The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded project titled "Engaging PCORI Priority Stakeholders through SGIM" is now more than six months into its implementation phase. The project goals are to educate SGIM members about PCORI research and to provide avenues for better engagement in the PCORI research process for clinicians and clinician-educators. We began with a popular series of sessions at our 2015 Toronto Annual Meeting and will continue with a general assessment to identify key attitudes and strategies to facilitate both provider and patient involvement in these research opportunities. The 2016 Annual Meeting in Hollywood, FL, next May will incorporate sessions based on the recommendations and findings of these activities.

2015 Annual Meeting Session Keynote
Joe Selby, MD, executive director of PCORI, had an enthusiastic audience at the Toronto meeting. His presentation highlighted the Institute's activities of the last four years and projections for the future. PCORI's mission is to help people make informed health care decisions and improve health care delivery and outcomes by producing and promoting high-integrity evidence-based information that comes from research guided by patients, caregivers, and the broader health care community.

PCORI focuses on delivering the means to: substantially increase the quantity, quality, and timeliness of useful and trustworthy information available to support health decisions; speed the implementation and use of patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR) evidence; and influence clinical and health care research funded by others to be more patient centered. PCORI strategic priorities include:

- Funding research designed to improve patient care and outcomes through patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER);
- Building communities skilled in PCOR through the training of clinicians, researchers, caregivers, and patients/patient advocates;
- Enabling and involving the stakeholder communities to generate and prioritize research questions and to actively participate in PCOR through the creation of the Eugene Washington Engagement Awards for Knowledge Building and Dissemination; and
- Establishment of key advisory panels on topics including rare diseases and communications.

Dr. Selby also discussed PCORI’s five national priorities for research: assessment of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment options; improving health care systems; communication and dissemination research; addressing disparities; and accelerating patient-centered outcomes and methodological research.

Help Us with Our Assessment
The aims of this project are to increase the opportunities for clinicians and clinician-educators to participate in PCORI research and to share the perspectives of SGIM members with PCORI to improve the research process.

This fall, we will be asking SGIM members and others to participate in an assessment to determine their perspectives and understanding of how to best engage and participate in potential research opportunities. This survey process will be directed to several key populations including clinicians and clinician-educators and patient and family participants/advocates to ask about their attitudes and needs regarding participation in PCOR and to understand the barriers and facilitators that affect their ability to participate.

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