

**Project Title:** Use of Dense Display of Data and Information Design Principles in Primary Care Healthcare Information Technology Systems

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**Organization:** James Bell Associates

**Contract Number:** 290-07-10073-1

**Project Period:** 05/08 – 05/09

**AHRQ Funding Amount:** \$249,955

**Summary Status as of:** December 2008

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**Strategic Goal:** Develop and disseminate health IT evidence and evidence-based tools to improve health care decisionmaking through the use of integrated data and knowledge management.

**Business Goal:** Implementation and Use

**Summary:** As of December 2008, the Use of Dense Display of Data and Information Design Principles in Primary Care Healthcare Information Technology (IT) Systems project (Dense Data Project) was 7 months into a 12-month contract. The Dense Data Project builds upon best practices to deliver innovative designs to clearly express the volume of data necessary to improve the quality of clinical care. The goal of the project is to establish a foundation and action agenda for the use of dense display of data and other innovative information design principles in primary care health IT applications. Project activities include reviewing existing research and evidence; identifying and convening a multi-disciplinary expert panel to establish design principles and evaluation criteria; and producing a synthesis of the information into a final report, use cases, and recommendations for ongoing research, implementation, and policy work in this field.

### Specific Aims

- Establish a foundation and an action agenda in the area of dense display of data and information design to provide insights into designing better primary care electronic health records (EHRs). **(Ongoing)**
- Complete a detailed background report, which contains a comprehensive summary of the literature and will serve as the basis for the final report. **(Achieved)**
- Conduct an Innovation Meeting comprising a group of experts in diverse areas related to the EHR and its design. The innovation group will be able to define what would be ideal user interfaces, primarily from the point of view of a primary care physician. This involves indicating how EHRs both are and are not being used optimally. Additional considerations include patient safety and risk, efficiency, and the impact of having scattered information. **(Ongoing)**
- Compile a set of recommendations on principles and policy and a research agenda. **(Ongoing)**
- Compile a set of use cases. **(Ongoing)**
- Complete a final report that integrates the background report and the output from the Innovation Meeting. **(Ongoing)**

**2008 Activities:** During 2008, the literature review on existing research and evidence related to dense display of data and information design principles in primary care health care IT systems was completed.

**Preliminary Impact and Findings:** Project is ongoing, preliminary findings not yet available.

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## **Selected Outputs**

A final report will integrate the background report and the output from the Innovation Meeting to provide a set of use cases and recommendations for research, implementation, and policy activities for AHRQ.