

Our Transition to LCF Research

We are proud to introduce our transition to the name LCF Research. For 18 years, Lovelace Clinic Foundation has been conducting research to improve patient outcomes. In our early years, we designed, implemented, and evaluated innovative strategies at Lovelace Health Systems for managing chronic diseases, including asthma, diabetes, hypertension, and low birth weight newborns. In the past few years, we began to expand our mission and scope, first into more community-focused projects involving a number of health systems. Most recently, we have led the New Mexico Health Information Collaborative (NMHC), the developing statewide health information exchange network, which will include all of the major health systems, plans, and provider groups as well as the NM Departments of Health and Human Services and hospitals and providers throughout New Mexico.

To reflect the evolving diversity and expanded scope of our work, we have begun the transition to doing business as LCF Research (the legal entity will remain Lovelace Clinic Foundation). We've appreciated and valued our current and previous collaborations and look forward to collaborating again with you in the future as LCF Research. Our contact information will remain the same.

2009 Anticoagulation Conference

LCF's Continuing Professional Education department is pleased to offer the national course, Preceptorships in the Management of Anticoagulation Therapy and Clinical Thrombosis, again this November. The conference is designed as an in-depth, interactive learning experience for physicians, pharmacists, and nurses and addresses health concerns such as deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary thromboembolism, and venous thromboembolic events and their prevention.

Internationally-known speakers and researchers **Dr. Alex C. Spyropoulos**, McMaster University and Hamilton General Hospital, and **Dr. David A. Garcia**, UNM Health Sciences Center, lead a highly-qualified faculty from seven organizations: ABQ Health Partners, Holy Cross Hospital, LCF Research, McMaster University, TriCore Reference Laboratories, University of New Mexico, and Albuquerque's Veteran's Administration Hospital.

LCF Research Staff News

Herbert (Bert) Davis, PhD, joins LCF Research as a Senior Research Scientist with over 40 years experience in statistics and biostatistics. Dr. Davis will be initiating new cancer research studies and will lead a study analyzing at-risk alcohol consumption and traffic safety. He is an adjunct professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of New Mexico.

Eugene (Gene) Hill, MA, joins LCF Research as a Data Warehouse Manager/Data Analyst with a BBA degree in General Management and an MA in Economics. He is an experienced technology professional with extensive skills in SQL database and data warehouse development and support. He will have oversight of data management for LCF Research's IT and Health Services Research Divisions projects.

Ann Von Worley was elected as a Director to the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SoCRA) Board. Ann is a SoCRA Certified Clinical Research Professional and organized the local NM SoCRA Chapter. SoCRA is a non-profit, professional, international membership organization dedicated to the continuing education and development of clinical research professionals.

Health Information Technology Progress

LCF Research/NMHIC staff is working with State of New Mexico to establish a cooperative agreement with the federal government to accelerate expansion of New Mexico's health information exchange (HIE) network to serve all health care and public health stakeholders. The goal of the cooperative agreement, as authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), is to facilitate and expand the secure electronic movement and meaningful use of health information among health care organizations according to nationally recognized standards. The agreement calls for the New Mexico Health Information Collaborative (NMHC), the State's designated HIE, to coordinate and implement the expansion over the next four years.

LCF Research, in collaboration with the New Mexico Medical Review Association and the New Mexico Primary Care Association, is also developing a proposal to seek funding from the federal government, as authorized by ARRA, to establish the New Mexico Regional Center (NMRC) program. The NMRC program will provide physician practices with expert assistance in selection and implementation of electronic health records, work flow assessment, and connecting to the state's HIE network.

Both grant programs will help provide clinicians with access to health information on patients from multiple healthcare organizations to improve care quality and coordination and provide training and tools to help physician practices qualify for CMS EHR incentive payments.

The Journey for Control of Diabetes: the IDEA Study now in its Follow-up Phase

LCF Research and its partner site, HealthPartners Research Foundation in Minneapolis, completed enrollment in *The Journey for Control of Diabetes: the IDEA Study*. The study is evaluating the effectiveness of using Conversation Maps[®] to educate patients with sub-optimally controlled Type 2 diabetes. Conversation Maps[®] (CM) are a new tool for educating individuals diagnosed with diabetes which changes the focus of group education from an educator-centered experience to a patient-centered experience. With the completion of the group and individual educational interventions, the study is in its follow-up phase. The research team continues to collect outcome measures for all patients. Study findings are expected late 2010.

Posters with preliminary findings from baseline data have generated much interest at conferences of the American Association of Diabetes Educators, American Diabetes Association, HMO Research Network, International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research, and SoCRA. One poster described the diabetes educators' (DE) experience with the Conversation Maps[®]. Overall, the maps method was perceived positively by DEs due to its ability to promote patient interaction, sharing, and meaningful discussion. DEs faced challenges of disruptive patients, late arrivals, off-topic discussions, and variable reading levels among patients.

Sally Beaton, PhD, is the Principal Investigator with consultation from **Jeremy Gleeson, MD, ABQ Health Partners**. **Patty Glasrud, CDE, RD, ABQ Health Partners Regional Diabetes Program**, coordinated the diabetes education component.