

Partnerships Behind the Survey of Federally Qualified Health Centers' Research Participation: Activities and Needs
~ Summer 2011 ~

This survey is the first step in a unique collaboration to build Community Health Centers' capacity to engage in research activities that can improve care delivery across other care settings. It brings together state, regional, national, and academic partners to establish a national baseline and analytical assessment of health centers' needs and experiences, as well as in-depth analyses of two distinct groups of health centers. These more detailed analyses will highlight best practices and help improve our understanding of research needs, priorities, and gaps related to research capacity. The knowledge gained will provide health centers, their member associations, and other partners with useful guidance for future research and training efforts.

Who Are the Partners?

Three different community-academic ventures are involved in designing, fielding, and analyzing this survey.

- The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) in partnership with a National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Children's National (CTSI-CN), a joint effort by Children's National Medical Center and The George Washington University (GWU).
- The South Carolina Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA) in partnership with the University of South Carolina Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funded initiative.
- The Community Health Applied Research Network (CHARN), a Health Resources and Services Administration-supported multi-nodal health center research consortia.

The short national survey was developed with input from these partners. In addition, health center leaders from around the country and other community-based research experts provided valuable input.

How Does the Partnership Work?

NACHC will field the survey to all Federally-Qualified Health Centers *except* for those who are located in South Carolina and those who are part of CHARN. The South Carolina and CHARN collaborative ventures will each field the survey to their members. In doing so, they will add a series of more detailed questions in order to better understand the extent to which health centers engage in research and the resources and partnerships on hand to support those activities.

Through a data sharing agreement, NACHC will receive health centers' individual responses from the South Carolina and CHARN surveys, but *only* for the survey questions that come from the national survey.

Data from all three surveys will only be reported or shared in the aggregate so that no one health center can be individually identified. Only members of the analytic teams will have access to health centers' individual data.

For More Information

Questions and comments can be directed to the following individuals:

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