

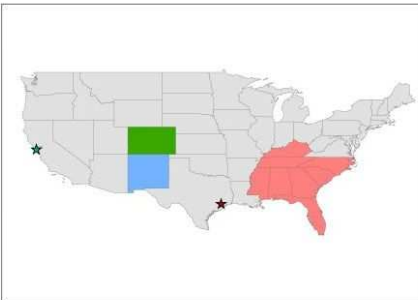


M. Potter (L) & M. Handley (R) from UCSF visit NM - RIOS-Net director, R. Williams (C)

PRIME-Net Welcomes New Member Organizations

RIOS-Net has expanded influence by adding two more PBRN's to the PRIME-Net collaboration of networks. Tuesday August 22 representatives of our first West Coast affiliate, UCSF Collaborative Research Network met with us in Albuquerque to begin the process of network expansion. Southern Primary-care Urban Research Network (SPUR-Net) based in Houston Texas has also recently joined PRIME-Net and visited Albuquerque on Tuesday March 28. Each member organization brings a uniquely underserved population. PRIME-Net is now a large network that can bring traditionally under-represented patients into the practice based research arena. Previous PBRN populations lacked minorities and populations served by federally supported programs like IHS and community health centers. We now have inner city urban, rural, African-American, Hispanic, Asian and Native American populations across the southern half of the United States (see map). For more information on the members, look on the RIOS-Net web site and click on the links to our partner organizations. We look forward to bringing the additional power of numbers to translate research into practice and improve the quality of our care to the underserved.

PRIME-Net Network Members



What is PRIME-Net?

PRIME-Net was founded in the spring of 2005 as a collaboration of three Practice Based Research Networks (PBRNs) with the goal of conducting joint research to benefit primary care in their communities. For links to our member network, visit: <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/primenet/>



Collaborative Research Network (CRN/UCSF)

The UCSF Collaborative Research Network (CRN) was established in 1984 for the purpose of conducting practice-based research in primary care settings. Practices are located in Northern and Central California, with the majority in the SF-Bay area. The CRN is one of the longest standing practice-based research networks (PBRNs) in the United States.



Southern Primary-care Urban Research Network (SPUR-Net)

SPUR-Net is a practice-based research network based in Houston, Texas, that supports collaborative primary care research among its constituent organizations.



Colorado Research Network (CaReNet)

CaReNet, based in Colorado, is committed to questions with the potential to understand health, disease, and illness, and the roles and values of primary care, with a focus on disadvantaged populations.



SouthEast Regional Clinicians' Network (SERCN)

SERCN includes health care professionals in eight South-eastern states, with a focus on underserved populations and the elimination of health disparities.



Research Involving Outpatient Settings Network (RIOS Net)

RIOS Net is dedicated to improving the health of and health care delivery of traditionally underserved populations in New Mexico.

Annual Member Meeting, April 27, 2007

Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Satcher

US Surgeon General (1998 - 2002)

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/history/biosatcher.htm>

Notes:

Farewell and best wishes to Laura Day, Laura accepted a position within UNM HSC's Family & Community Medicine at the Center for Native American Health. We welcome Martha Vigil who joined us in September.

This is our final printed and mailed copy. We are transitioning to an e-mail delivery system for the newsletter.

If you would like to continue to receive a printed copy please contact us.

Phone: (505) 272-5646, Fax: (505) 272-4701, or E-Mail riosnet@salud.unm.edu

RIOS Highlight - The Art and Complexity of Primary Care Clinician's Preventive Counseling Decisions: Obesity as a Case Study - *Annals of Family Medicine* 4.4 (2006): 327-333.

From the beginning of RIOS Net, both members and community representatives spoke clearly that the epidemics of obesity and diabetes must be the highest priorities of the network. These are not easy problems. One of our earliest projects explored how you balance competing demands in your patient encounters and choose to spend time counseling patients about reducing risk of obesity and diabetes. Our goal was to find ways that might help you with this challenging task.

Contrary to the views that health policy makers often seem to have (i.e., changing primary care practice is simply a matter of increasing use of guidelines or of providing the clinician a timely reminder, etc.), you articulated how many factors clinicians must take into consideration and balance when deciding whether to spend part of the encounter time on counseling for prevention of obesity.

Your insights are published in an article in a recent issue of *Annals of Family Medicine*, titled "The Art and Complexity of Primary Care Clinicians' Preventive Counseling Decisions: Obesity as a Case Study." These insights are important, new understandings of the processes of primary care, and we think show some of the importance of your participation in the network. For those of you who took time to talk with us or to return the survey that was part of this project, we thank you.

Link for copy of the article: <http://www.annfammed.org/cgi/reprint/4/4/327>