

Answering AHA's 2010 to 2012 Research Agenda

Listed below are the top research questions for the AHA Research Agenda for 2010 to 2012. Below each question are the reports and projects that provide valuable information specific to each research question. *Resources in italics are pending funding or not complete.*

1. What are the most effective and efficient ways for hospitals and health systems to integrate care and improve performance (financial, clinical, service, patient and staff experience) along the continuum of care (e.g., implementing care coordination across all settings of care)?
 - [Health Care Leader Action Guide to Reduce Avoidable Readmissions \(HRET, published January 2010\)](#)
 - [Clinical Integration – The Key to Real Reform \(AHA TrendWatch, published February 2010\)](#)

2. What organizational characteristics, structures, and processes lead to a high- performing system of care (e.g., the implementation of specific HIT components, specific horizontal and vertically integrated system practices, and clinical and functional integration across a health system that produce benchmark outcomes)?
 - [A Guide to Achieving High Performance in Multi-Hospital Health Systems \(HRET, published March 2010\)](#)
 - [Using Workforce Practices to Drive Quality Improvement \(HRET, published June 2010\)](#)
 - [Health Care Leader Action Guide on Implementation of Electronic Health Records \(HRET, published July 2010\)](#)
 - [The Road to Meaningful Use: What it Takes to Implement Electronic Health Record Systems in Hospitals \(AHA TrendWatch, published April 2010\)](#)
 - [2010 Healthcare Governance Survey \(CHG/HRET, survey to be released in October 2010, report to be published in 2011\)](#)
 - [Center for Healthcare Governance 18-month study of governance and leadership culture and its impact on health care organizational performance \(case studies to be published 2012\)](#)

3. What are the most promising practices and system design elements for reducing health disparities, considering all factors such as organizational elements and social determinants?
 - [Best Practices in Collecting and Using Race, Ethnicity and Primary Language Data \(HRET, to be published March 2011\)](#)

4. What is the role of the hospital in a new community environment that provides more efficient and effective health care (e.g., what are the redesigned structures and models, the role and implementation of accountable care organizations, the structures and processes needed to implement new payment models such as bundled payments, and how do organizations transition to this new role)?
 - [Bundled Payment-AHA Research Synthesis Report \(AHA COR, published May 2010\)](#)
 - [Early Learnings from the Bundled Payment Acute Care Episode Demonstration Program \(HRET, published July 2010\)](#)
 - [Accountable Care Organizations-AHA Research Synthesis Report \(AHA COR, published June 2010\)](#)
 - [Patient-Centered Medical Home-AHA Research Synthesis Report \(AHA COR, published September 2010\)](#)
 - [Accountable Care Organization Case Studies Phase 1 \(AHA, case studies to be published 2011\)](#)
 - [Accountable Care Organization Case Studies Phase 2 \(AHA, case studies to be published 2011\)](#)
 - [Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Hospitals Post-ACA, AHA TrendWatch \(AHA TrendWatch, to be published 2011\)](#)
 - [Maximizing the Value of Post Acute Care, AHA TrendWatch \(AHA TrendWatch, to be published 2011\)](#)
 - [Health System Integration Index: National Survey of Hospitals in Integration/ACO Readiness \(HRET, pending funding, 2011\)](#)
 - [Readmissions and Mortality, AHA TrendWatch \(AHA TrendWatch, to be published 2011\)](#)