



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

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# Primary Care: Partners in Evidence Building and Dissemination

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**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**

North American Primary Care Research Group - PBRN Conference

Bethesda, MD – June 30, 2014



- AHRQ's New Mission
- AHRQ's New Priorities
- Importance of PBRNS
- Addressing Gaps,  
Gaining Efficiencies
- Dissemination Partners



# AHRQ's New Mission

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To produce evidence to make health care safer, higher quality, more accessible, equitable, and affordable, and to work with HHS and other partners to make sure that the evidence is understood and used.



# AHRQ Priorities

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## **Priority #1**

Produce Evidence to  
Improve Health Care  
Quality

## **Priority #2**

Produce Evidence to  
Make Health Care Safer

## **Priority #3**

Produce Evidence to  
Increase Access to  
Health Care

## **Priority #4**

Produce Evidence to  
Improve Health Care  
Affordability, Efficiency  
and Cost Transparency



# Funding Reconfiguration: Anticipated in 2015

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## Emphasized at AHRQ

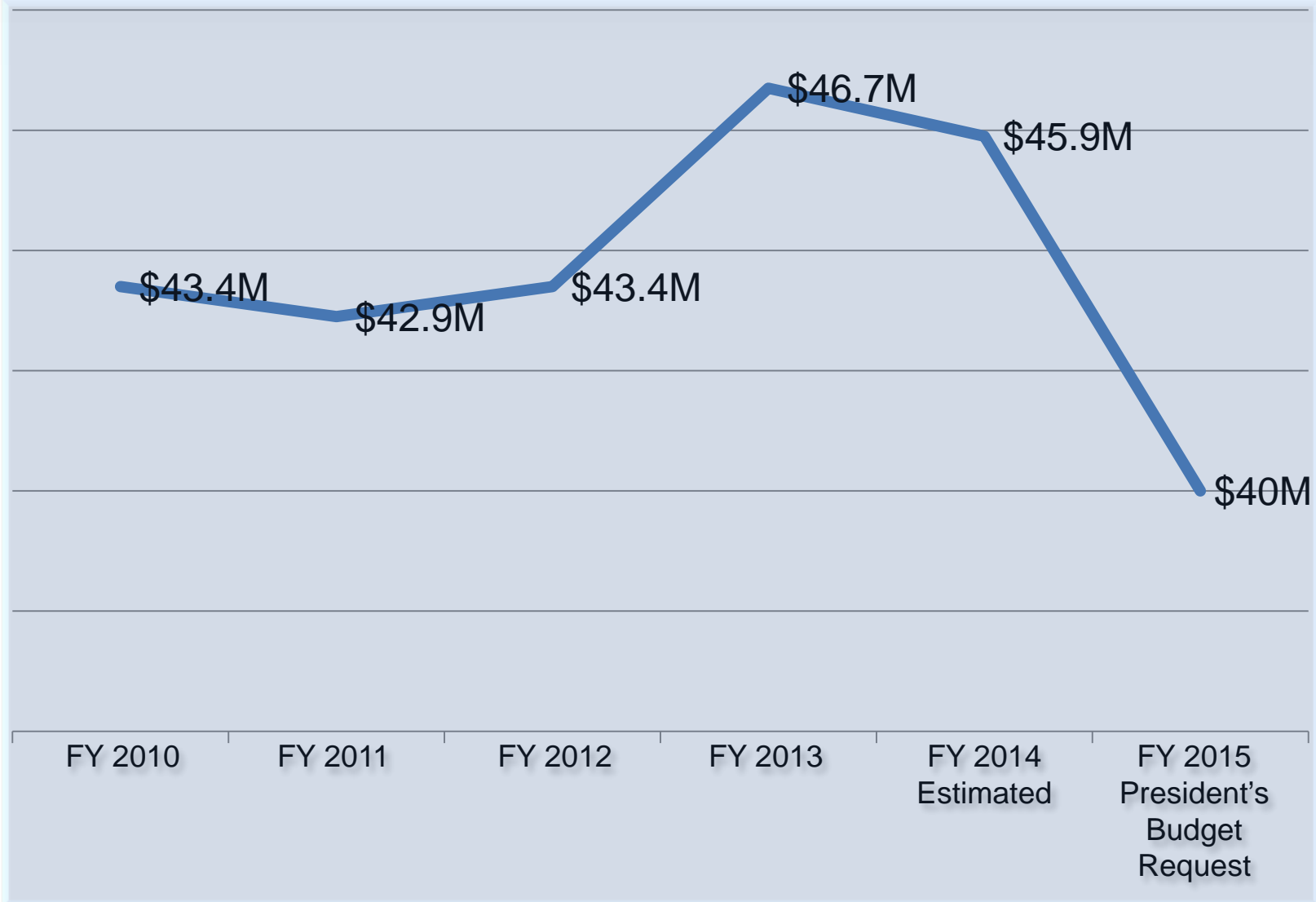
- **Patient Safety**
- **Health Information  
Technology**
- **Health Services  
Research, Data,  
and Dissemination**

## Research Opportunities, Elsewhere

- NIH
- PCORI
- CMS
- ONC
- CDC
- HRSA

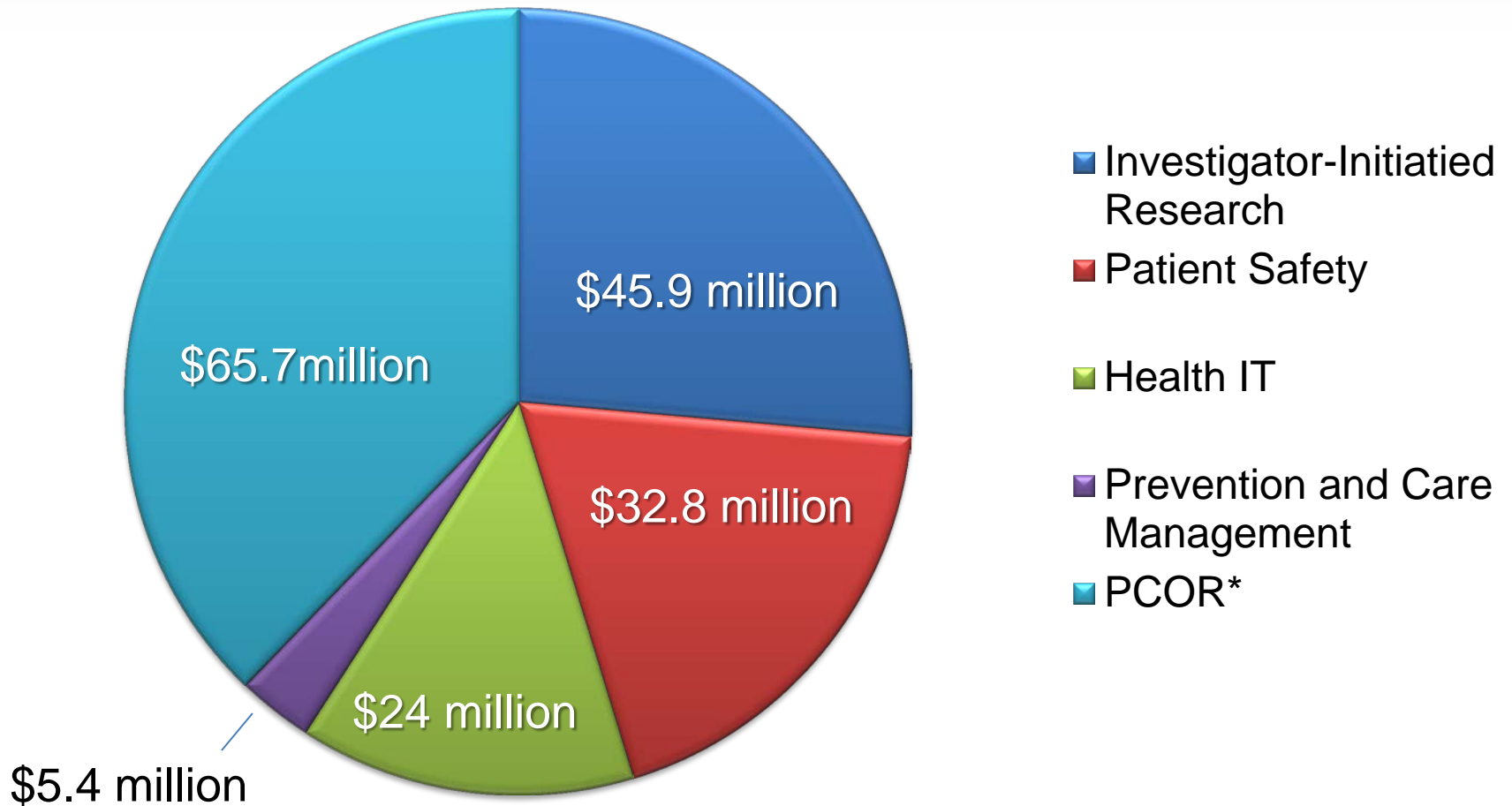


# Six-Year Trend In Investigator-Initiated Research Funding





# More Than \$170 Million in Total Grant Activity



\*PCOR funding is an estimate for FY 2015. All other figures are for FY 2014.



# Accelerating Adoption of PCOR: Focusing on ABCS



- Grants for dissemination of patient-centered outcomes research to small- and medium-size primary care practices
- Focus: Million Hearts™ ABCS (aspirin use among people with heart disease, blood pressure control, high blood cholesterol control and smoking cessation advice and support) campaign to prevent heart attacks and strokes





# Proposed Expansion of Safety to All Settings, 2015

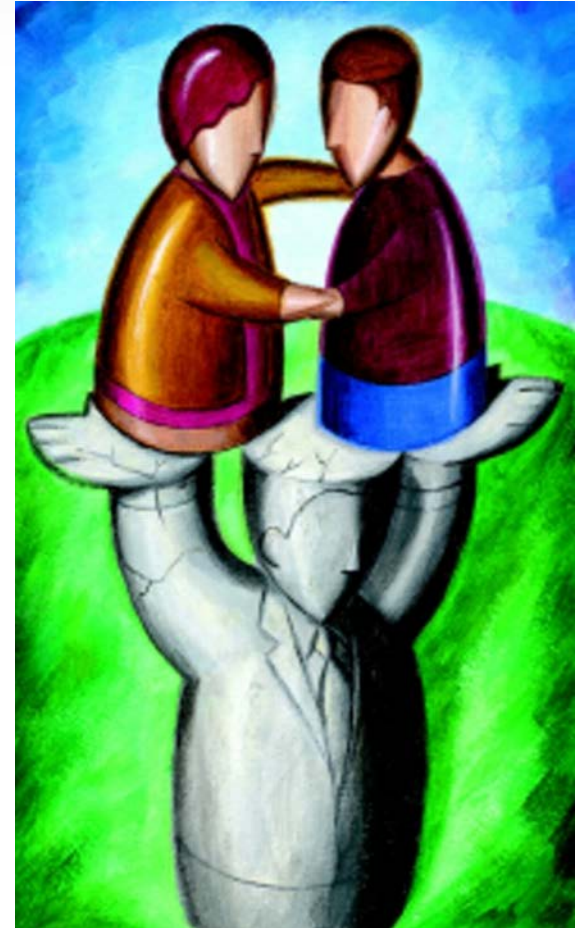
Proposed \$15 million patient safety initiative in the President's budget includes funding for improvements in primary care settings.





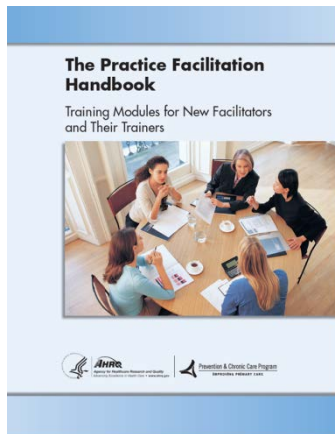
# Importance of Practice-Based Research Networks

- Draw on the experience and insight of practicing clinicians to identify and frame research questions to improve the practice of primary care
- Collaboration and Partnerships
- Affiliate PBRNs (e.g., dental, pharmacy, international PBRNs)
- Produce research findings that are immediately relevant to the clinician and easily assimilated into everyday practice
- Dissemination



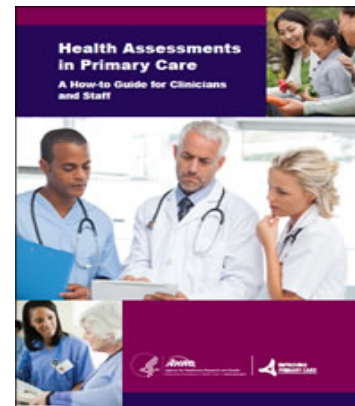
McWhinney I R BMJ  
1998; 318:1807-1809

## Practice Transformation



### [Practice Facilitation](#)

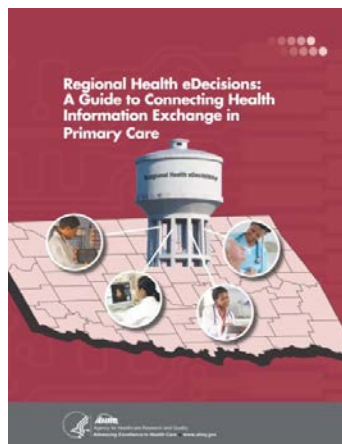
<http://pcmh.ahrq.gov>



### [Health Risk Assessment](#)

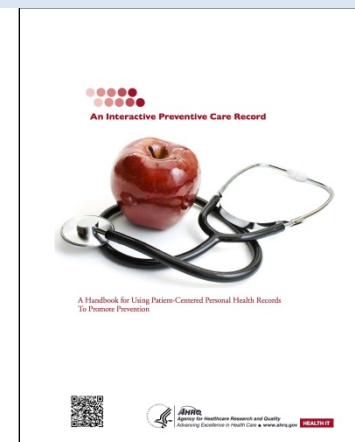
<http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/prevention-chronic-care/improve/system/health-assessments/>

## Health IT



### [Regional Health eDecisions Connecting HIE in Primary Care](#)

<http://www.healthit.ahrq.gov/RegionalHealthDecisionsGuide.PDF>



### [Interactive Personal Health Care Records](#)

<http://healthit.ahrq.gov/Krist-IPHR-Guide-0612.pdf>



## Additional Evidence is Needed

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- How do we effectively disseminate PCOR findings?
- What is truly needed to have patient and family engagement at the point of care?
- What configuration of Primary Care Medical Homes works best, when and why?



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**Thank You**

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