

Primary Care Research Methods and Statistics Conference

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Summary: Economic constraints have limited the number of fellowship programs that train primary care researchers. This presents a gap in necessary mentoring and ongoing training of both fellowship- and non-fellowship-trained researchers. To address this need, this grant supported the Primary Care Research and Methods and Statistics Conferences, which are held to build research capacity of both novice and experienced researchers. For novice researchers, the conferences develop basic research skills, such as planning and conducting simple studies and communicating results. For experienced researchers, the conferences build understanding of research techniques and statistical approaches to conducting high-quality, sophisticated primary-care studies.

Primary Care Research and Methods and Statistics Conferences were held December 5-7, 2008; March 19-22, 2009; January 22-24, 2010; and December 2-4, 2011. The conferences included a pre-conference workshop for experienced researchers, plenary sessions, a dissection of innovative studies, and a methodological think-tank process workshop, and offered two theme-based seminar tracks. Conference attendees were asked to evaluate each speaker and the conference itself. Information about the conferences is disseminated to primary care researchers through professional society newsletters, email Listservs, Web sites, and professional annual meetings to promote attendance.

Specific Aims:

- Help novice researchers develop basic research skills. **(Achieved)**
- Help experienced researchers expand their repertoire of research methodologies. **(Achieved)**

2011 Activities: The 2011 conference, “Research with Vulnerable Populations,” was multidisciplinary and attracted a wide variety of researchers, including health services, family medicine, internists, and pediatricians. Presentations included “Conducting Research on Homeless Populations” and “A Practical Approach to Missing Data in Scale Construction and Analysis.” The presentations are available on the conference [Web site](#).

Impact and Findings: The project has no findings.

Target Population: General

Strategic Goal: Not Applicable

Business Goal: Synthesis and Dissemination
