

National Research Strategy for Family Medicine: 2024-2030

VISION

Family Medicine research is patient, family, and community centered and improves health by enhancing health promotion, improving care for chronic diseases and advancing healthcare delivery, while including cross-cutting themes of health equity, technology, and team science

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Pathways / Mentorship



Funding & Advocacy



Infrastructure



GOALS

Grow the family medicine research workforce by expanding pathways and strengthening mentorship

Increase funding for family medicine research and advocate for enhanced health policy and support

Build a national infrastructure for organizing and optimizing family medicine research opportunities

OBJECTIVES

A1: Maintain, promote and contribute to a **database of family medicine research programs** to connect learners to research training opportunities

A2: Enhance and grow **pathways to participate in family medicine research** for

- medical students (e.g. expanding MD/PhD programs)
- residents (e.g. creating additional degree programs and fellowships)
- and family physicians (e.g. offering training opportunities)

A3: Create **structured mentorship** experiences inside and outside home institutions

A4: Normalize a **team science** approach by developing **cross-disciplinary partnerships with PhDs, interprofessional groups, and community based organizations**

A5: Promote a “**culture of curiosity**” among medical students and family medicine residency programs to ensure the workforce is well-equipped to critically **analyze and apply evidence**

B1: **Define** and **promote** the **value** of family medicine research broadly

B2: Align **advocacy** efforts with the **2021 NASEM report** and forthcoming action plan to build momentum and increase support for family medicine research, including the creation of an [Office of Primary Care Research](#)

B3: Continue advocacy to **increase funding for AHRQ National Center for Excellence in Primary Care Research** and support efforts to **direct** other sources of **funding to primary care research** (e.g. foundations, payers, venture capital and other federal agencies such as: PCORI, CDC, and HRSA)

B4: Advocate for **increased funding for Departments of Family Medicine** from institutional leadership

B5: Identify and promote **promising practices** for **chairs** to support and fund research participation within their departments and institutions

C1: Create **partnerships** and **align** the discipline **with future advancements** in healthcare delivery to be on the **forefront** of new research opportunities and changes in healthcare policy

C2: Utilize a **repository of clinical data** to answer key questions in primary care

C3: Increase **accessible** and **integrated research models** that produce clinically applicable research and evidence-base (e.g. optimize PBRNs, communities of practice, and consider other types of networks such as geographic and content networks)

C4: **Leverage** Clinical and Translational Science Awards (**CTSA**) networks and create Centers of Excellence to **increase family medicine research** within institutions

C5: Design and utilize **distinctive methodology** such as pragmatic trials, participatory methods, community-based research, translational science, implementation research and dissemination, big data analytics and machine learning

Notes for Implementation Plan

Communication

Goal: Ensure stakeholders are knowledgeable and regularly updated about implementation of the family medicine research strategy

Potential Action Steps:

- Develop a comprehensive communication plan that articulates the family medicine research strategy and includes timely, relevant and targeted updates to stakeholders through multiple channels (email, newsletters, dashboards, etc.)
- Utilize partnering organizations to widely disseminate information and updates regarding the family medicine research strategy
- FMLC organizations adopt and integrate the strategic plan into their work

Action Steps

C2: Utilize a **repository of clinical data** to answer key questions in primary care

Action Step: Consider including AI and translation to action