
Planetree Approved for a \$249,000 Engagement Award by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute

Derby, Connecticut. (January 14, 2016) – A team at Planetree has been approved for a Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to support our understanding of how Patient-Family Advisory Councils engage with research. Twenty PFACs from organizations across the United States will participate in the project. Jill Harrison, PhD, Director of Research, will lead the engagement project at Planetree.

“Healthcare organizations nationwide are using patient-family advisory councils (PFACs) as a foundational structure to engage patients and family members as partners in quality and process improvement and to align the organization’s strategic priorities with what matters most to patients. Despite this increasing engagement with PFACs, little is known about how these groups receive or make use of patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR) to inform their understanding, decision making, and recommendations to the healthcare organizations they advise. The purpose of this project is to build our knowledge of how PFACs receive and make use of PCOR and to co-develop a tool that will support their awareness and use of PCOR in the future,” says Dr. Harrison.

The project is part of a portfolio of projects approved for PCORI funding to help develop a skilled community of patients and other stakeholders from across the entire healthcare enterprise and to involve them meaningfully in every aspect of PCORI’s work.

“This project was selected for Engagement Award funding not only for its commitment to engaging patients and other stakeholders, but also for its potential to increase the usefulness and trustworthiness of the information we produce and facilitate its dissemination and uptake,” said Jean Slutsky, PCORI’s Chief Engagement and Dissemination Officer. “We look forward to following the project’s progress and working with Planetree to share the results.”

Planetree’s project and the other projects approved for funding by the PCORI Engagement Award Program were selected through a highly competitive review process in which applications were assessed for their ability to meet PCORI’s engagement goals and objectives, as well as program criteria. For more information about PCORI’s funding to support engagement efforts, visit <http://www.pcori.org/content/eugene-washington-pcori-engagement-awards/>.

PCORI is an independent, non-profit organization authorized by Congress in 2010 to fund comparative effectiveness research that will provide patients, their caregivers, and clinicians with the evidence needed to make better-informed health and healthcare decisions. PCORI is committed to seeking input from a broad range of stakeholders to guide its work.

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