

## 5.3. WISCONSIN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORK



*Pictured above, the WREN team. Standing, left to right: Alice Yuroff, Amanda Hoffmann, Denise Grossman, David Hahn, Deanne Boss, Lisa Sampson, Mary Henningfield. Sitting, left to right: Cassandra Sundaram, Shelby Hagen, Alyssa Turnquist (Photo: Armando Vera)*

### FY19 KEY FACTS

- Over 1200 clinicians, staff and trainees engaged
- 12 active research projects, including intra- and inter-state projects
- Nearly 500 clinicians and clinic staff participated in WREN research projects during FY19.

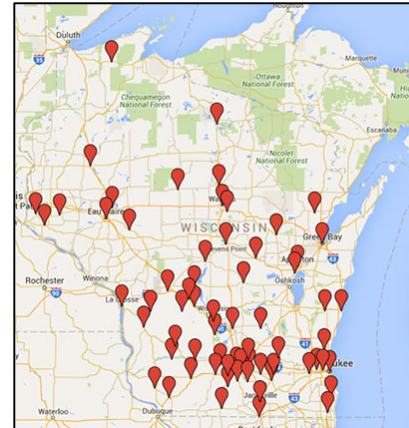
### LEADERSHIP

- **David Hahn, MD, MS**, director
- **Mary Henningfield, PhD**, associate director
- **Lisa Sampson, MBA**, program manager
- **Amanda Hoffmann, MPH**, lead coordinator

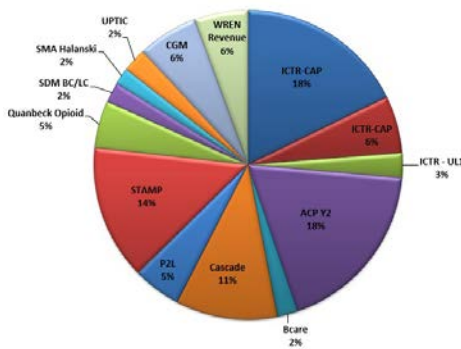
The Wisconsin Research and Education Network (WREN) is a statewide practice-based research network (PBRN) of primary care clinicians and academic researchers. Its vision is to improve health outcomes for the people of Wisconsin and beyond as a model practice-based research network. Its mission is to promote and conduct primary care research and education in partnership with primary care clinicians and the communities they serve. WREN is an active participant in the UW CTSA that promotes and conducts primary care research and education in partnership with PIs across the university, primary care clinicians and the communities they serve. It is currently involved in the conduct of several active, funded investigations. Funding for these projects in FY19 totals \$810,000.

## Highlights

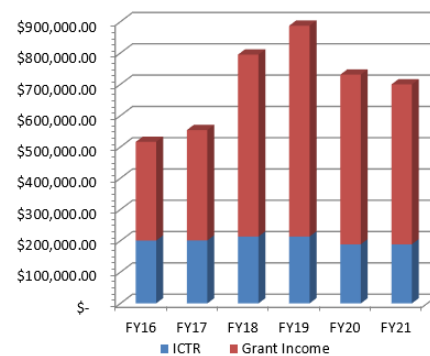
- Sustainability.** WREN has been in continuous operation since 1987, making it one of the oldest PBRNs in the country.
- Engagement.** WREN disseminates practical and research information to more than 1200 individuals, including clinicians, researchers and staff across the state of Wisconsin and beyond.
- Statewide research.** During FY19, 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 funding not guaranteed  
 \*Projections based on constant award amount

ICTR vs Grant Funding

Project	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23
ICTR	█				
Advanced Care Planning	█	█	█		
BCare (Mammography SDM)	█				
CASCADE	█			█	
SDM LC/BC Training	█				
Spinal Muscular Atrophy	█				
STAMP (MM vs CBT)	█	█	█		
UPTIC	█				
Partners in Weight loss	█	█	█	█	█
Quanbeck	█	█	█	█	█
CGM	█				

WREN Project Timelines

## Project Highlights

### WREN is involved in two PCORI-funded clinical trials



#### **Team-Based Versus Primary Care Clinician-Led Advance Care Planning in Practice-Based Research Networks**

WREN is one of seven practice-based research networks (PBRNs) involved in this study of advance care planning for patients with advanced illnesses and their caregivers who are being treated in the primary care setting. The study aims to evaluate the comparative effectiveness of a team-based vs singular clinician approach to advance care planning using the serious illness conversation (SIC) guide. The SIC is designed to elicit patient values and preferences about their care. The SIC includes patient-tested language for initial and follow-up conversations. Depending on their randomization, clinicians or clinicians and their teams received online and in-person training with didactic materials, case studies, and videos. Training and support includes structured role playing using the SIC, guidance on approaches to identifying appropriate patients, and templates to document conversations. The primary endpoint is a global rating of patient-reported, goal-concordant care 12 months after enrollment. WREN has recruited six clinics, which are all currently enrolling patients. The ClinicalTrials.gov identifier is NCT03577002.



#### **A Community-based Assessment of Skin Care, Allergies, and Eczema (CASCADE)**

WREN is one of four PBRNs participating in this community-based pragmatic randomized controlled trial investigating whether daily full-body emollient application starting in the first 2 months of life prevents atopic dermatitis in a real-world setting. Recruitment of families occurs during the course of routine care within primary care offices and the study population is newborns between 0-2 months of age. Subjects randomized to the intervention will receive general skin care recommendations plus full-body daily lipid-rich emollient use. The control population will receive general skin care advice only and refrain from daily emollient use. The primary outcome will be the cumulative incidence of atopic dermatitis (AD) at age 24 months as determined by blinded clinicians trained in the diagnosis of AD. Key secondary clinical outcomes include time to disease onset and incidence of self-reported food allergy and wheeze using parental questionnaires. WREN recruited five clinics, which are currently enrolling subjects. The ClinicalTrials.gov identifier is NCT03409367.

