

## RESEARCH GLOSSARY

### ADVANCE

ADVANCE stands for: Accelerating Data Value Across a National Community Health Center Network. This project is funded by the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), a program to improve the nation's capacity to conduct comparative effectiveness research (CER) by creating a large, highly representative electronic data infrastructure for conducting clinical outcomes research. ADVANCE is led by the OCHIN in partnership with Health Choice Network and Fenway Health. ADVANCE aims to:

- Integrate outpatient, hospital, and community-level data into a single data management system
- Expand efforts to engage patients and clinicians who contribute to the design, implementation, and interpretation of comparative effectiveness research
- Develop electronic systems for recruiting study participants and collecting patient-reported data
- Strengthen the infrastructure of our community academic partnerships to support PCOR, and support FQHCs to become learning health systems
- Build the capacity of our FQHC networks to meet research regulatory requirements.

### AHRQ

The *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)* is an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services with the mission to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans. AHRQ supports research that helps people make more informed decisions and improves the quality of health care services.

### Clinical Data Research Networks (CDRNs)

System-based networks (such as hospital systems) that have the potential to become an ideal electronic network, structural impediments,

**Electronic Health (Medical) Record (EHR/EMR)**

A computerized medical file that contains the history of a patient's medical care.

**Health Disparity<sup>1</sup>**

A particular type of health difference that is closely linked with social, economic, and/or environmental disadvantage. Health disparities adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater obstacles to health based on their racial or ethnic group; religion; socioeconomic status; gender; age; mental health; cognitive, sensory, or physical disability; sexual orientation or gender identity; geographic location; or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion.

**Health Equity<sup>1</sup>**

The attainment of the highest level of health for all people. Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices, and the elimination of health and health care disparities.

**Health Policy<sup>2</sup>**

Actions taken by governments (national, state, and local) to advance the public's health.

**Health Systems**

All of the services, functions and resources for which the primary purpose is to affect the health of the population.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/disparitiesAbout.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.livestrong.com/article/259661-definition-of-health-care-policy/>

**Intervention**

The treatment or action taken to prevent or treat disease, or improve health in other ways (NCI).

**Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)**

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) is authorized by Congress to fund and disseminate research that will provide information about the best available evidence to help patients and their healthcare providers make more informed decisions. PCORI's research is intended to give patients a better understanding of the prevention, treatment, and care options available, and the science that supports those options. PCORI is the funder for OCHIN's ADVANCE project and was the source for the netENACT survey we recently submitted together. This is likely the only connection you'll have with the PCORI organization for future time commitments (survey updates).

**Patient-Powered Research Networks (PPRNs)**

Groups of patients interested in forming a research network and in participating in research.

**Practice-Based Research Network (PBRN)**

PBRN stands for Practice-Based Research Network. OCHIN's PBRN draws on the experience and insight of practicing clinicians to identify and frame research questions whose answers can improve the practice of primary care. Its mission is to encourage research with potential to directly benefit safety net patients, to develop and improve OCHIN's data resources for research purposes, to partner with interested researchers, and to translate research findings into practice. The OCHIN PBRN is unique among other Practice-based Research Networks because it has no formal affiliation with a particular academic health center and is comprised almost exclusively of federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health centers (RHCs).

As the administrative home to the OCHIN PBRN, OCHIN currently supports a network-wide electronic health record (HER) with one master patient index that currently links 69 organizations in 18 states serving upwards of 1.4 million unique patients – representing nearly 3 million distinct community health clinic visits annually. The PBRN hosts monthly meetings/phone calls (fourth Fridays of the month) to provide updates and opportunities for collaboration with PBRN members and partners. As a patient investigator, these calls provide the opportunity to learn about PBRN research projects currently taking place, as well as the opportunity to inform and potentially participate in future projects as well.

### **Primary Care**

Includes health promotion, disease prevention, health maintenance, counseling, patient education, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses in a variety of health care settings. Primary care is performed and managed by a personal physician often collaborating with other health professionals.

### **Research Question**

A question around which a research project is focused.

### **Research Methods**

The procedures used to gather and analyze data.

### **Safety Net Population**

Health care safety net patients often experience barriers to accessing services from other health care providers due to cultural, linguistic, geographic and financial issues. Safety net patients tend to be uninsured, underserved, Medicaid/Medicare enrollees, and other vulnerable/special populations. (coalitionclinics.org)