



The vision of the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Network was to transform PCMHs to recognize, facilitate, encourage, and ultimately improve the care of older adults and their caregivers. By advocating for and promoting the thoughtful insertion of geriatrics into the PCMH model, the PCMH Network sought to improve outcomes for older adults in the Comprehensive Primary Care (CPC) initiative and other PCMH sites.

A main focus of the PMCH Network was to identify ways to improve the skills of PCMH clinicians who may not have formal geriatric training, at both the patient and population level. These efforts included evidence-based geriatrics education on specific topics, appropriate risk identification and stratification, and more geriatric sensitive care management.

Taking Action

The PCMH Network wrote and released an in-depth paper, [Patient-Centered Medical Homes and the Care of Older Adults: How Comprehensive Care Coordination, Community Connections, and Person-Directed Care Can Make a Difference](#), which provides a roadmap to guide primary care practices in how to enhance care for older, complex patients and their families.

In addition, the Network funded three pilot projects:

- **Implementing e-consults** for high-risk geriatric patients within the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center patient-centered medical homes;
- **Patient and caregiver activation** through the use of evidence-based self-management programs;
- **Polypharmacy harm reduction** – acceptance of a pharmacist led welcome to Medicare wellness visit.



Patient-Centered Medical Homes and the Care of Older Adults

How comprehensive care coordination, community connections, and person-directed care can make a difference

Members

The Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Network was co-chaired by **David Dorr, MD, MS**, Professor and Vice Chair, Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, OR, and **Robert Schreiber, MD, CMD**, Medical Director of Evidence-based Programs at Hebrew SeniorLife and Medical Director of Healthy Living Center of Excellence in Boston, MA.

The Network enlisted seven geriatrics experts in the field of health care:

- **Christine Fordyce, MD**, Geriatric Primary Care Physician, Group Health
- **Robyn Golden, MA, LCSW**, Director of Health and Aging, Rush University Medical Center
- **Molly Mettler, MSW**, Senior Vice President of Mission, Healthwise (retired)
- **Toni Miles, MD, PhD**, Professor, Epidemiology, College of Public Health, University of Georgia
- **Aanand Naik, MD**, Associate Professor, Houston Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness, and Safety at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and Baylor College of Medicine
- **Harry S. Strothers III, MD, MMM**, Chair, School of Medicine, Mercer University
- **Tasha Woodall, PharmD, CGP, CPP**, Associate Director of Pharmacotherapy in Geriatrics, Mountain Area Health Education Center



Contributing to the John A. Hartford Foundation Change AGENTS Initiative

The PCMH Network was an active part of the larger Change AGENTS Initiative, collaborating closely with the Initiative's Dementia Caregiving Network, as well as with the Initiative's leadership team and the broader Change AGENTS community. Together, the PCMH and Dementia Caregiving Networks identified practice change opportunities on a range of subjects and built the Change AGENTS community's knowledge and willingness to take action toward improving the health and well-being of older adults and their families.

For more information

To learn more about the Patient Centered Medical Home Network, please visit:

www.changeagents365.org/change-agents-networks/medical-homes



About the John A. Hartford Foundation Change AGENTS Initiative

The John A. Hartford Foundation's Change AGENTS Initiative was a three-year effort dedicated to improving the health of older Americans, their families, and their communities through practice change. The initiative harnessed the collective strengths, resources, and expertise of the foundation's interprofessional community of scholars, clinicians, and health system leaders.