Student Award

Paul Alvarez, a medical student at UNC and a Primary Care and Population Health (PCPH) Scholar, has been working with NCNC on the Monitor Trial. His poster, “Health Literacy, Clinical Outcomes and Physician Advised Glucose Self-Monitoring Usage in Type 2 Diabetes”, has won the student competition at the NC Academy of Family Physicians (NCAFP).

The Monitor Trial is funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). For patients living with type 2 diabetes who do not use insulin, decisions regarding self-monitoring of blood glucose (SMBG) is unclear and this study should provide answers to support patients and doctors in making these decisions.

We congratulate Paul on his success and appreciate all the hard work he has been doing with NCNC.

PREPARE Study Enrolling soon

Tamera Coyne-Beasley is the UNC PI for the PREPARE study that will compare asthma outcomes in two groups of patients with persistent asthma who require daily maintenance medications. The patients will be adults ages 18 to 75 years of self-reported Black or African American descent or Latino heritage. All individuals will continue to receive their asthma care and guidance for therapy from their usual care physician or other clinician.

The PREPARE study will begin enrollment in mid-2017 using information from the Vanguard study that is currently underway.

Asthma Shared Decision Making

MAPPR at the Carolinas HealthCare System published the results of a very large system-wide initiative to improve the way we support asthma care throughout The Carolinas HealthCare System in the Journal of Asthma: “Results from a pragmatic prospective cohort study: Shared decision making improves outcomes for children with asthma”. They showed that shared decision making improved disease outcomes for pediatric patients with asthma. This work adds to the evidence supporting the use of shared decision making to improve disease outcomes.

Additionally they published the results of an asthma care pilot project involving electronic communication between Carolinas HealthCare System EMR and Charlotte Mecklenburg school nurse EMR system in Applied Clinical Informatics: “Evaluation of a Pilot Asthma Care Program for Electronic Communication between School Health and a Healthcare System’s Electronic Medical Record.” The Findings suggest a collaborative model of care that is enhanced through electronic communication via the EMR could positively impact the health of children with asthma or other chronic illnesses.

Engaging Patients and Providers into the Research process has been a focus of the North Carolina PBRNs.
MAPPR has published in Family Practice: “Patient perspectives on engagement in shared decision-making for asthma care”. Where they reported that for the case study described, patient engagement directly influenced multiple aspects of the study, including study design, implementation, data analysis and dissemination through incorporation of the patients’ and caregivers’ input and concerns. They have also produced a YouTube video with the patient and provider stakeholders who collaborated on the ADAPT- NC project.

**UNC Business of Health Care Convocation**

Jacquie Halladay, MD MPH presented at the UNC Business of Health Care Convocation presented by the UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School. This event brought together individuals to discuss research collaboration opportunities in the study of the Business of Health Care. She presented on the NCNC work establishing costs involved in Quality Improvement in Primary Care Practices.

**Heart Healthy Lenoir**

The Heart-Healthy Lenoir Project, a community-based research project designed to develop and test better ways to reduce heart disease in Lenoir County, recently published in Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action: “Lessons Learned From Implementing Health Coaching in The Heart Healthy Lenoir Hypertension Study”. They found that health coaching for hypertension care can be a successful strategy, particularly for engaging vulnerable populations. The Heart-Healthy Lenoir Project is a collaborative project between several Lenoir County agencies and community members, UNC at Chapel Hill, and ECU Departments of Family Medicine and Public Health.

**NAPCRG Annual Conference**

NCNC made several presentations to the 2016 North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) Annual Meeting on the following topics:

- Advancing Primary Care Research
- Asthma Shared Decision Making and Decision Support
- Provider and Patient Level Barriers to Care for Sickle Cell Disease
- Race-Specific Patterns of Treatment Intensification Among Hypertensive Patients Using Home BP Monitoring:
  - Substance Use and prevention in Pediatric Practices
  - HPV Vaccination Decision-Making

**NCNC Acknowledgements**

NCNC would like to thank the following supporters for all they do that make our work possible.