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Improving Research is a Multipronged Collaborative Approach Reliant on "Expert" Humility and Respect

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Improving research is a multipronged collaborative approach reliant on "expert" humility and respect

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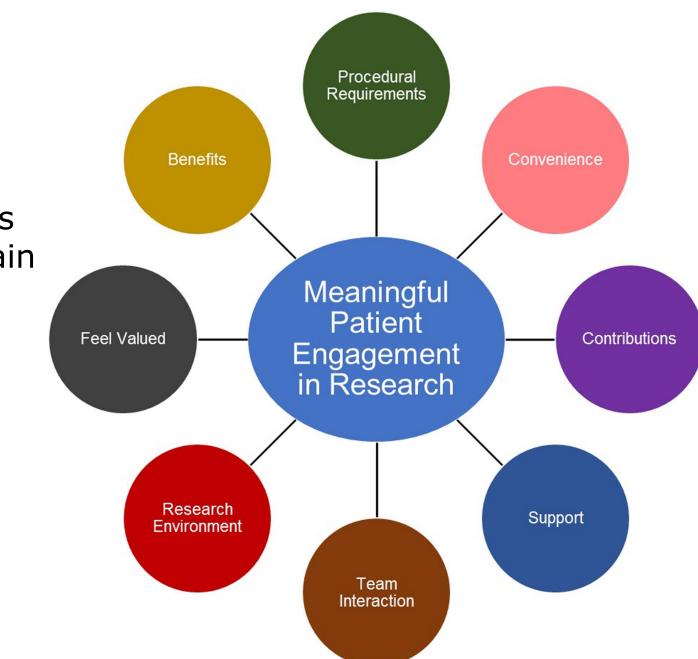
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Background

Patient perspectives in research

Improve research through activities, such as:

- Identifying research questions and outcomes
- Helping recruit and retain participants/partners
- Being active collaborators in study governance and design
- Providing valuable context to research findings and dissemination



Patient Engagement in Research Sale, Hamilton et al. (2018)

Including diverse perspectives

Engaging patients has been identified as a strategy for:

- Improving participation of underrepresented groups
- Reducing health inequalities
- Ameliorating population health outcomes
- Re-building trust in health research
- Increase study finding generalizability, accessibility, and usability

Goal

Our project goal is to bring together Henry Ford health sciences researchers and community members to promote the engagement of diverse patient perspectives. This poster highlights current initiatives pertaining to the integration of diverse perspectives into the research process to enhance our science at the group, system, and NIH level.

Group Initiatives

Patient Engaged Research Center (PERC): PERC began in 2013 with a goal to translate the patient voice into evidence-based care through community engagement and world-class research methods. PERC engages Patient Advisors (PAs), a diverse collection of HFH patients and caregivers that contribute their experience and feedback to HFH projects and initiatives to ensure patient-centered outcomes.





All of Us Research Program: With a goal of advancing precision medicine via the recruitment of one million people nationwide, the HFH site of All of Us leverages relationships with community organizations serving minority populations. Recruitment and outreach is inclusive of racial/ethnic minorities and sexual and gender minorities.

Sleep Disorders and Research Center:

- Targeted recruitment of HFH patients with addresses from neighborhoods that have a higher Social Vulnerability Index
- Working with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to identify individuals who are on Medicaid who may be eligible for ongoing research
- Working with recruitment services that can use artificial intelligence and machine learning to identify those who are from underserved communities and may be eligible for on-going research

HOW Can Henry Ford Health be a national leaderin inclusive nealth sciences?

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System Initiatives

MSU Partnership: The merging of MSU and HFH has provided various opportunities for collaboration on new projects, as well as access to increased resources for both institutions. This competitively situates collaborators for grants and care improvement initiatives.



Healthcare Equity Scholars Program: The goals of HESP were the following: (1) to develop internal experts in the field of healthcare equity who are skilled in creating organizational change to address disparities at the departmental and organizational level; (2) to promote implementation of QI and research projects that address disparities across the organization; and (3) to integrate lessons learned from successful projects into organizational policies, processes, or infrastructure.

Primary Health Research Training Program: This is a collaborative between the HFH Health Disparities Research Collaborative based in Public Health Sciences and the HFH Primary Care Research Institute. The overarching goal of this 2-year program is to provide an opportunity to develop as an investigator, advocate for minority populations through research, and to leverage inter-and intra-departmental mentorship toward the goal of peer-review funding and publication.

NIH-level Initiatives

Building Participation: The Division of Biomedical Research Workforce (DBRW) was established in 2015 to guide the development of a well-prepared NIH-supported biomedical workforce; it is a focal point for all extramural training, career development and diversity efforts.

Diversity Supplemental Awards: This administrative supplement is designed to provide support for research experiences for individuals from diverse backgrounds throughout the continuum from high school to the faculty level.

Mosiac K99/R00 Award: The is to support a cohort of early career, independent investigators from diverse backgrounds. The long-term goal of this program is to enhance diversity in the biomedical research workforce.

Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives: Intended to provide a holistic and integrated view of how diverse perspectives are enhanced throughout federal grant applications, and how this strengthens the scientific and technical merit of the project.

Future Implications

Thoughtful and integrative work that decentralizes expertise in research has the potential to result in rigorous research that is meaningful for the amelioration of adverse population-level health disparities. Adding complexity in diversity can address the structural and systemic effects of marginalization that has created and perpetuated observed disparities.

As Henry Ford Health continues to champion equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice, we can continue to leverage work while collaborating and building new partnerships at all levels that are rooted in equity principals.

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