

Primary Care Research Methods and Statistics Conference

Principal Investigator: Calmbach, Walter
Organization: University of Texas Health Sciences Center
Mechanism: PA: HS06-378: AHRQ Grant Program for Large Conference Support (R13) and (U13)
Grant Number: R13 HS 017658
Project Period: September 2008 – September 2011
AHRQ Funding Amount: \$182,621
Summary Status as of: December 2010

Target Population: General

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 supports 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, and January 22-24, 2010. 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 conference is disseminated to primary care researchers through professional society newsletters, e-mail 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)**

2010 Activities: The 2010 conference, “Complexity Science: Applications in Primary Care Research,” held January 22-24, was designed to be multidisciplinary and attract a wide variety of researchers, including health services, family medicine, internists, and pediatricians.

Preliminary Impact and Findings: The project has no findings to date.

Strategic Goal: Not Applicable

Business Goal: Synthesis and Dissemination