



ASHP Foundation News Release

ASHP Foundation Announces 2016 Recipients of Pharmacy Practice Advancement Demonstration Grants

BETHESDA, MD (February 7, 2017) – The ASHP Research and Education Foundation awarded funding to two pharmacist investigators through the 2015-2016 Pharmacy Practice Advancement Demonstration Grant Program. The program supports demonstration projects related to practice advancement, consistent with the ASHP/ASHP Foundation Practice Advancement Initiative (PAI) and Ambulatory PAI.

“The ASHP Foundation has a rich history of funding innovative efforts that advance the pharmacist’s patient care role and improve medication safety,” said review panelist James Hoffman, chief patient safety officer at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. “These projects continue that tradition by focusing on contemporary topics where it is important to further evaluate new models of practice.”

Each recipient received a \$75,000 grant. The following is an update on the progress of their studies.

Evaluating the Effects of a Multidisciplinary Transition Care Management Program on Hospital Readmissions and Physician Access

Principal Investigator: Margie Snyder, Pharm.D., M.P.H.
Purdue University College of Pharmacy
Indianapolis, IN

Dr. Snyder’s main objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of a new pharmacist-initiated transitions-of-care program that was implemented at Indiana University Health-Arnett Hospital in 2015.

The objectives of this research are to determine:

- The effect of the program on 30-day all-cause readmissions.
- The effect of the program on patient access to primary care physicians (PCPs) within 14 days post-discharge.
- The number and type of interventions made by the transitions-of-care pharmacist.

“Identifying practice models that effectively reduce hospital readmissions is critically important and of interest to stakeholders both locally and nationally,” said Dr. Snyder. “The primary outcome of our evaluation is 30-day all-cause hospital readmissions.”

Dr. Snyder hopes that the findings of this study will result in the implementation of the transitions-of-care program at other hospitals, and will further define the role of pharmacists in transitions of care. “This grant expands my research program and has been a wonderful opportunity to strengthen existing collaborations,” she said.

Safe and Effective Improvement of National Quality Metrics for Value-Based Reimbursement of Diabetes Care: Clinical Pharmacy Interventions in Two Patient-Centered Medical Homes

Principal Investigators: Katy Trinkley, Pharm.D., and Angela Thompson, Pharm.D.

University of Colorado Denver

Aurora, CO

As healthcare transitions from fee-for-service to value-based reimbursement, demonstrating the impact of clinical pharmacists is critical to the advancement of pharmacists’ provider status. The overarching objective of this application is to demonstrate that clinical pharmacists working in primary care safely improve national quality metric performance for type 2 diabetes, which could translate into a reliable and sustainable reimbursement model for pharmacists. Increased revenue generated from pharmacist services that improve national quality metric performance could be used in part to support their salaries.

Dr. Trinkley believes pharmacists working at the top of their scope of practice improve quality metrics for type 2 diabetes by decreasing rates of clinical inertia, while reducing adverse safety outcomes. “While previous studies have demonstrated that primary care pharmacists can improve diabetes control, this is the first study to evaluate the role of the pharmacist on national quality metrics in diabetes as a whole,” said Dr. Trinkley. “The purpose of this study is to demonstrate how primary care clinical pharmacists can safely improve the performance of national quality metrics for diabetes.”

This could lead to a sustainable method of reimbursement for pharmacists. “This grant is a key step toward achieving federal funding for further research to explore optimal and sustainable methods of integrating clinical pharmacists in primary care settings,” said Dr. Trinkley.

For More Information

[Visit us online](#) to learn more about this grant program and to read full abstracts of these research studies.

About the Foundation

The ASHP Research and Education Foundation (www.ashpfoundation.org) was established in 1968 by ASHP (www.ashp.org) as a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. As the philanthropic arm of ASHP, our vision is that patient outcomes improve because of the leadership and clinical skills of pharmacists, as vital members of the healthcare team, accountable for safe and effective medication use. Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of patients in health systems through appropriate, safe and effective medication use.

Contact Information

Barbara B. Nussbaum, R.Ph., M.S., Ph.D.

Vice President

ASHP Foundation

301-664-8736

bnussbaum@ashp.org

Bethany L. Coulter, M.A.
Director of Strategic Communications and Donor Relations
ASHP Foundation
301-664-8795
bcoulter@ashp.org

###