

5.3. WISCONSIN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORK



The WREN team (see bottom of page for members)

FY18 KEY FACTS

- Over 1200 clinicians, staff and trainees engaged
- 15 active research projects, including intra- and inter-state projects
- Nearly 500 clinicians and clinic staff

LEADERSHIP

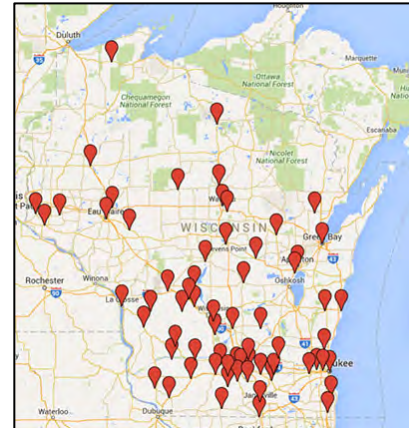
- **David Hahn, MD, MS**, director
- **Lisa Sampson, MBA**, program manager

The Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN) is a statewide practice-based research network (PBRN) of primary care clinicians and academic researchers. Its vision is to improve health outcomes for the people of Wisconsin and beyond as a model practice-based research network. Its mission is to promote and conduct primary care research and education in partnership with primary care clinicians and the communities they serve.

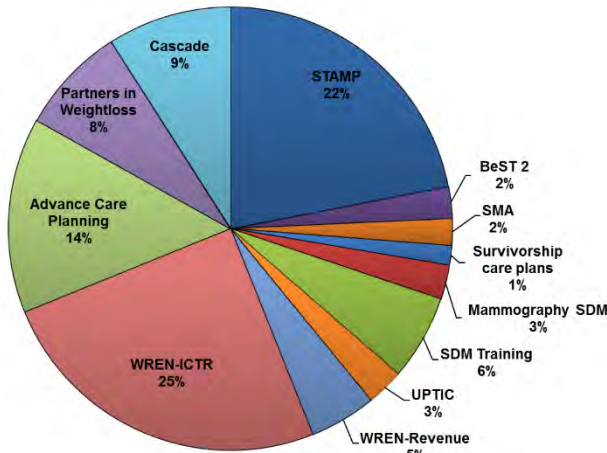
Pictured above, the WREN team. Standing, left to right: Alice Yuroff, PhD; Amanda Hoffman, MPH; Lisa Sampson, MBA; Denise Grossman; Deanne Boss, MS. Sitting, left to right: Cassandra Sundaram, MS; Alyssa Turnquist; David Hahn, MD, MS; Lindsey Peterson, MS, CRC; Dominic Dharam, MPH. (Photo: Armando Vera)

Highlights

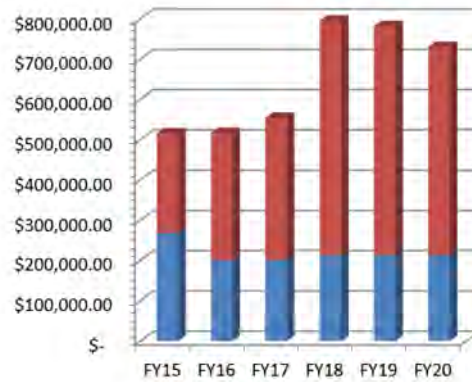
- Sustainability.** WREN has been in continuous operation since 1987, making it one of the oldest PBRNs in the country.
- Engagement.** WREN disseminates practical and research information to more than 1200 individuals, including clinicians, researchers and staff across the state of Wisconsin and beyond.
- Statewide research.** During FY18, WREN was engaged in 13 clinical and practice improvement research projects. Topics included shared decision-making, health literacy training for elderly caregivers, opioid use in chronic pain, opioid addiction, advance care planning, cancer survivorship care planning, and the workload of clinic teams.
- Increased funding.** WREN has continued to attract high-quality, high-caliber projects supported by federal and local funding, including private foundations.



WREN Clinics



WREN Revenue by Project



ICTR vs Grant Funding
 *ICTR funding not guaranteed
 *Projections based on constant award amount

| Project | FY18 | FY19 | FY20 | FY21 | FY22 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| ICTR | | | | | |
| Meta-LARC | | | | | |
| Advanced Care Planning | | | | | |
| BeST 2 | | | | | |
| BCare (Mammography SDM) | | | | | |
| CASCADE | | | | | |
| Chronic Pain | | | | | |
| Diabetes Survey | | | | | |
| SDM LC/BC Training | | | | | |
| Spinal Muscular Atrophy | | | | | |
| STAMP (MM vs CBT) | | | | | |
| Survivorship Care Plans | | | | | |
| UPTIC (PRA-3) | | | | | |
| Partners in Weight loss | | | | | |

WREN Project Timelines

- WREN 2017 Convocation of Practices:**
 On Friday, July 14, 2017, nearly 75 people engaged in collective learning for WREN’s 2017 Convocation of Practices: *Leading the Way to Excellence in Patient-Centered Communication*.

The beautiful location—the UW Arboretum in Madison—served as an appropriate backdrop for learning about incorporating a patient’s health goals into their care, turning the question of “What’s the matter?” to “What matters to you?”; understanding how to effectively coach patients with chronic conditions through the self-management support framework; and key elements of shared decision making conversations.



Dr. John Beasley, WREN’s founding father, shares his wisdom with convocation attendees.

- WREN study results in the news.** “Cough Drops: Cause for Concern?,” a patient survey-based study, was initiated by WREN associate Dr. Robert Mead of Bellin Health in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Dr. Mead made clinical observations suggesting that cough drops containing menthol may actually prolong and/or worsen some coughs.

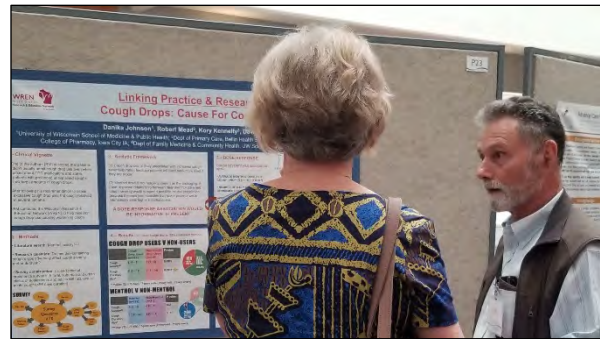
The goal of the study was to understand how many people with an acute cough use cough drops or throat lozenges, and whether menthol-containing products, compared to non-menthol products, are associated with cough severity.

Study results captured the interest of local media: the Wisconsin State Journal published an article, “Too Many Cough Drops Might Make Coughs Worse,” and WISC-TV Channel 3 interviewed study PI Dr. David Hahn for a story, “Can Too Many Cough Drops Make Cough Worse?”

Results were also published in the March-April 2018 issue of the *Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*: “Menthol Cough Drops: Cause for Concern?” Heilio Family Medicine published an online version, “Menthol Cough Drops May Worsen Cough.”

A poster, “Linking Practice & Research; Cough Drops: Cause for Concern?” was presented at the 2018 North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG)

Practice-based Research Network Conference in Bethesda, Maryland, and at the 2017 North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) Conference in Montreal, Canada.



Dr. David Hahn presented the poster “Linking Practice & Research; Cough Drops: Cause for Concern?” at the NAPCRG PBRN Conference.