates health data for studies and catalyzes research partnerships among two types of networks: Clinical Data Research Networks (CDRNs), like the GPC, which are based in healthcare systems such as hospitals and health centers, and Patient-Powered Research Networks (PPRNs), which are run by groups of patients and their partners who are focused on one or more specific conditions or communities, and who are interested in sharing health information and participating in research.

PCORI

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), is an independent nonprofit, nongovernmental organization located in Washington, DC. Their mandate is to improve the quality and relevance of evidence available to help patients, caregivers, clinicians, employers, insurers, and policy makers make informed health decisions. Specifically, they fund comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER) as well as support work that will improve the methods used to conduct such studies.

The goal of their work is to determine which of the many healthcare options available to patients and those who care for them work best in particular circumstances. They do this by taking a particular approach to CER called Patient-Centered Outcomes Research, or PCOR, research that addresses the questions and concerns most relevant to patients, and they involve patients, caregivers, clinicians, and other healthcare stakeholders, along with researchers, throughout the process.