



HEALTH RESEARCH &  
EDUCATIONAL TRUST  
In Partnership with AHA

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

### **HRET Awarded a New Contract from PCORI**

***Efforts will focus on integrating patient and community input into Hospital Planning***

CHICAGO – October 6, 2014 –The Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association (AHA) recently announced that it was awarded a contract by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to improve health outcomes by promoting improved patient and community member engagement with hospitals. This work will help hospitals effectively engage patients and communities in assessing local health needs.

As part of HRET’s ongoing effort to promote patient and family engagement and its work with the Association for Community Healthcare Improvement (ACHI), this project will aid hospitals by offering guides and research on best approaches so hospitals can better ensure patient and community input are sought and incorporated into their planning.

“Through the support of PCORI, this project is one more opportunity for HRET to offer guidance to the field on quality improvement,” said Maulik Joshi, president, HRET.

“Community health and the role of community members and patients are a critical component for any hospital seeking to improve the care they provide.”

AHA, HRET and ACHI, an affiliate of HRET, have engaged in hundreds of discussions with hospitals leaders regarding their efforts to identify and address the health needs of their community, and this project with PCORI will further support that work.

This contract will be administered by HRET in partnership with experts and leading organizations in the field. For more information, visit [www.hret.org](http://www.hret.org). The contract was made through the Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards program, a PCORI initiative that encourages active integration of patients, caregivers, clinicians, and other health care stakeholders as integral members of the research process.

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**Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET)**

Founded in 1944, the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) is the not-for-profit research and education affiliate of the American Hospital Association (AHA). HRET's mission is to transform health care through research and education. It focuses on identifying and exploring key issues affecting the health care delivery system. HRET's applied research focuses on improving quality, eliminating disparities, improving care coordination, improving leadership and governance, conducting data analysis and supporting the spread of improvement. Through AHA's Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence (HPOE) strategy, HRET has helped hospital leaders to accelerate performance improvement by disseminating best practices, producing actionable reports and toolkits, conducting leadership development programs and implementing national improvement projects. For more information, visit [www.hret.org](http://www.hret.org).

**Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)**

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) is authorized by Congress to fund and disseminate research that will provide information about the best available evidence to help patients and their healthcare providers make more informed decisions. PCORI's research is intended to give patients a better understanding of the prevention, treatment, and care options available, and the science that supports those options.