



External Meeting Summary

Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement

July 15, 2021

[About This Advisory Panel](#) | [Meeting Details and Materials](#)

Overview

The Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement (PEAP) Summer 2021 Meeting started with a welcome of the PEAP members and an overview of the day's agenda. PCORI then provided an overview of their strategic planning process and solicited input from the PEAP members on the institute's proposed [National Priorities for Health](#). The moderators then segued from discussing PCORI's proposed National Priority for Health focused on health equity into a session focused on rethinking systems that support research and engagement for achieving health equity. After a break for lunch, staff updated PEAP members on PCORI's [Building Effective Multi-Stakeholder Research Teams website](#), efforts to revise PCORI's [Engagement Rubric](#), COVID-19 efforts, and funding opportunities. PEAP members then transitioned to discuss challenges and opportunities for smaller organizations participating in Engagement Awards, methods for researching engagement, and how to effectively measure interventions intended to combat institutional racism. To close, PCORI thanked PEAP members who finished their three-year terms and highlighted upcoming events.

Welcome

- Kristin Carman, PhD, MA, Director, Public and Patient Engagement, PCORI
- Gwen Darien, Chair, Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement
- Neely Williams, MDiv, EdD, Co-chair, Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement

Kristin Carman welcomed the PEAP members and other attendees to the Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement's Summer 2021 Meeting. Meghan Berman, MPH, reviewed housekeeping notes and took roll call of the PEAP members. Neely Williams thanked the PEAP members for their time and adaptability in the virtual environment and Gwen Darien followed with a walk-through of the meeting agenda.

PCORI's Strategic Planning: Proposed National Priorities for Health

- Kristin Carman, Director, Public and Patient Engagement, PCORI

Kristin Carman provided the PEAP members with an update on PCORI's strategic planning process. Carman explained the purpose of that discussion was to gather perspectives from the PEAP on the proposed National Priorities for Health. Carman opened the discussion on the critical needs and areas to address in the proposed National Priorities, the synergies that exist among them, and the potential impacts of the priorities on comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER). PEAP members provided feedback on the following proposed National Priorities for Health: emerging innovations, infrastructure and workforce, patient and community engagement, learning health systems, and health equity.

Panel Discussion: Rethinking Systems that Support Research and Engagement for Achieving Health Equity

- Gwen Darien, Chair, Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement

- Neely Williams, Co-chair, Advisory Panel on Patient Engagement

Kristin Carman, Gwen Darien, and Neely Williams agreed to integrate this panel discussion into the prior session on PCORI's National Priorities, since health equity overlaps with all of PCORI's priorities. Key recommendations from the PEAP members included treating health equity as a core principle, acknowledging that the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the importance of health equity, advancing community involvement in health equity, and investing more resources in health equity.

PCORI's Strategic Planning: Proposed National Priorities for Health (continued)

- Kristin Carman, Director, Public and Patient Engagement, PCORI

Kristin Carman highlighted the public comment period for the Proposed National Priorities for Health, open from June 28 to August 27, 2021, and shared the [link](#) for submitting comments. Carman also highlighted the three regional stakeholder events that will take place from August to September 2021. For these, PCORI will partner with community leaders to engage new patient and stakeholder audiences and obtain unique and diverse perspectives.

PCORI Updates

- Michelle Johnston-Fleece, MPH, Senior Program Officer, Public & Patient Engagement, PCORI
- William (Bill) Lawrence, MD, MS, Senior Clinical Advisor, Office of the Chief Engagement and Dissemination Officer, PCORI
- Lisa Stewart, MA, Senior Engagement Officer, Public & Patient Engagement, PCORI

Michelle Johnston-Fleece provided an update on the [Building Effective Multi-Stakeholder Research Teams website](#), which will address best practices and challenges for multi-stakeholder research teams through multimedia, interactive resources, slide decks, and more. Johnston-Fleece also updated PEAP members on upcoming plans to update PCORI's [Engagement Rubric](#). Bill Lawrence updated PEAP members on new awards, trials, and a [horizon scan related to COVID-19](#). Lisa Stewart then reviewed the timelines for PCORI funding opportunities, which are posted on PCORI's [Funding Opportunities page](#).

Expanding Access to Engagement Awards: Challenges and Opportunities for Small Organizations

- Karen Martin, MIA, Director, Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards, PCORI
- Kate Boyd, MPH, DrPHc, Program Officer, Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards, PCORI

Karen Martin and Kate Boyd presented the findings from a [series of interviews](#) they conducted to assess challenges and identify potential solutions for ensuring equitable access to PCORI's Engagement Awards funding for smaller organizations. The interview findings resonated with PEAP members especially around the need for infrastructure and administrative support for small organizations, as well as the need for interpersonal opportunities such as matchmaking and mentorships. Martin and Boyd pointed out that the final products will include toolkits, infographics, videos, trainings, strategic plans, and a research roadmap to outline the future work.

Researching Engagement: What Do We Need to Know?

- Julie Kennedy Lesch, MPA, Senior Engagement Officer, Public & Patient Engagement, PCORI

- Rachel Hemphill, PhD, MA, Program Officer, Evaluation & Analysis, PCORI

Julie Kennedy Lesch and Rachel Hemphill focused this session on gathering the PEAP's perspectives on what is known about studies on engagement and what needs to be investigated further about engagement in research. Recommendations from the PEAP members included identifying the appropriate levels of research engagement and community engagement, training of research staff, and best practices for engagement.

[Assessing the Effectiveness of Different Approaches for Combating Institutional Racism](#)

- Hillary Bracken, PhD, MHS, MA, Program Officer, Healthcare Delivery & Disparities, PCORI
- Lisa Stewart, Senior Engagement Officer, Public & Patient Engagement, PCORI

Hillary Bracken and Lisa Stewart noted that promoting transparency and accountability in healthcare settings requires measuring institutional racism and discrimination. The discussion centered on outcome measures that would be most meaningful to patients for assessing different approaches for addressing bias, racism, and discrimination in the health system. PEAP members provided examples of helpful measures, such as feelings of racism, institutional versus interpersonal racism, clinician feedback, and organizational change.

[Announcements](#)

- Kristin Carman, Director, Public and Patient Engagement, PCORI
- Lisa Stewart, Senior Engagement Officer, Public & Patient Engagement, PCORI

PCORI highlighted upcoming events and congratulated all of the PEAP members who have completed their terms. PCORI also reminded the PEAP members of a post-meeting survey, [available here](#).

- [Public Comment Period](#): June 28-August 27, 2021
- [Board Meetings](#): July 27, August 24, September 27-28, October 26, November 15-16, and December 1-2, 2021
- [Annual Meeting](#): November 17-19, 2021