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Evidence-based resources for decisionmakers, clinicians, and researchers on:

- **Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH)**
- **Transforming Primary Care and Practice Facilitation**
- **Improving the Quality, Safety, Efficiency, and Effectiveness of U.S. Health Care**

Searchable Citations Database

- More than 1,200 citations of journal articles, reports, policy briefs, and newsletters
- Search by topic, population, keyword, or bibliographical data

PCMH-focused White Papers and Decisionmaker Briefs

- Building the Quality Improvement Infrastructure in Primary Care
- Innovative Methods to Evaluate the PCMH
- Early Evidence on the PCMH
- Approaches to Evaluating the PCMH
- Roles of the PCMH and Accountable Care Organizations in Care Coordination
- Coordinating Care in the Medical Neighborhood
- Choosing the Right Population and Sample Size for Medical Home Evaluations
- Serving Adults with Complex Health and Social Support Needs
- Health IT
- Patient Engagement
- Mental Health Integration

Care Coordination Measures Atlas

- Provides a framework for evaluating care coordination in primary care settings
- Reviews more than 60 validated measures

Practice Facilitation (PF) Learning Community Page at PCMH.AHRQ.GOV

- ✓ Developing and Running a PF Program for Primary Care Transformation: A How-To Guide
- ✓ Practice Facilitation Handbook: Training Modules for New Facilitators and Their Trainers
- ✓ Case studies of 4 exemplar PF programs
- ✓ Multimedia resources, PF newsletters, and more
- ✓ If you would like to subscribe to AHRQ's Primary Care Practice Facilitation Forum biweekly newsletter, please email PracticeFacilitation@mathematica-mpr.com and include "subscribe" in the subject heading.

Expanding the Toolbox: Methods to Study and Refine Patient-Centered Medical Home Models

This series of briefs expands the toolbox of methods to help evaluators and researchers produce robust evidence that can be used to improve primary care. Nationally recognized thought leaders in research methods and PCMH models prepared briefs that describe various methods and approaches and how they might be used to study and refine PCMH models. The topics cover both “evolutionary” ways to improve evaluations—by using traditional health services research methods—and “revolutionary” approaches that draw on novel methods from other fields such as anthropology, organizational analysis, engineering, and political science. Each brief introduces a method or approach, discusses ways in which PCMH researchers have used it or could do so, and provides resources for researchers to learn more about the method.

Capacity Building: Primary Care Quality Improvement

A critical component of the PCMH is a systematic focus on quality improvement (QI) and safety; however, a broader, more explicit commitment to ongoing improvement in primary care is needed. These two companion briefs point to an effective means of assisting practices in realizing this opportunity. The first brief makes a case for building systematic, enduring, external supports for QI to assist primary care practices in the United States in achieving the triple aim of improved patient experience, improved population health, and reduced costs. The second brief describes external supports and resources instrumental in building QI capacity.

(Available at: <http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/prevention-chronic-care/improve/capacity-building/index.html>)

Early Evidence on the PCMH

This study systematically reviews the early evidence on effectiveness of the PCMH. The interventions most often cited to support the medical home can be viewed as precursors to the medical home. The rigorous evidence indicates some favorable effects on all three triple aim outcomes, a few unfavorable effects on costs, and many inconclusive results. Although the PCMH is a promising innovation, rigorous quantitative evaluations and comprehensive implementation analyses are needed to assess effectiveness and refine the model to meet stakeholders’ needs. Findings from future evaluations will help guide the substantial efforts of practices and payers to adopt the PCMH with the goal of achieving the triple aim outcomes.

Tools for Practice Facilitation Programs

- **Developing and Running a Practice Facilitation Program for Primary Care Transformation**

This how-to guide provides information to new and existing practice facilitation (PF) programs that work with primary care practices on quality improvement activities, particularly those oriented toward primary care redesign and transformation. The goal of the guide is to introduce some of the key concepts and important decisions to consider in developing and running a PF program.

- **Training Modules for New Facilitators and Their Trainers**

This handbook provides a basic introduction to practice facilitation, presents core competencies for practice facilitators, provides training exercises focused on common facilitation tasks like assessing readiness for change and tracking progress, and offers modules focused specifically on patient-centered medical home transformation and care model implementation. (Available at: <http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/prevention-chronic-care/improve/system/pfhandbook/index.html>)

- **Case Studies of Leading Practice Facilitation Programs**

This series of case studies profiles four practice facilitation programs, providing detailed descriptions of their formation and operation. A cross-cutting synthesis offers lessons learned from these leading programs.