

NAPCRG *newsletter*

December 2006 Volume 34, Issue 4

Ideas, Collaborators, and New Connections Combine to Make NAPCRG 2006 a Success

In his opening plenary, **Paul Little, MD, MBBS**, reminded us that ideas, passion, and perseverance are all necessary in the journey of a clinical researcher but not nearly enough if in the absence of having trusted, nurturing colleagues internally and externally along the way. As it has for years, NAPCRG and its 2006 Annual Meeting provided the forum for bringing various researcher communities together for this nurturing.

Tucson provided a wonderful setting and our 629 conference attendants provided the ideas and enthusiasm—all the right ingredients for another successful NAPCRG annual meeting. This year's conference, held October 15–18, 2006, brought together many familiar and new colleagues from around the globe for an outstanding set of concurrent sessions, workshops, forums, and posters that fueled our imagination and invigorated our work.

Three plenary presentations were delivered: **Paul Little, MD, MBBS**, Southampton University, brought us along on his journey as a clinical researcher; **Todd Weber, MD, FACP, FIDSA**, Centers for Disease Control, described the development and proliferation of antimicrobial resistance and their links to appropriate and inappropriate antibiotic use; and **Diane Watson, PhD, MBA**, University of British Columbia, updated us about the Canadian public, provider, and policy perspectives on priorities for information about primary care.

The conference has also become a key meeting place for NAPCRG committees and several affiliate groups to convene and do business. This year, more than a dozen different groups conducted business meetings in Tucson around the annual meeting, showcasing the important role that NAPCRG plays



NAPCRG President Perry Dickinson, MD, University of Colorado HSC, served as host for the Annual Business Luncheon in Tucson.

in creating opportunities for connecting individuals around primary care research. We also know there were many more informal meetings of NAPCRG members who used NAPCRG as a way to connect. In addition, the NAPCRG Board of Directors and the Committees on Advancing the Science of Family Medicine, Communications, Membership, Nominations, and Program also met and reaffirmed their commitment to another year of work on behalf of our membership. See committee updates in this issue. Our SIGs also had a significant presence as targeted hot-beds for innovative ideas and collaboration. See the President's column on NAPCRG's efforts to foster innovation on page 2.

A highlight of the meeting was the presentation by **Ann-Louise Kinmonth, MD, FMedSci**, recipient of the 2006 Wood Award for Lifetime Contribution to Primary Care Research, who delighted us with her wit, humor, and profound insights. Also honored at the meeting with President Awards were **Kurt Stange, MD, PhD**, representing the *Annals*

of Family Medicine editorial office, **Joetta Melton**, representing the *Annals* publishing office. Both of these leaders have led outstanding teams that have, in just 5 years, moved the *Annals* from a start-up journal to an indexed and widely respected journal. Also recognized was **Jeannie Haggerty, PhD**, for her many years of service on the NAPCRG program committee.

New this year is our online conference evaluation survey accessible through the NAPCRG Web site www.napcr.org/index.html. Please take a few minutes to let us know what you thought of this year's meeting and what we can do to make next year's even better.

The Program Committee is already at work planning next year's annual meeting to take place October 20–23, 2007 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Mark your calendars and start thinking about submitting your proposals. The 2007 call for proposals will be available in early February.

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Fostering Innovation Within NAPCRG

NAPCRG has been extremely successful over recent years, growing in our membership, the quality of the research being presented at our annual meeting, our international reputation, and our level of activity throughout the year in support of primary care research. For NAPCRG to continue to grow and increase our value to our members, it is vital to preserve and expand the spirit of innovation that has been a central value throughout our history. The Board of Directors wants to continue to facilitate and foster innovation throughout NAPCRG and will be dealing with innovation actively in each of our upcoming Board meetings.

One of the key places where innovation can occur is in our Special Interest Groups, or SIGs. The SIGs are a place for people with common research interests, shared methodologies, or shared roles to come together for discussion and potential collaboration. A list of the current NAPCRG SIGs and their chairs can be found on the NAPCRG Web site at www.napcrg.org/special.html. Various groups have generated some important activities for NAPCRG through the years. The publication of "Responsible Research With Communities: Participatory Research in Primary Care," which grew out of a workshop on "Respectful Research With Communities" presented at the 1996 NAPCRG Annual Meeting, is a great example of an important and innovative product of a group of people with shared interests who came together at NAPCRG. Many collaborative research projects have grown out of the SIGs and other, less formal, groups of NAPCRG members who have come together at our meetings. As NAPCRG grows, the SIGs take on even greater importance as smaller gathering places in the midst of the much larger and ever-expanding meeting. NAPCRG

would like to increasingly encourage the activities of the SIGs, including the formation of new SIGs. We will be looking for ways for the SIGs to have an increased presence in our annual meeting, but we also would like to support the SIGs' efforts to be more active between meetings. To further foster SIG activities, the Board voted at its recent meeting to set aside \$10,000 for the 2006–2007 fiscal year for innovative projects by the SIGs or by other groups of NAPCRG members with shared interests. Beginning February 2007, any group with an innovative idea can request up to \$2,000. The groups should provide a summary of the idea or activity (up to two pages), along with a brief budget, and send it to Stacy Brungardt, CAE, napcrg@stfm.org for presentation to the Executive Committee of the Board (consisting of the president, president-elect or immediate past-president, the secretary-treasurer, and the executive director). The Executive Committee has been empowered by the Board to make a quick decision and turnaround, so that the group should have an answer regarding its proposal within a few weeks. By February 2007, we'll post on the NAPCRG Web site the criteria by which the Executive Committee will make its decision regarding funding.

The Board will also be investigating several new ways to provide research training and other support to our members between meetings, supplementing the activities already in place. Members with ideas for NAPCRG are encouraged to share them with us. NAPCRG has always been a hotbed of fresh ideas and energy, and we want to do all we can to continue that innovative spirit.

—Perry Dickinson, MD
NAPCRG President

How to Form a Special Interest Group (SIG)

SIGs are wonderful incubators of new ideas and a safe and convenient way to come together with like-minded individuals to collaborate on specific topics of interest. In addition to convening at the annual meeting, active SIGs also communicate throughout the year to share experiences, resources, and future plans. Beginning February 2007, SIGs can also submit a proposal for up to \$2,000 to work on an innovative project. See this month's President's Column for details. For a listing of all existing SIGs and their focal topics, visit our Web site www.napcrg.org. If you don't see a SIG that meets your needs and you would like to propose a new one, e-mail Kelly Parry at kparry@stfm.org, and we will help you establish and advertise your new SIG. All you need to start a SIG is a topic of interest that relates to research and an individual willing to serve as chair. Once a new SIG is formed, it will be advertised in the *NAPCRG Newsletter* asking interested individuals to join by contacting the SIG's chair.

New SIGs

Three new NAPCRG SIGs have recently formed and are seeking new members. If you're interested in these topics or would like to learn more about them, contact the SIG chairs listed below.

Doctor-Patient Relationship SIG

SIG Chair: John Scott, MD, PhD
UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School
scottjg@umdnj.edu

Prison Research SIG

SIG Chair: Ruth Elwood Martin,
MD, FCFP
University of British Columbia
ruth.martin@familymed.ubc.ca

Cardiovascular Disease SIG

SIG Chair: Marty Player, MD
Medical Univ. of South Carolina
playerm@muscc.edu

Striving for Greater Transparency: The NAPCRG Election Process

As NAPCRG has grown, we have outgrown some of our informal structures. One of the structures we have clearly outgrown is our “election”. According to our by-laws, two positions come to the membership for approval—the president-elect and the secretary-treasurer; however we have no formal voting structure. Other members of the Board are appointed. When NAPCRG was an organization of a few hundred, conversations could take place at a business meeting. Now to bring a slate of one and ask for nominations from the floor in a meeting of 600 without any preparation feels uncomfortable at best and fallacious at worst. The NAPCRG Board plans to review our bylaws to bring revisions to our election process to the membership.

In spite of needed change, I do feel comfortable with our leadership and the process that has selected those individuals for NAPCRG leadership roles. Unfortunately, much of the process is not clear to the membership. Let me outline the process that led to our recommendation of **Allen Dietrich, MD**, as president-elect. In the spring of 2005, the members of the Nominations Committee, the Board members, and others approached individual members for their suggestions of NAPCRG members to consider for leadership positions. We also called for general member input in our newsletter.

The characteristics the Nominations Committee looks for in a president-elect include but are not limited to leadership skills, credibility as a researcher, critical thinking skills, ability to work with a board and other leaders within the family, and an understanding of NAPCRG. We also consider the bi-nationality of our membership. Following careful deliberations, the Nominations Committee recommended to the NAPCRG

Executive Committee a ranked list of three candidates. More discussions followed, which resulted in a request to the candidate of choice to be the nominee. The candidate was approved by the NAPCRG Executive Committee, and the individual was then presented to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting.

There has been considerable debate at the Board about a traditional electoral process for our leadership. The Board is trying to balance the need for greater openness of the process versus the need to ensure the best leader is identified for the organization at a given point in time. Changes to our Board composition and election are issues to be considered judiciously and with extensive member input. More to come.

Welcome Our New President-Elect: Allen Dietrich, MD

Election revisions aside, I am extremely pleased with quality and character of our incoming president-elect. Let me share a bit more about why the Board is so pleased that Dr Dietrich accepted the challenge to lead NAPCRG.



Dr Dietrich is a family physician and professor of community and family medicine at Dartmouth Medical School. He has extensive research experience having been principal investigator on a number of National Cancer Institute-sponsored projects with settings ranging from rural New England to New York City, Boston, and remote Alaskan villages. He has devoted his academic career to developing resources and strategies to help primary care clinicians provide high quality, efficient care. His honors include membership in the Institute of Medicine of the US National Academy of Sciences, the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Curtis Hames Award for career research achievement, and recognition for STFM Best Research Paper Awards in 1989, 2001, and 2006.

After receiving his undergraduate degree from Swarthmore College, he completed his MD degree at Case Western Reserve University. After completing an internship at Cambridge Hospital in Massachusetts and a family practice residency at the University of Rochester, he served as clinical director at the Zuni Indian Health Service Hospital in New Mexico, and then completed a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program at Stanford University and The Palo Alto Veterans Administration Hospital.

Dr Dietrich joined the Dartmouth faculty in 1982 where he has provided continuity of care to patients of all ages while pursuing research in cancer screening and prevention, office systems, and depression management.

We welcome Dr Dietrich to the NAPCRG Board and look forward to his vision and leadership in the coming years.

—Valerie Gilchrist, MD,
Nominations Committee Chair

The *NAPCRG Newsletter* is published by the North American Primary Care Research Group, 11400 Tomahawk Creek Parkway, Suite 540, Leawood, KS 66211, 800-274-2237, ext. 5422, fax: 913-906-6096, napcrgrg@stfm.org. NAPCRG Web site: www.napcrgrg.org. For membership information, contact Kelly Parry by e-mail, kparry@stfm.org, or at the address above. The *NAPCRG Newsletter* is published quarterly and welcomes letters to the editor about issues of general interest to the membership. Submit correspondence to Frederick Chen, MD, MPH, University of Washington, Department of Family Medicine, 4311 11th Avenue, NE, Suite 210, Seattle, WA, 98195-4982, 206-543-7813, fax: 206-616-4768, fchen@u.washington.edu.

President, Perry Dickinson, MD; Editor, Frederick Chen, MD, MPH;
Executive Director, Stacy Brungardt, MA, CAE; Member Services Director, Maribel Cifuentes, RN; Member Services Coordinator, Kelly Parry

Communications Committee Updates

The NAPCRG Communications Committee has been working on several initiatives to promote the values and mission of NAPCRG and expand member benefits.

Public Relations Outreach Plan

NAPCRG is the premier organization devoted to family medicine and primary care research. Now more than ever, it serves as the voice for primary care research within the North American primary care community. At the center of the organization's advocacy agenda is promoting the value of primary care research among those policymakers who determine funding levels and research priorities, most notably those of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Public relations can be a cost-effective and powerful tool in the organization's multi-pronged strategy to advance this agenda. We believe the time is ripe for just such a campaign, and the Communications Committee and the NAPCRG Board, in collaboration with the public relations staff of the American Academy of Family Physicians, are devising a plan to raise awareness among policymakers for the value of primary care research and the need for increased funding. More specifically, we want to:

1. Establish NAPCRG as a vibrant and reputable organization among health care reporters at key medical trade and national print news outlets.
2. Enhance awareness about the value of primary care research among those in the research community, especially decision makers in policy-making positions.
3. Position NAPCRG's annual meeting as the premier meeting for the dissemination of the best in primary care research, and generate media coverage of the research presented at the meeting.

We will be reporting our plans and actions in upcoming newsletters and at the annual meetings.

Journals Affiliated With NAPCRG

We are also continuing to expand NAPCRG member benefits by identifying journals of interest to primary care researchers and providing convenient links to their Web sites from the NAPCRG site and, in some

cases, offering subscription discounts to NAPCRG members. A current list of these journals can be found on the NAPCRG Web site www.napcr.org/journallinks.htm. Please contact Tony Kuzel, committee chair (akuzel@vcu.edu) or Maribel Cifuentes, member services director (maribel.cifuentes@uchsc.edu) with suggestions for other journals of interest. Our criterion for creating links is that the journal must have relevance for primary care research. We will automatically authorize adding a link to the NAPCRG Web site for those journals that have a NAPCRG member on their editorial boards.

Organizational Updates on *Annals of Family Medicine*

The Communications Committee also welcomes your suggestions about topics that might be worthy of publication for our organizational update page in the *Annals of Family Medicine*. The NAPCRG organizational pages run in every issue of the journal and are broadly designed to further the mission of NAPCRG to develop, disseminate, and promote new knowledge regarding primary care. We welcome your ideas for articles. Please submit those to Tony Kuzel at akuzel@vcu.edu.

—Anton Kuzel, MD,
Communications Committee Chair

NIH Funding for Primary Care Researchers for Testing Point-of-Care Technologies

The National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering invites applications for Research Centers in the area of point-of-care (POC) technologies. POC testing refers to the timely provision of clinical diagnostic information, often in decentralized settings such as in the physician's office or in the patient's home.

The NIBIB anticipates commitment of up to \$6,000,000 in FY2007 for this program for up to three awards. The U54 (cooperative agreement) mechanism will be used to create a national research network that works to build expertise in the development of integrated systems that address unmet clinical needs in POC testing through the creation of multidisciplinary partnerships. Each POCT Center will perform five core functions (as described below) to create a dynamic structure that facilitates the translation of emerg-

ing technologies into clinical application. The centers will work jointly to create a Research Network with broad expertise in the development of POC technologies.

Each center within the network will perform or facilitate five different core functions: (1) conducting in-house clinical testing of prototype POC devices; (2) collaborating with physical scientists, biochemical scientists, computational scientists, and engineers on exploratory technology development projects; (3) completing clinical needs assessments in areas anticipated to advance the field of POC testing and disseminating this information to the technology development community; (4) providing training to technology developers on clinical issues related to the development of POC devices; and (5) providing an adequate administrative structure to ensure that the large, complex Center achieves its goals.

KEY DATES

RFA Release Date: October 4, 2006

Letters of Intent Receipt Date: December 18, 2006

Application Receipt Date: January 17, 2007

Peer Review Date(s): June–July 2007

Council Review Date(s): September 2007

Earliest Anticipated Start Date: September 30, 2007

Full RFA can be found at
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-EB-06-002.html>.

NAPCRG Members Honored With CFPC Research Awards

At our recent Family Medicine Forum (FMF) held in Quebec City (November 1–4), we were pleased to honor the recipients of our 2006 research awards at the College of Family Physicians of Canada Section of Researchers (SoR) annual general meeting, and at our SoR dinner. The CFPC research award recipients for 2006 are:

Family Medicine Researcher of the Year—William Hogg, MD, University of Ottawa

Dr Hogg's research involvement has already spanned 3 decades and is still gaining momentum. His early work began in a small rural practice in Wakefield, Quebec. Early published work involved studies on rural obstetrics, computerization, prevention, and the philosophy of family medicine. These studies informed his later body of work investigating facilitation in family practices, the role of home hospitals, and in integration of the family health team. Dr Hogg has had a long-lasting interest in prevention, and systems within the modern family practice, and has become internationally recognized as a researcher in the field of prevention in primary care and in the area of the utilization of facilitators in practice to enhance the quality of care delivered. He has been a wonderful mentor to other faculty members, both new and old, with his primary motivation being to enhance family medicine research, rather than to enhance his own career. His current work forms an evolving body of knowledge that has, and will continue to, inform the process of primary

care reform in Canada. In the midst of this, he continues with a desire to investigate clinical issues, and in recent times, even the challenge of SARS.

On behalf of the CFPC Section of Researchers and NAPCRG, we send our sincere congratulations to Dr Hogg!

Outstanding Family Medicine Research Article

(recognizing the outstanding Canadian family medicine research article published in 2005)

June Carroll, Anthony Reid, Anne Biringer, Deana Midmer, Richard Glazier, Lynn Wilson, Joanne Permaul, Patricia Pugh, Beverly Chalmers, Freda Seddon, Donna Stewart. Effectiveness of the Antenatal Psychosocial Health Assessment (ALPHA) form in detecting psychosocial concerns: a randomized controlled trial. *CMAJ* Aug 2, 2005 173(3) pp 253-9.

Resident Research Awards:

Aisha Lofters, MD, University of Toronto

Socioeconomic Inequalities in Cervical Cancer Screening

Christopher Mackie, MD and Shawn Tully, MD, University of British Columbia

Measuring Variability in Wait Times Between Family Practice Clinics in Four BC Communities

*—Inese Grava-Gubins,
CFPC Director of Research*

Board Meeting Highlights

The following actions resulted from discussions held during the October 15 and 18, 2006 NAPCRG Board of Directors meetings in Tucson, Ariz:

- Approved the year-end finance reports for the 2005–2006 calendar year.
- Discussed the value of publishing abstracts from the annual meeting in a peer-reviewed publication. This will be explored further.
- Continued the development of indicators for how to measure NAPCRG's success.
- Approved the development of a NAPCRG single day regional conference in 2007 to be hosted by the University of Auckland.
- Approved the creation of a consultant's directory for NAPCRG members.
- Discussed a public relations proposal for NAPCRG.
- Approved a \$10,000 budget to foster members' efforts toward innovative activities.
- Approved NAPCRG's endorsement of the Family Physicians Inquiries Network for 2007.
- Discussed modifications to NAPCRG election procedure to make the process more transparent to the membership.
- Approved the elimination of two seats on the NAPCRG Board of Directors, effective October 2006: the Community Hospital Representative and the Academic Family Medicine Organizations Research Representative.

mission & goals

Formed in 1972, the North American Primary Care Research Group is a multidisciplinary organization for primary care researchers in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and throughout the world, with a mission to develop, disseminate, and promote new knowledge regarding primary care.

NAPCRG's goals are to:

- Serve as an incubator for new ideas
- Increase the capacity for conducting research
- Provide appropriate forums for presentation of original primary care research
- Enhance communication among primary care researchers
- Connect primary care research, patient care, and education
- Advocate for policies that support primary care research

Participate in NAPCRG's Student Research Award Program

To encourage departments of family medicine to recognize primary care research performed by students, NAPCRG offers a research award for students called the NAPCRG Student Family Medicine/Primary Care Research Award. This award is intended to recognize outstanding family medicine/primary care research performed by a medical student.

One award may be made by each department of family medicine. NAPCRG suggests that each department create a committee to review medical student applications and make the award recommendation to the department chair. Note that NAPCRG does not select the honorees; departments tell NAPCRG headquarters who should be honored from their school. NAPCRG will supply the certificate that may be framed by the department, if it elects to do so.

Please submit the name of your honoree to Kelly Parry at kparry@stfm.org for preparation of the certificate. While some departments prefer to present these certificates at graduation ceremonies in the spring, you may honor your student at the time that makes the most sense for your department.

The award criteria and application form are posted on the NAPCRG Web site at www.napcrg.org/awards.html#research.

Contact Kelly Parry with questions at kparry@stfm.org.

Online Membership Directory

Did you know that NAPCRG has an online membership directory that lists members' research interests?

Go to
[www.napcrg.org/
members/search.cfm](http://www.napcrg.org/members/search.cfm)

username: 2000
password: research

Use the search function to search by research interests, institution, name, or country.



Norman Oliver, MD, University of Virginia (right), helped lead a successful GIS preconference at the NAPCRG meeting in Tucson. He is pictured here with Ethan Berke, MD, MPH, Dartmouth Medical School.

board NAPCRG members

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Watch for the NAPCRG Methodological Consultants Directory

Based on the 2005 Members Survey, there is a need for access to consultation and collaboration among members. Fortunately, 56% of survey respondents indicated a willingness to serve as a research consultant to NAPCRG members. In response, the Board of Directors has approved the establishment of an online Consultants Directory.

Of the 85 methodological topics, only four (virtual reality, agent-based modeling, canonical correlation, and critical theory) had no consultant identified. The 59 consultants reported a mean of 16.4 (\pm 8.0) years of research experience while 60% consider themselves experienced researchers and 52% have received major research funding.

Soon the directory will be accessible through the NAPCRG Web site at www.napcr.org. By logging in to the directory, you will be presented with lists of quantitative and qualitative methods, technologies, and development and design issues. Simply click on the topic for which you seek consultation and then indicate what level of consultation you desire. The five levels listed will be 1) **resource** (a brief consultation to answer questions or provide resources), 2) **teaching** (an extended consultation in which the consultant will instruct the member in the topic), 3) **review of manuscripts or grant proposals** (expert critique

focused on the topical area and the consultant's expertise), 4) **grant consultant** (providing assistance in grant preparation in exchange for inclusion on the proposal as a consultant), and 5) **coinvestigator** (providing assistance in grant preparation in exchange for inclusion on the grant proposal as coinvestigator). The availability of consultation depends upon the topic and the level of consultation. Once you have selected the level of consultation you need, a list of available consultants will appear along with contact information.

While service as grant consultant or coinvestigator involves an investment of time, it also holds the possibility of monetary and academic compensation through grant funding and publication. Service as a teacher or reviewer, on the other hand, involves significant time investment without obvious compensation. Therefore, suggested fees for teaching and review will be indicated, but it will be up to the consultant and the member to negotiate any compensation.

The Membership Committee is seeking additional ways to facilitate members' ability to easily find collaborators and receive consultation when needed. Stay tuned for more information about this online consultation service.

—David Katerndahl, MD,
Membership Committee Chair

University of Minnesota Faculty Member Receives Fulbright Scholar Award

David Nordstrom, PhD, MPH, research associate at University of Minnesota Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv, Ukraine during the 2006–2007 academic year. Dr Nordstrom will collaborate with faculty in Ukraine to design and teach new courses in public health, epidemiology, and research at a new university graduate study program in the nation's capital. Dr Nordstrom is one of approximately 800 US faculty and professionals who will travel abroad to some 150 countries during 2006–2007 through the Fulbright Scholar Program. Established in 1946, the program's purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

conference calendar

NAPCRG Annual Meetings:

35th NAPCRG Annual Meeting
October 20–23, 2007
(Saturday-Tuesday pattern)
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
Vancouver, British Columbia

36th NAPCRG Annual Meeting
(Additional day added to meeting)
November 15–19, 2008
(Saturday-Wednesday pattern)
Westin Del Mar
Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

37th NAPCRG Annual Meeting
November 14–18, 2009
(Saturday-Wednesday pattern)
Le Centre Sheraton
Montreal, Quebec

38th NAPCRG Annual Meeting
November 13–17, 2010
(Saturday-Wednesday pattern)
Westin Seattle
Seattle, Wash

39th NAPCRG Annual Meeting
November 12–16, 2011
(Saturday-Wednesday pattern)
Fairmont Banff Springs
Banff, Alberta

Other Conferences of Note:

**2007 STFM Predoctoral
Educator Conference**
January 25–28, 2007
Memphis, Tenn
www.stfm.org

**College of Family Physicians of
Canada**
2007 Family Medicine Forum
October 11–13, 2007
Winnipeg
www.cfpc.ca

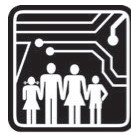
Post Your Annual Meeting Handouts on FMDRL

At the invitation of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, and with the NAPCRG Board's blessing, NAPCRG Annual Meeting attendees are invited to share conference handouts by posting them on its Family Medicine Digital Resources Library (FMDRL).

In late 2004, the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine was awarded a grant by the National Library of Medicine to develop FMDRL. The mission of FMDRL is to support and enhance the sharing and collaborative development of educational resources among family medicine educators through a digital library that will include resources for all levels of family medicine education.

There is no charge to post or view materials in FMDRL.

NAPCRG members benefit by having your presentation materials distributed to an audience beyond NAPCRG members, and, in turn, offers you access to an educational resource broader than primary care research. NAPCRG original research



FMDRL
Family Medicine Digital
Resources Library

handouts are a welcomed addition to FMDRL and add a richness to the academic materials on the site. By STFM and NAPCRG working together, we can develop a stronger repository of curricular materials than we could otherwise do working independently.

FMDRL Includes:

- Conference presentations/handouts
- PowerPoint lectures
- Learning modules for all levels of learners
- Digital images, audio, and video files
- Standardized patient cases
- Recommended Web sites and PDA programs
- Other curricular materials

FMDRL Features:

- Content for all levels of family medicine education.

- Expert Peer Review: materials are peer reviewed and archived with user-friendly search functionality.
- Editorial and administrative oversight for FMDRL is provided by a steering committee of educators, informaticists, researchers, and librarians.
- Developed with an open standards-based infrastructure, permitting interaction with other digital libraries, such as the Health Education Assets Library.

You'll find that uploading your conference materials is quite simple: just click on the "upload" tab, and you'll be asked to register or log in, then follow quick, step-by-step instructions.

Visit the FMDRL Web site at www.fmdrl.org to upload your conference presentation materials, learn more about this valuable resource, and sign up to serve as a content reviewer for FMDRL if you are interested.

Questions? Contact FMDRL staff liaison Traci Nolte at tnolte@stfm.org.

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