

# Board of Governors Meeting

---

## via Teleconference/Webinar

October 26, 2021  
1:00 – 3:30 PM

# Welcome and Call to Order

---

Christine Goertz, DC, PhD

Chairperson, Board of Governors

# Agenda



|           |                                                                                                                 |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1:00      | <b>Welcome, Call to Order and<br/>Consider for Approval:</b> Minutes of the September 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting |
| 1:05-1:50 | <b>Consider for Adoption:</b> National Priorities for Health                                                    |
| 1:50-3:30 | <b>Facilitated Discussion of Draft Research Agenda</b>                                                          |
| 3:30      | <b>Wrap-up and Adjourn</b>                                                                                      |

# Board Vote

## Call for a Motion to:

- **Approve** Minutes of the September 27-28, 2021 Board of Governors meeting

## Call for the Motion to be Seconded:

- **Second** the Motion
- If further discussion, may propose an **Amendment** to the Motion or an **Alternative** Motion

## Voice Vote:

- Vote to **Approve** the **Final** Motion
- Ask for votes in favor, opposed, and abstentions

# **Consider for Adoption:** National Priorities for Health

---

Nakela L. Cook, MD, MPH  
Executive Director

Sharon Levine, MD  
Strategic Planning Committee, Co-Chair



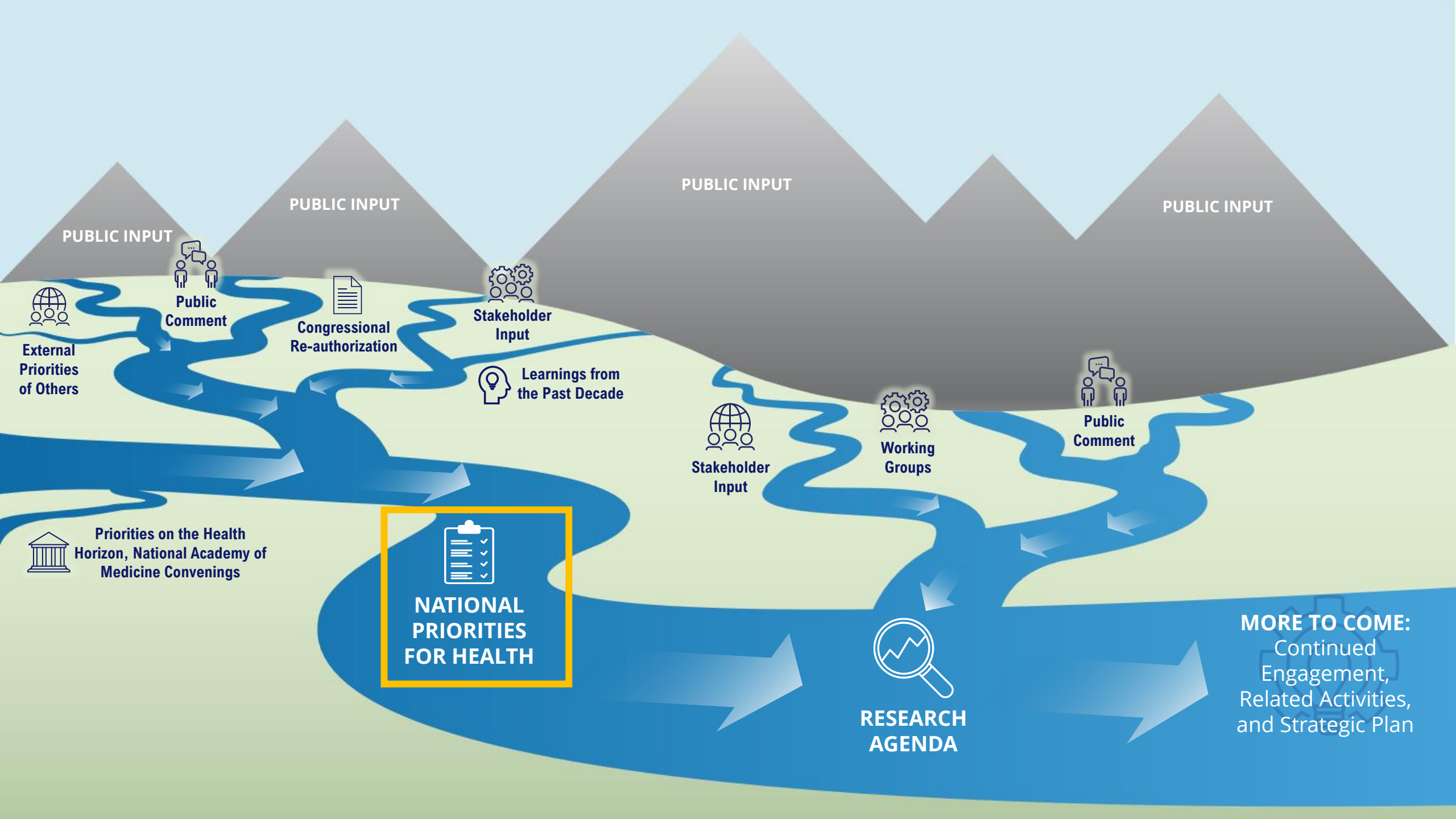
# Purpose and Structure of Presentation

## Purpose

- Review themes from public guidance and edits to proposed National Priorities for Health
- **Consider for adoption** the proposed National Priorities for Health

## Structure

- Outline input gathering process
- Review what we heard during public guidance and areas where it can be addressed
- Review revisions to proposed National Priorities for Health based on public guidance
- **Board vote**



# Scope of Strategic Planning Activities



## Strategic Planning

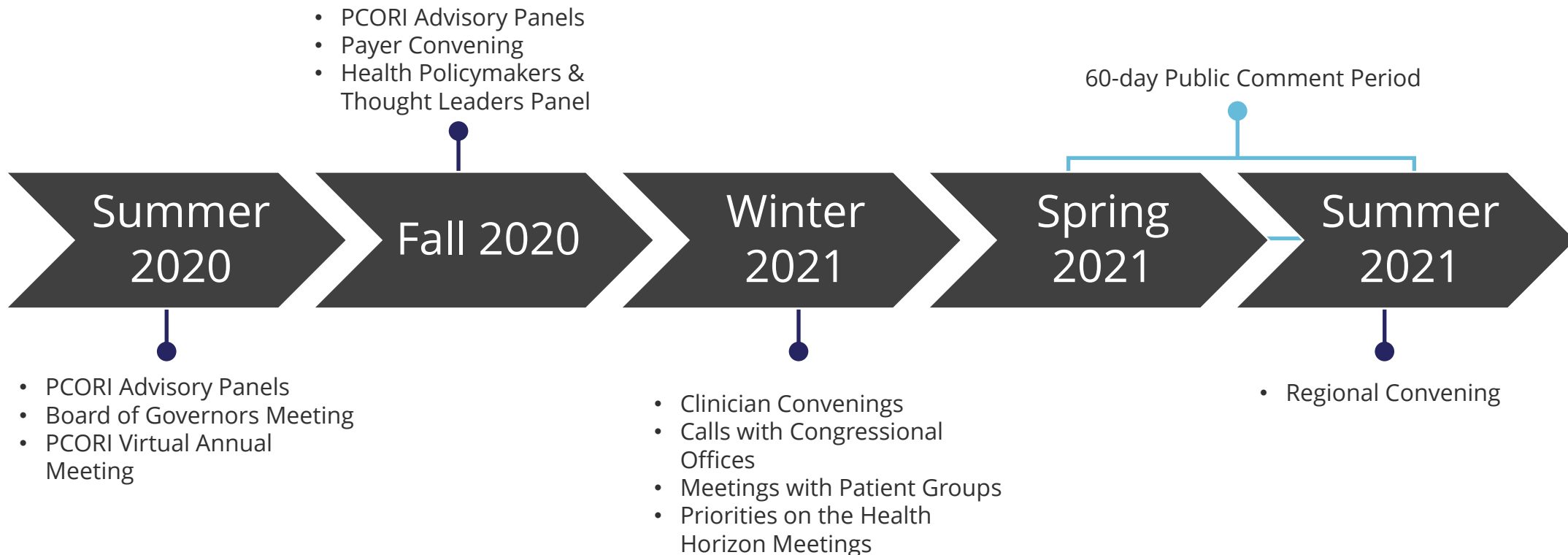
- **National Priorities for Health**
- Research Agenda
- PCORnet® strategic vision for PCORI's next phase
- Methodology Committee focus for PCORI's next phase
- Commitment Planning and strategies to increase funding
- Scenario Planning based on the changes in landscape and environment
- Priorities from reauthorizing law
  - Maternal morbidity and mortality
  - Intellectual and developmental disabilities
  - Full range of outcomes data

# Public Input and Public Comment Inform PCORI's National Priorities for Health and Research Agenda



# Input Gathering Process Reminder

PCORI received input from a range of stakeholders to identify and inform the National Priorities for Health in addition to holding discussion at Board of Governors meetings and several other activities to inform the process.



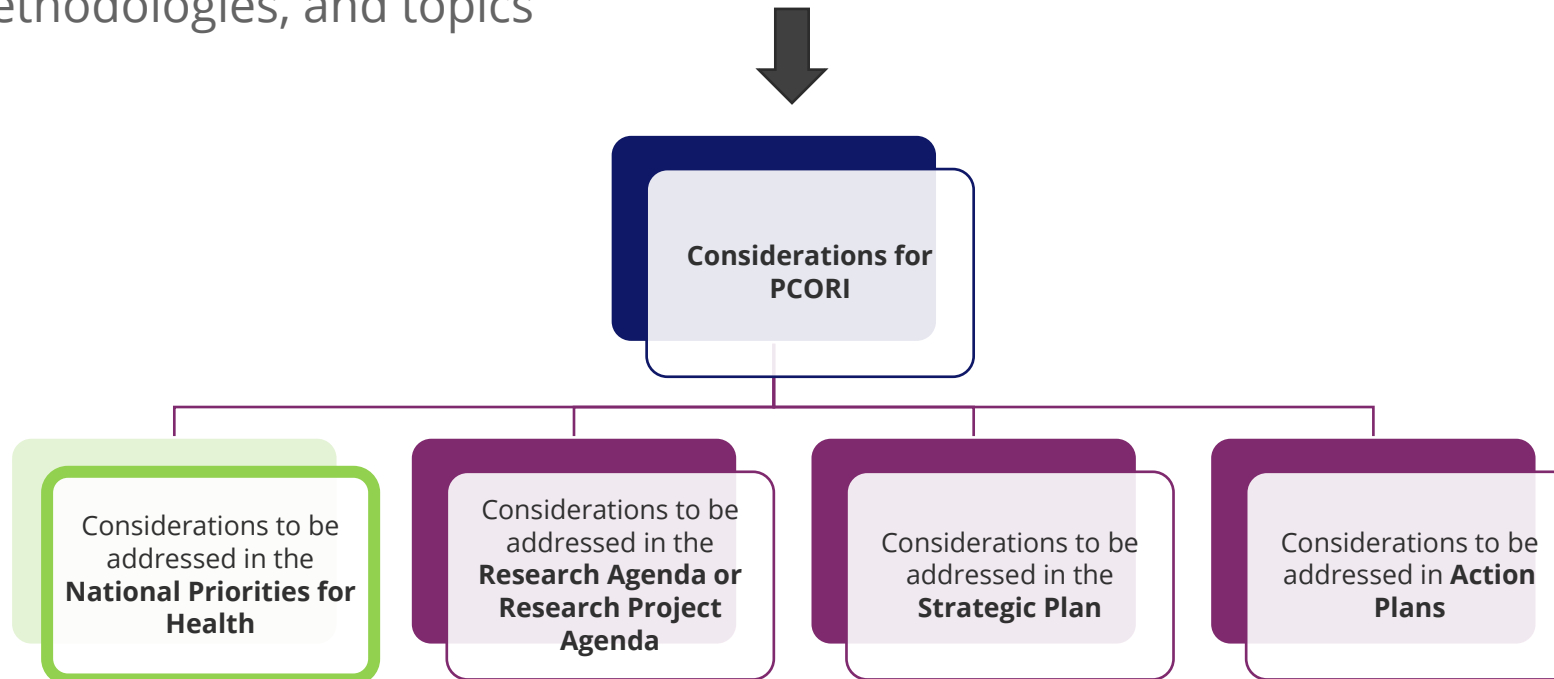
# Reminder: Proposed National Priorities for Health



- **Increase Evidence for Existing Interventions and Emerging Innovations in Health**
  - Goal: Strengthen and expand ongoing comparative clinical effectiveness research focused on both existing interventions and emerging innovations to improve healthcare practice, health outcomes, and health equity.
- **Enhance Infrastructure to Accelerate Patient-Centered Outcomes Research**
  - Goal: Enhance the infrastructure that facilitates patient-centered outcomes research to drive lasting improvements in health and transformation of both the research enterprise and care delivery.
- **Advance the Science of Dissemination, Implementation, and Health Communication**
  - Goal: Advance the scientific evidence for and the practice of dissemination, implementation, and health communication to accelerate the movement of comparative clinical effectiveness research results into practice.
- **Achieve Health Equity**
  - Goal: Expand stakeholder engagement, research, and dissemination approaches that lead to continued progress toward achieving health equity in the United States.
- **Accelerate Progress Toward an Integrated Learning Health System**
  - Goal: Foster actionable, timely, place-based, and transformative improvements in patient-centered experiences, care provision, and ultimately improved health outcomes through collaborative, multisectoral research to support a health system that serves the needs and preferences of individuals.

# What We Heard

- **Key Takeaway 1:** Within the health research enterprise, PCORI has a unique role to play with respect to each of the National Priorities for Health
- **Key Takeaway 2:** The National Priorities for Health present challenges and opportunities for comparative clinical effectiveness research
- **Key Takeaway 3:** Advancing the National Priorities for Health will depend upon a few key success factors
- **Key Takeaway 4:** There is robust support for the proposed National Priorities for Health; some clarification of terminology and concepts will strengthen this agreement
- **Key Takeaway 5:** Stakeholders want to continue to be fully engaged in providing guidance on research directions, methodologies, and topics



# Feedback from Public To Be Addressed Across Components



- Public guidance ***provided considerations relevant to all the components in the strategic planning process*** including the Strategic Plan, the National Priorities for Health, the Research Agenda, the Research Project Agenda, and Action Plans
- Descriptive information about the National Priorities for Health will be reflected in the ***Strategic Plan***.
- The ***strategic plan*** centers on achieving the National Priorities for Health, and the Research Agenda is one major component of the plan. The strategic plan aims to describe all the various components and present a cohesive vision for PCORI's future activities.

# Insights from Public Guidance that Inform Revisions to National Priorities for Health



- **Insight from Stakeholders:** With countless avenues for the rapid, widespread sharing of research results, opinions, and hearsay, and their implications for clinical practice, the need to prevent misinformation, misunderstanding, mistrust, and misguided decisions is imperative.
- **Insight from Stakeholders:** The elements and purpose of an integrated learning health system need further clarification.

Considerations to be  
addressed in the  
**National Priorities  
for Health**

# Suggested Edits for Proposed National Priorities for Health Based on Public Guidance



- **Increase Evidence for Existing Interventions and Emerging Innovations in Health**
  - Goal: Strengthen and expand ongoing comparative clinical effectiveness research focused on both existing interventions and emerging innovations to improve healthcare practice, health outcomes, and health equity.
- **Enhance Infrastructure to Accelerate Patient-Centered Outcomes Research**
  - Goal: Enhance the infrastructure that facilitates patient-centered outcomes research to drive lasting improvements in health and transformation of both the research enterprise and care delivery.
- **Advance the Science of Dissemination, Implementation, and Health Communication**
  - Goal: Advance the scientific evidence for and the practice of dissemination, implementation, and health communication to accelerate the **effective sharing movement** of comparative clinical effectiveness research results **for public understanding and uptake** into practice.
- **Achieve Health Equity**
  - Goal: Expand stakeholder engagement, research, and dissemination approaches that lead to continued progress toward achieving health equity in the United States.
- **Accelerate Progress Toward an Integrated Learning Health System**
  - Goal: Foster actionable, timely, place-based, and transformative improvements in patient-centered experiences, care provision, and ultimately improved health outcomes through collaborative, multisectoral research to support a health system that **understands and** serves the needs and preferences of individuals.



Supports uptake of trustworthy CER results among the public for decision-making



Bolsters purpose of an integrated learning health system

# Key Takeaway 1 and Where We Will Respond to Feedback

**Within the health research enterprise, PCORI has a unique role to play with respect to each of the National Priorities for Health**

**1.1 Insight from Stakeholders:** PCORI is a neutral convener that can engage diverse stakeholders around shared goals

**1.2 Insight from Stakeholders:** PCORI is particularly able to credibly and successfully elevate health equity as a meaningful and important factor in CER.

Considerations to be addressed in the **Research Agenda or Research Project Agenda**

Considerations to be addressed in the **Strategic Plan**

Considerations to be addressed in **Action Plans**

# Key Takeaway 2 and Where We Will Respond to Feedback

## The National Priorities for Health present challenges and opportunities for comparative clinical effectiveness research

**2.1 Insight from Stakeholders:** Data usage barriers and challenges persist even as technology innovations offer new ways to leverage data to achieve multiple goals.

**2.2 Insight from Stakeholders:** With countless avenues for the rapid, widespread sharing of research results, opinions, and hearsay, and their implications for clinical practice, the need to prevent misinformation, misunderstanding, mistrust, and misguided decisions is imperative.

**2.3 Insight from Stakeholders:** The increasing value placed on telehealth demands greater consideration for the role it can play in achieving health equity and realizing health outcomes.

Considerations to be addressed in the **National Priorities for Health**

Considerations to be addressed in the **Research Agenda or Research Project Agenda**

Considerations to be addressed in the **Strategic Plan**

Considerations to be addressed in **Action Plans**

# Key Takeaway 3 and Where We Will Respond to Feedback

## Advancing the National Priorities for Health will depend upon a few key success factors.

**3.1 Insight from Stakeholders:** An increased focus on interdisciplinary, cross-setting collaborations will support the objectives of all five National Priorities for Health.

**3.2 Insight from Stakeholders:** Education across disciplines and stakeholders can “raise all boats”—enabling PCORI to advance the National Priorities for Health both individually and collectively.

**3.3 Insight from Stakeholders:** Leverage the strengths of the established research ecosystem while dismantling the elements that perpetuate bias, disenfranchisement, and inequities.

Considerations to be addressed in the **Research Agenda or Research Project Agenda**

Considerations to be addressed in the **Strategic Plan**

Considerations to be addressed in **Action Plans**

# Key Takeaway 4 and Where We Will Respond to Feedback

**There is robust support for the proposed National Priorities for Health; some clarification of terminology and concepts will strengthen this agreement.**

**4.1 Insight from Stakeholders:** Consistent terminology supports understanding and compels and persuades.

**4.2 Insight from Stakeholders:** Used strategically, the Science of Dissemination, Implementation, and Health Communication can be a powerful agent for change.

**4.3 Insight from Stakeholders:** Should reflect their diverse perspectives and roles.

**4.4 Insight from Stakeholders:** The elements and purpose of an integrated learning health system need further clarification.

Considerations to be addressed in the **National Priorities for Health**

Considerations to be addressed in the **Research Agenda or Research Project Agenda**

Considerations to be addressed in the **Strategic Plan**

Considerations to be addressed in **Action Plans**

# Key Takeaway 5 and Where We Will Respond to Feedback

**Stakeholders want to continue to be fully engaged in providing guidance on research directions, methodologies, and topics.**

**5.1 Insight from Stakeholders:** Innovative methodologies are key to achieving the goals articulated in the National Priorities for Health.

**5.2 Insight from Stakeholders:** PCORI's Research Agenda will benefit from continued involvement by diverse stakeholders in a wide variety of settings.

**5.3 Insight from Stakeholders:** Stakeholders are highly invested in sharing specific research topics for PCORI's consideration when developing the Research Project Agenda.

Considerations to be addressed in the **Research Agenda or Research Project Agenda**

Considerations to be addressed in the **Strategic Plan**

Considerations to be addressed in **Action Plans**

# Proposed National Priorities for Health for Consideration for Adoption



- **Increase Evidence for Existing Interventions and Emerging Innovations in Health**
  - Goal: Strengthen and expand ongoing comparative clinical effectiveness research focused on both existing interventions and emerging innovations to improve healthcare practice, health outcomes, and health equity.
- **Enhance Infrastructure to Accelerate Patient-Centered Outcomes Research**
  - Goal: Enhance the infrastructure that facilitates patient-centered outcomes research to drive lasting improvements in health and transformation of both the research enterprise and care delivery.
- **Advance the Science of Dissemination, Implementation, and Health Communication**
  - Goal: Advance the scientific evidence for and the practice of dissemination, implementation, and health communication to accelerate the effective sharing of comparative clinical effectiveness research results for public understanding and uptake into practice.
- **Achieve Health Equity**
  - Goal: Expand stakeholder engagement, research, and dissemination approaches that lead to continued progress toward achieving health equity in the United States.
- **Accelerate Progress Toward an Integrated Learning Health System**
  - Goal: Foster actionable, timely, place-based, and transformative improvements in patient-centered experiences, care provision, and ultimately improved health outcomes through collaborative, multisectoral research to support a health system that understands and serves the needs and preferences of individuals.

# Board Vote

## Call for a Motion to:

- **Adopt** the proposed National Priorities for Health

## Call for the Motion to be Seconded:

- **Second** the Motion
- If further discussion, may propose an **Amendment** to the Motion or an **Alternative** Motion

## Roll Call Vote:

- Vote to **Approve** the **Final** Motion
- Ask for votes in favor, opposed, and abstentions

# Research Agenda Discussions

---

Nakela L. Cook, MD, MPH  
Executive Director

# Purpose and Structure of Discussion

## Purpose

- Opportunity to engage with the draft Research Agenda and to gather Board members' expertise and insights for further refinement
- Prepare the Board to consider at its December 2021 Board meeting approving the proposed Research Agenda for posting for public comment

## Structure

- Overview and background
- Introductory remarks and full Board discussion on pairs of statements from the draft Research Agenda

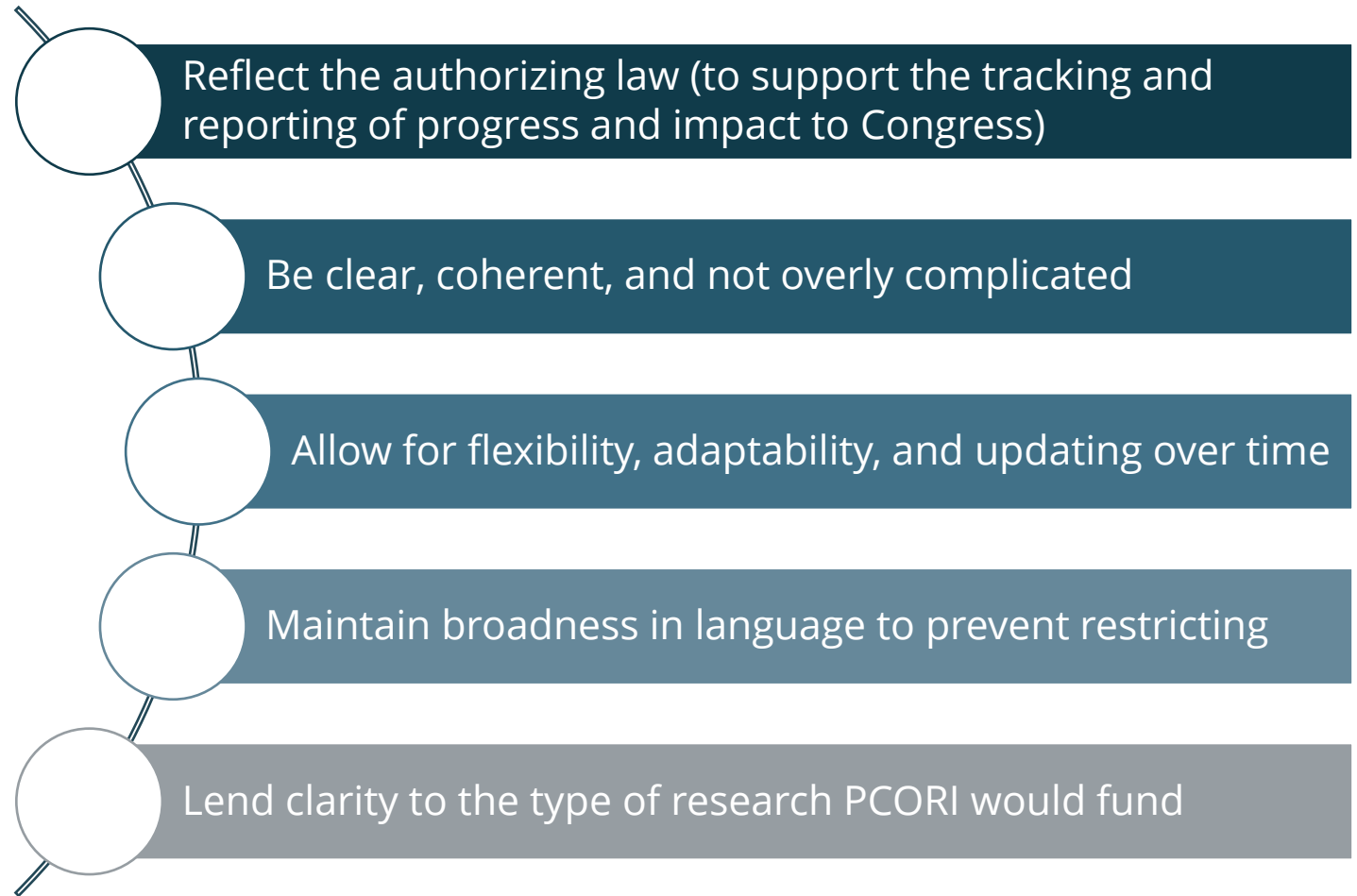
# Components of Our Strategic Plan



- The **strategic plan** centers on achieving the National Priorities for Health, and the Research Agenda is one major component of the plan. The strategic plan aims to describe all the various components and present a cohesive vision for PCORI's future activities.
- The **Research Agenda** provides a framework for achieving progress on the National Priorities for Health specifically through the strategy of funding comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER). The Research Agenda helps guide the development of a continuously relevant **Research Project Agenda** via an on-going, stakeholder-engaged process.
- PCORI utilizes other strategies in addition to funding CER (for example, Dissemination & Implementation) to achieve the National Priorities for Health, and these will be described in other components of the strategic plan.

# Board and Strategic Planning Committee Input Informed Draft Research Agenda

Board and SPC members agreed  
that the Research Agenda should:



# Research Agenda Parameters

Based on PCORI's authorizing law, preliminary stakeholder input, and desire to allow for adaptability, the following parameters serve to help shape the Research Agenda.

## Accommodate a Full Range of

- Outcomes important to patients & stakeholders
- Short- and long-term priorities
- Short- and long-term decision needs
- Potential individual and societal burdens and economic impacts
- Issues/topics across the lifespan
- Issues/topics across the care continuum
- Interventions
- Settings that influence health/healthcare
- People/professionals involved in health

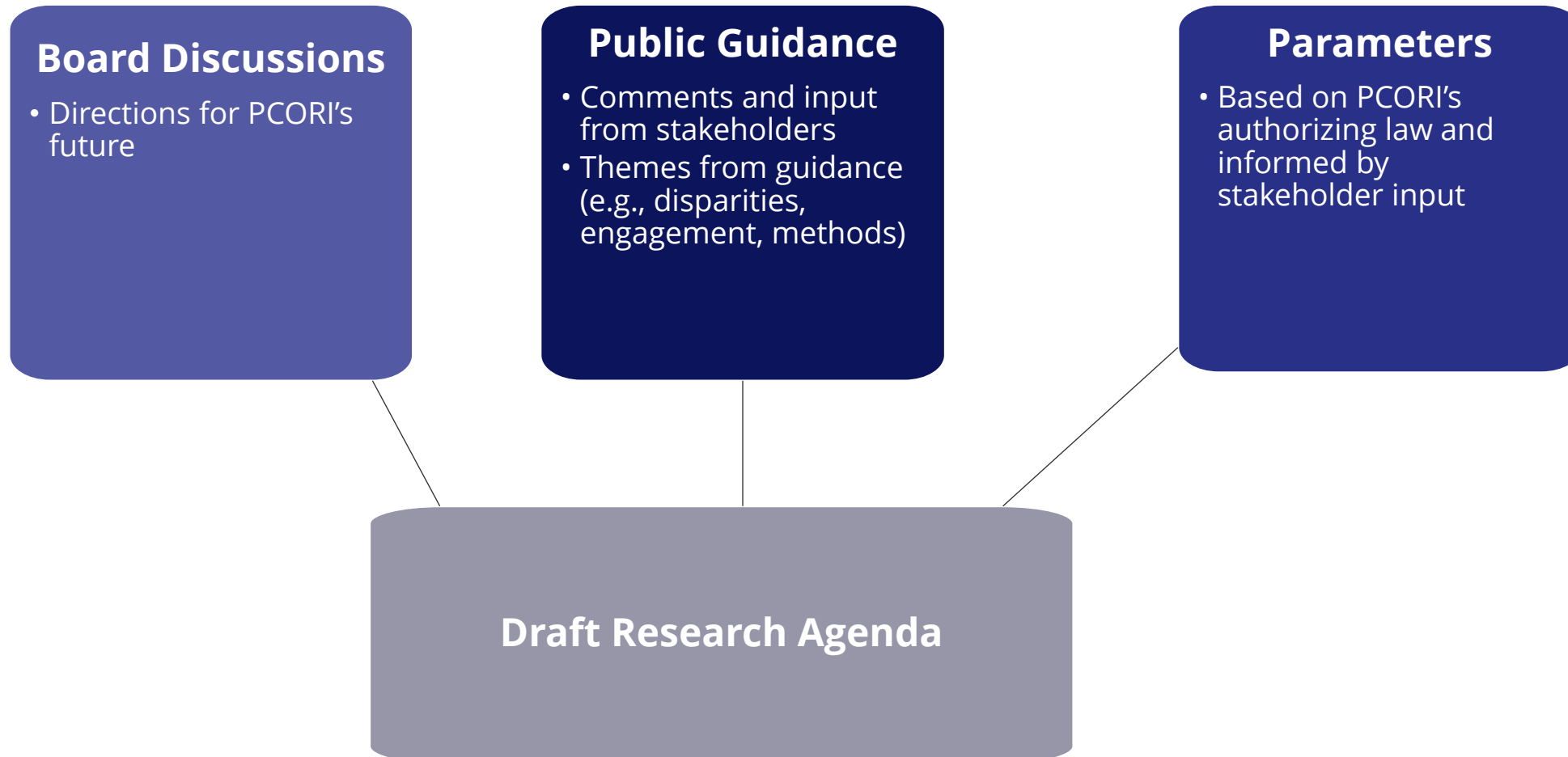
## Also Be

- In support of the National Priorities for Health
- Inclusive of issues affecting all groups/populations, with a focus disparities/inequities
- Responsive to emerging issues and new evidence
- Responsive to innovations

## Take Into Account

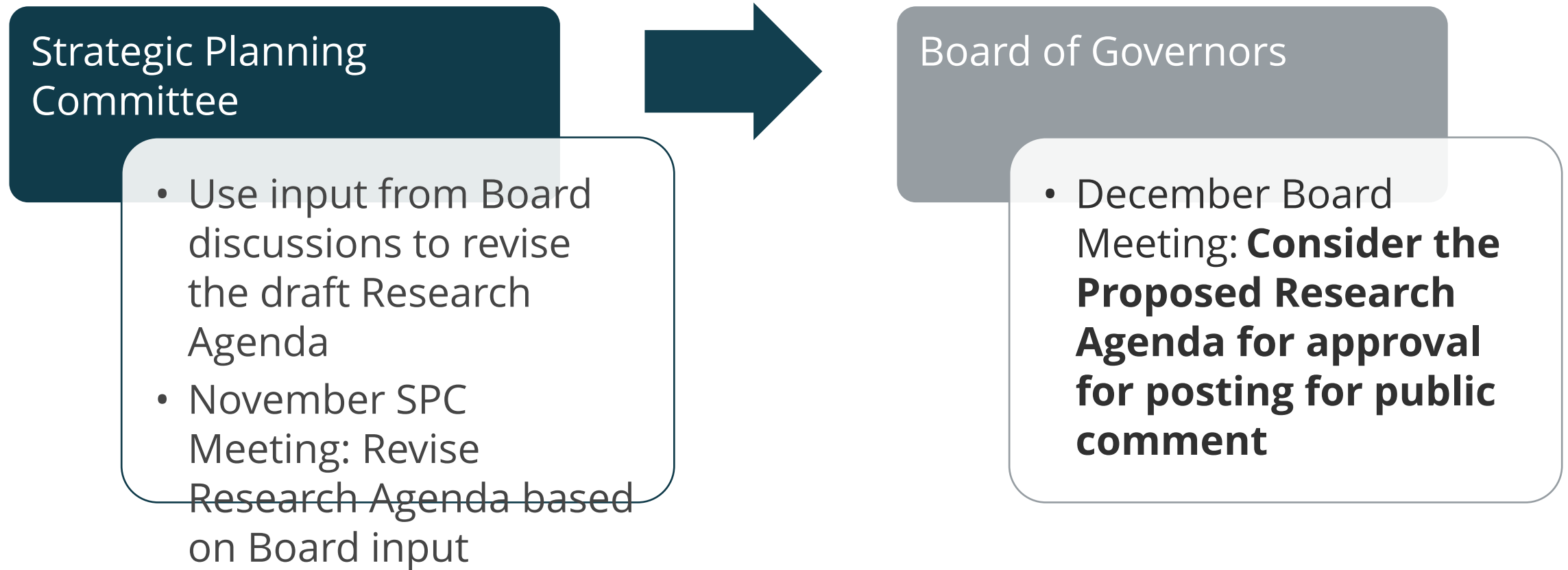
- PCORI's unique role within the research ecosystem
- PCORnet® as a unique resource
- Social determinants of health
- Advances and innovations in methods
- State-of-the-art methods in D&I, engagement, and health communication
- Disease incidence, prevalence, & burden
- Differences in effectiveness of interventions
- Gaps in evidence
- Potential for new evidence to improve health, well-being, quality of care
- Effect on national expenditures assoc. with a treatment, strategy, or condition

# Getting To the Research Agenda



1. Focuses on the preservation of health, promotion of well-being, or addresses health drivers that occur where people live, work, and play
2. Aims to prevent and eliminate health and health care disparities
3. Aims to achieve health equity
4. Builds the evidence base for innovative and emerging interventions
5. Examines the diverse burdens and clinical and economic impacts important to patients
6. Optimizes and links the full range of data resources to gain a more holistic view of patient health and healthcare
7. Uses data representative of diverse patient populations and settings to generate more inclusive evidence
8. Examines approaches for communicating evidence such that patients, clinicians, and the broader health community can access, understand, and act on research findings
9. Integrates implementation science to promote the uptake of findings
10. Fills patient- and stakeholder-prioritized evidence gaps

# Anticipated Discussion Sequence for the Research Agenda



# Facilitated Discussion

---

Sonja Armbruster, MA

# Discussion 1: Draft Research Agenda Statements and Characteristics\*

## Fund research that aims to prevent and eliminate health and health care disparities

- a. Research on topics where disparities in health outcomes have the potential to become pronounced
- b. Research that examines dismantling of institutionalized barriers to good health and eliminating discriminatory health care practices
- c. Research on interventions that offset the accumulative health effects of exposure to discrimination and structural racism
- d. Research on innovations for health systems that drive practice change to promote equitable care
- e. Research that examines differential intervention effects and unintended consequences for different populations

## Fund research that aims to achieve health equity

- a. Research that supports and develops the talent of diverse, early career investigators and the health care workforce
- b. Research developed through partnerships with communities, health systems, and stakeholders from different sectors to improve the uptake of evidence across diverse settings
- c. Research that explores the full range of outcomes relevant to different patient populations
- d. Research on the ways different engagement strategies influence how research is conducted
- e. Research on engagement methods aimed at increasing the involvement of diverse populations in shaping research
- f. Research with the intention of creating an inclusive research culture

# Discussion 2: Draft Research Agenda Statements and Characteristics\*

**Fund research that focuses on the preservation of health, promotion of well-being, or addresses health drivers that occur where people live, work, and play**

- a. Research on upstream topics such as social determinants of health, public health, and policies or programs that influence population-level health
- b. Research on the prevention and management of chronic conditions using interventions and in settings that meet people where they are
- c. Research that examines the use of and investment in health-promoting resources in the community
- d. Research in cross-sector collaboration with organizations with expertise in the social determinants of health (e.g., economic stability; education access and quality; health care access and quality; neighborhood and built environment; social and community context)
- e. Research that accelerates timely evidence generation about what works and for whom
- f. Research that utilizes health systems data and related data infrastructure to identify population differences that contribute to health outcomes

**Fund research that examines the diverse burdens and clinical and economic impacts important to patients**

- a. Research that engages patients, caregivers, and other key stakeholders in identifying important outcomes, unintended consequences, burden, and economic impacts
- b. Research that assesses the full range of factors that influence health outcomes, such as patient preferences, economic issues, practice variation, and disparities in the delivery of care
- c. Research that characterizes the drivers of costs and tests high-value, high-efficiency alternative strategies
- d. Research on topics of high value to patients, caregivers, and other key stakeholders identified via evidence syntheses

# Discussion 3: Draft Research Agenda Statements and Characteristics\*

## **Fund research that examines approaches for communicating evidence such that patients, clinicians, and the broader health community can access, understand, and act on research findings**

- a. Research that studies the effectiveness of ways to get information to the right people, at the right time, in the right way that addresses cultural and other tailoring, modes of communication, and appropriate messengers for specific populations
- b. Research on approaches for rapid dissemination of evidence to meet the immediate decisional needs of patients, clinicians, health systems, and other stakeholders
- c. Research that evaluates the effectiveness of new technologies and platforms for communication or dissemination or that supports uptake and implementation of evidence in practice settings
- d. Research to assess the effectiveness of methods for explaining uncertainty, applicability, and communicating risk, including approaches for tailoring these methods for diverse populations

## **Fund research that integrates implementation science to promote the uptake of findings**

- a. Foundational research on the effectiveness of strategies for implementation and for dissemination, with special attention to strategies that have the potential for accelerating the uptake of patient- and stakeholder-prioritized research
- b. Research that generates evidence on the effectiveness of implementation strategies at the same time that it generates evidence on the comparative effectiveness of interventions
- c. Research that examines the components and adaptations contributing to effectiveness in implementation strategies in diverse settings
- d. Research that aims to disseminate timely information to decision-makers about emerging innovations
- e. Research that generates findings to support individual decision-making by examining heterogeneity of treatments effects and providing the findings in a widely accessible way

# Discussion 4: Draft Research Agenda Statements and Characteristics\*

## Fund research that builds the evidence base for innovative and emerging interventions

- a. Research that leverages health care horizon scanning efforts to invest in novel topics for CER
- b. Research on innovations identified through relationships with federal partners including the FDA, CMS, and NIH
- c. Research that leverages inclusive, patient-centered health informatics technology
- d. Research that leverages PCORI's patient engagement, data, and research infrastructures to be reflective of the evidentiary needs of federal, state, and local policymakers and stakeholders
- e. Research that utilizes lessons learned from innovative health technologies and systems-level interventions piloted during the COVID-19 pandemic to assess their sustainability and utility
- f. Research that accelerates timely evidence generation about how to identify individuals who are most likely (or least likely) to benefit from an emerging innovation

## Fund research that fills patient- and stakeholder-prioritized evidence gaps

- a. Research that is powered for identifying heterogeneity of treatment effects in key populations of interest
- b. Research on methods to more rapidly and rigorously accommodate and assess emerging health innovations
- c. Research across the research spectrum for timely evidence generation to inform decisions and prioritize topics and outcomes of high relevance and value to patient and stakeholder communities
- d. Research that leverages lessons from implementing practice change in learning health systems to meet real-time patient and clinician needs

# Discussion 5: Draft Research Agenda Statements and Characteristics\*

## **Fund research that optimizes and links the full range of data resources to gain a more holistic view of patient health and healthcare**

- a. Research using optimized real-world data, including non-traditional sources of patient data (e.g., wearables) that promotes accessibility, quality, privacy, transparency, and standardization to identify individual differences in responses to disease prevention, management, and treatment
- b. Research that emphasizes research methods and measures that include both clinical and non-clinical outcomes of importance to patients
- c. Research that integrates health information systems (linked electronic health records, health information exchanges, etc.) and enhances the integration of social determinants of health data in large-scale platforms for utilization in PCOR
- d. Research that seeks simplified, expedited, and efficient methods of data capture and analysis that are inclusive of diverse sources of information, including patient-provided data, and data from wide-ranging populations
- e. Research that utilizes PCORnet® as a national resource to generate definitive evidence through studies of national scope for the public good
- f. Research that leverages comprehensive health system data to promote efficient learning health systems

## **Fund research that uses data representative of diverse patient populations and settings to generate more inclusive evidence**

- a. Research that utilizes a more complete and comprehensive set of patient-provided information and that is representative of the U.S. population
- b. Research that provides evidence of effectiveness for interventions delivered in the community, home, school, or workplace
- c. Research that recruits study participants that are representative of communities most affected by health disparities through partnerships with those communities
- d. Research that leverages PCORnet® to recruit diverse study participants and that is powered for assessing heterogeneity of treatment effect
- e. Research conducted in limited-resource, rural, and or safety net settings
- f. Research that involves investigators that reflect the population or community where the research is conducted and for whom the research is intended

# Facilitated Discussion

---

- **Questions**

- *Thinking about the set of statements and supporting characteristics, how might these meet future needs for PCORI's strategy of funding CER?*
- *What opportunities does the set of statements and supporting characteristics create to better serve PCORI's mission, mandate, and National Priorities for Health?*
- *Is anything critical missing from the full set of statements?*



# Recap

---

- Thoughts Related to the Research Agenda
- Areas of Discussion
- Areas of Consensus



# Closing Remarks

---

# Wrap Up and Adjournment



202.827.7700



info@pcori.org



www.pcori.org



@pcori



/PCORInstitute



PCORI



/pcori