



SNOCAP

State Network of Colorado Ambulatory Practices & Partners



FEBRUARY 2022



FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear SNOCAP partners,

Well, we're just making it into your inboxes this February--but we didn't forget! We've had a busy quarter with holidays, new staff, new projects, lots of dissemination efforts, additional connections with practices, and everything in-between! We hope you've been well and have enjoyed a steady start to your 2022!

As always, there are many interesting articles and stories to read about in this issue of our SNOCAP quarterly report.

Note that we will be reaching out again between now and our May report with a special issue to share a copy of our 2021 SNOCAP Annual Report! This is a new report type for us, where we collect lots of information about what SNOCAP has been up to, how you all have been working hard along side us, and what the inner-workings of the past year have looked like on our end. We are thrilled to soon be able to share this with you!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership, continue to stay safe, warm, happy, and healthy as we soon transition from winter into spring!

Don

[CONTACT DR. NEASE](#)



STUDY UPDATES & REQUESTS

COMING SOON: SNOCAP Annual Report

Our SNOCAP team has been hard at work to get an annual report together to share the amazing work that you all have been part of with us and SNOCAP throughout 2021. We hope to finish our report by the middle of March and will share that with everyone once it is complete.

Until then, how about we share a snapshot of one story we heard recently about what engagement in PBRN has looked like:

What is it like to participate in a PBRN project?

We spoke with Rhia, a care coordinator at St. Mary's Family Medicine practice in Grand Junction, Colorado, who is involved in PEACHnet's "Increasing Understanding of Food Insecurity (IUPI)" Project to learn about her experience.

She found her work with the project very eye-opening and interesting. During the project, Rhia had the opportunity to collaborate widely, where she was able to learn about the many facets food insecurity including who is affected and what resources are available. Through these learning experiences, Rhia and her clinic were able to identify and address gaps in resource information. Additionally, the issue of food insecurity was brought to the forefront of the practice's attention, helping them to become more food-aware and sensitive in addressing the issue of food insecurity.

Overall, by participating in this PBRN project, Rhia, her practice, and the surrounding community reaped large benefits and made changes for the better.

New Articles Published from SNOCAP PBRNs!

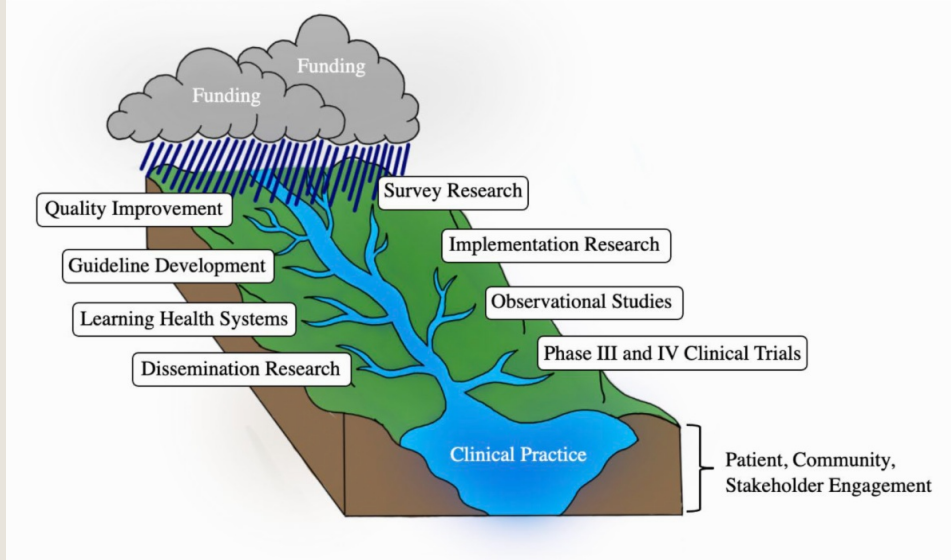
- A new article by Linda Zittleman, et al was published in the Annals of Family Medicine to describe the methods of increasing capacity for treatment of Opioid Use Disorder in Rural Colorado. [READ HERE](#)
- Anne Nederveld and Elena Broaddus from PEACHnet had two articles published in the January/February 2022 issue of the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine:
 - The first was on multistakeholder perspectives of addressing patient food insecurity. [READ HERE](#)
 - Their second paper discusses growing the PEACHnet PBRN through a project using potovoice and nominal group technique to determine priorities for the Western Slope communities. [READ HERE](#)



Health Affairs Article - The Watershed Of Practice-Based Research: Lessons And Opportunities From The COVID Pandemic

Be sure to check out the wonderful Health Affairs piece from Don and others, with help from our very own SNOCAP student assistant, Lexi Wright!

The Watershed Of Practice-Based Research: Lessons And Opportunities From The COVID Pandemic describes primary care as a watershed of population health that is in desperate need of support after the COVID-19 pandemic. The authors offer the unique infrastructure of Practice Based Research Networks (PBRNs) as a pathway to continue to improve and measure the impact of primary care by acting as soil and water sensing stations in the watershed model. The article highlights 4 key needs of PBRNs that if addressed, will allow for the optimization of the work done by these PBRNs which will in turn, improve patient care and outcomes.



[CLICK HERE TO READ ON HEALTH AFFAIRS](#)

Home vs Office for Medication Enhanced Recovery (HOMER)



The HOMER team worked with Elizabeth Staton from the University of Colorado's Department of Family Medicine to create a visual of stories they are hearing throughout the HOMER project. The team works with a Community Advisory Council to guide and inform all aspects of the study. Read on to hear the stories of the people who are making HOMER and the project work.

[CLICK HERE TO READ STORIES](#)

ICYMI

Are you familiar with *this* acronym? It stands for "in case you missed it," because we want to be sure you saw the results of the 11th COVID-19 Practice Response Report that was shared in January 2022.

Find results from this report, and others, by clicking on the report image below, or by clicking [HERE to visit our SNOCAP COVID-19 Response website](#).

Thank you to the 60 practices from across SNOCAP and the Practice Innovation Program who shared their thoughts and responses!

Colorado Primary Care Response: COVID-19 Report #11



What Colorado Primary Care Practices are experiencing with COVID-19

We took a break from surveying from February to November 2021.

Our December 2021 survey was conducted from November 29th to December 13th, 2021 and received 60 responses from practices across the state of Colorado.

Of respondents, 60% report practicing in urban/suburban areas & 40% rural/frontier areas.

*NOTE: This report provides descriptive statistics across practices that responded to this survey (convenience sample). Data presented is not intended to be representative of what all urban or rural practices are facing state-wide.

Report Data from 11th COVID-19 Response Survey



Virtual/Telehealth Visits

When asked to compare telehealth/virtual visit usage to levels in December of 2020 (n=57):

- 30% of respondents reported similar usage
- 67% of respondents reported less usage
- 3% of respondents reported that while they used telehealth earlier in the pandemic, they are no longer conducting telehealth/virtual visits



Financial Impact

When asked to evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on the financial survival of their practice (n=47):

- 15% of respondents reported a **High Negative** impact
- 30% reported a **Moderate Negative** impact
- 30% reported a **Low Negative** impact
- 13% reported **No Impact**
- 6% reported **Low Positive** impact
- 6% reported **Moderate Positive** impact



Staff Shortage

When asked about experiences with staffing shortages (n=56):

- 36% of respondents reported a **High** level of staffing shortage
- 37% of respondents reported a **Moderate** level of staffing shortage
- 16% of respondents reported a **Low** level of staffing shortage
- 11% of respondents reported **No Staffing Shortage**

What's NEW this month?

Staff Turnover & Burnout

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Research Project Engagement and Interest

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE 11TH COVID REPORT IN FULL](#)

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW PAST SNOCAP COVID-19 REPORTS](#)

NAPCRG Annual Conference 2021: *Insights from a Second Year Medical Student*



University of Colorado second year medical student Ashlyn Richie has been helping out with some SNOCAP work over the past year. We invited her to attend the NAPCRG Annual Conference as an opportunity to learn more about what is going on around the world relating to Primary Care Research. Read her reflection from attending the conference, below:

While this year was the 49th annual conference for NAPCRG, it was my first time in attendance and it did not disappoint. When my research team initially offered the idea, I was hesitant about attending an online conference. The online format was surprisingly very rewarding and flexible while wrapping up my didactic work along with holiday travel.

As a first-generation medical student, my breadth of knowledge about primary care research has been slowly growing, and NAPCRG showed the tangible and remarkable research being done in the field not only in the United States but across the world. I expected a heavy amount of COVID-19 research and while there was, it was exciting to see all the other topics still making strides during pandemic times in diabetes, weight control, and endless others.

Some of my favorite themes from this year's conference varied from using photo stories with patients, the common social determinants of health and their impact all over the world, the importance of changing the review process in health equity research, and much more. My favorite lecture of the week was Dr. Edward J. Bujold's talk, *Why Be a Clinician/Researcher?*. His work in cardiac interventions and his virtual COVID clinic are true examples of why primary care research is so meaningful and creates very real outcomes in patients. He taught me that I can make my own space for research in my clinical work.

Most importantly, the 49th NAPCRG Annual Conference showed me that there is an international support system for primary care research. Research in primary care is possible and makes a difference.

Thanks, Ashlyn, for your wonderful thoughts and insight into what attendance at such a large, multi-national conference is like. We are thrilled you were able to participate!

SNOCAP SPOTLIGHT

Name and role:

Sheryl Harrington, Department of Family Medicine's Community Program Manager

How long have you been with the Department of Family Medicine/SNOCAP?

I started this new role in January 2022, but I have worked with DFM previously.

What did you do before coming to this role?

I was the Program Manager for the Community-Campus Partnership from 2014-2020 (that lived under DFM) and most recently the Program Manager for non-GME Postdoctoral programs for the Department of Psychiatry in 2021.

What originally drew you to your role with the Department of Family Medicine/SNOCAP?:

I have enjoyed my past experiences working in the Peace Corps with community as well as my time with Community-Campus Partnership. There is a lot that can be learned from collaborative relationships with our neighbors and I am excited to help build upon the great work that is already being done.

What will you be working on in your role within the Department of Family Medicine/SNOCAP?:

I will be using my time getting to know what all is going on in this space within DFM, and starting to help bring some organization to how we are spending our efforts. We are in the process of defining our future work for the department's Community Mission Area. It is an exciting time.

What are the big things coming up for you professionally in the next few months?:

I am working on getting connected so I can be a better resource. I'm on a listening/learning campaign attending community meetings and connecting with people on the campus who are engaged in community work. Also, I'll be building infrastructure such as communication tools that we can utilize for our future work.



What has been one of your main successes, proudest moments, or biggest "aha!"s recently?:

In the recent past, I would say that I was truly amazed and proud of the work that was done by the Community-Campus Partnership team. It was groundbreaking and I am glad that some of this work has continued develop under the Central Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Engagement. Additionally, if folks haven't done so, I highly recommend that you sign up for the Community and Campus Connections emails [CLICK HERE](#). They are fantastic.

What is one thing everyone reading should know about you?:

I don't know if everyone needs to "know" this, but I will share it anyway: I'm a big fan of podcasts, like Serial and S-Town. I love fine art photography. Particularly, the gelatin silver photography process and using large format cameras. I miss being in the darkroom, as they are like meditation chapels for me.

[CONTACT SHERYL HERE](#)

~~Welcome, Sheryl! We are so excited to have you on board and look forward to continued work with you!~~

MONTHLY MEETING



SNOCAP Monthly Meetings are a way to connect with practices and providers across the state. We use this opportunity to showcase current and upcoming work, as well as to discuss potential work and partnerships with other researchers.

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 5TH,
12:00-1:30PM VIA ZOOM**

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/94096983934>

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +16699006833,,94096983934#

Or Telephone: Dial: 1 669 900 6833 (US Toll), Meeting ID: 940 9698 3934

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Department of
Family Medicine

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