I wanted to provide you with an update on activities at the Center for Health Systems Effectiveness (CHSE). Since our last update in September we have been making steady progress on existing projects and have been enjoying a surge of interest. Here are some highlights of the past couple months:

**Healthcare Projects**: One of CHSE goals is to partner with OHSU Healthcare to collaborate on projects that will enhance Healthcare delivery. We’ve made significant progress on two projects. One examines the care of patients with uncomplicated lower back pain; a second project is focusing on mammography screening with the goal of developing OHSU guidelines to enhance patient experience. These two projects have involved the input of almost 30 OHSU clinicians, who have participated in stakeholder interviews and information gathering efforts. A third project is in planning that likely will focus on maternal/fetal outcomes. We’ll keep you updated as our results become available.

**Analyzing Large Datasets**: We’re forming an OHSU users group to bring together folks working in large dataset analytics. Let me know if you’re interested in updates on this area and we’ll add you to mailings on the topic. (Send interest to CHSE-Info@ohsu.edu.) We’re also working on partnerships with the State of Oregon to conduct analyses and evaluations using data they have been collecting and aggregating. We’ll be providing updates as those projects become more concrete.

**Research Collaboration Interest**: During the first quarter of FY12, CHSE contributed information to or collaborated on three grants and engaged in project-related discussions with six area organizations. CHSE has been facilitating communications among researchers on the recent RFA issued by PCORI for pilot awards grants and have heard from more than 20 OHSU researchers who share an interest in patient-centered outcomes research. (Slides from a November 7 presentation on the PCORI RFA from Rachel Dresbeck at Research Funding & Development Services are attached.) Although CHSE isn’t sponsoring a grant in this round of RFAs, we’re identifying a growing network of OHSU health services researchers and this is helping us as we capture an inventory of research interests.
Looking ahead, we’re planning for future speakers events, including Mitch Dinners for 2012. If there’s a health services research topic or speaker you would like featured at a future dinner, let me know.

Cheers-

John

K. John McConnell, PhD
Center for Health Systems Effectiveness
Oregon Health & Science University
503.494.1989
mcconnjo@ohsu.edu