



Research Action for Health Network (REACHnet) Infrastructure and Services

REACHnet is one of 9 clinical research networks (CRNs) nationwide in [PCORnet®](#), The National Patient-Centered Clinical Research Network.

Our mission is to enable the conduct of multi-site research with enhanced efficiency in real-world healthcare delivery systems.

REACHnet includes electronic health record data for **over 8 million patients** from multiple partner health systems:

Ochsner Health
Tulane Medical Center
University Medical Center New Orleans
Baylor Scott & White Health
DHR Health Institute for Research & Development
University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Health

REACHnet's academic partners are:

Tulane University Schools of Medicine & Public Health
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC)
Pennington Biomedical Research Center
UCSF Clinical & Translational Sciences Institute

Louisiana Public Health Institute (LPHI) is the REACHnet Coordinating Center.

ASSETS & RESOURCES

Clinical data infrastructure

- Electronic health records conformed to the [PCORnet Common Data Model](#)
- Privacy preserving record linkage (PPRL) enables deduplication and matching of patient records across systems and linkage with other data sources

Data linkages

- Linkage with health plans including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana, Humana, CVS Health, and Medicare
- Linkage with socio-demographic and environmental data by census tract or zip code

Streamlined regulatory processes

- Master Data Sharing & Use Agreement among partner health systems enables a single agreement for most multi-site observational studies
- All REACHnet health systems have signed the [SMART IRB](#) reliance agreement to facilitate single IRB review for multi-site studies

DATA SERVICES

REACHnet streamlines access to multi-site longitudinal data for research.

Prep-to-research query request

Estimate the target patient population when designing a study

Prospective research request

Implement a prospective study in partnership with REACHnet health systems

Data request

Obtain a dataset for observational research

Please visit our website for more information about [how to request services](#).

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Health in Our Hands

[HiOH](#) is the community-facing arm of REACHnet designed to engage motivated patients in research initiatives. The HiOH Community is a network of patients spanning the nation with diverse backgrounds and experiences. HiOH members:

- Receive training in principles of patient engagement
- Participate in quarterly virtual meetings with researchers and other HiOH members to guide research initiatives by providing patients' perspectives based on their lived experience
- Receive information about studies, opportunities to get involved, and research results

Stakeholder engagement services

REACHnet supports investigators with patient engagement in their studies by:

- Facilitating virtual meetings with the HiOH Community during which investigators present their research and receive patients' input
- Assisting with recruiting, training, and onboarding patient partners for studies

Clinic staff training

LPHI developed tools for effective engagement of clinic staff in implementation of clinic-based research, which often relies on their interactions with patients who are current or potential research participants.

CONTACT

For more information, visit www.REACHnet.org
or contact info@reachnet.org.

REACHnet's Research Portfolio

Louisiana Experiment Assessing Diabetes outcomes (LEAD)

The LEAD Study is a prospective observational study examining the impacts of Medicare reimbursement for non-face-to-face chronic care management services on health outcomes among patients with type 2 diabetes. Tulane University leads this study in collaboration with REACHnet and our partner health systems in Louisiana. The project is one of eight policy-focused studies that comprise the Natural Experiments for Translation in Diabetes 2.0 ([NEXT-D2](#)) Network.

Aspirin Dosing: A Patient-Centric Trial Assessing Benefits and Long-term Effectiveness

ADAPTABLE is a nationwide pragmatic clinical trial comparing the effectiveness of 81mg versus 325mg daily aspirin doses for preventing heart attack and stroke in patients living with cardiovascular disease. Results are available at www.theaspirinstudy.org.

Comparative Effectiveness of Pharmacogenomics for Treatment of Depression (CEPIO-D)

CEPIO-D is a prospective randomized trial comparing the effectiveness of combinatorial PGx-guided treatment versus best-practice guideline concordant treatment on well-being and depression severity in patients with major depressive disorder. REACHnet's partner health system, University Medical Center New Orleans, is participating.

Blood Pressure Control Lab

The BP Control Lab, led by the University of California at San Francisco, involves three studies. The first describes blood pressure control in the United States using electronic health records from health systems across the country. The second compares blood pressure control between clinics that receive educational materials about blood pressure control guidelines with or without extra support from a site facilitator, trained by the American Medical Association, to improve their clinic processes and monitor how well clinics are controlling blood pressure. The third compares blood pressure control between patients who receive a home blood pressure monitor with and without a smartphone app.

PCORnet Bariatric Study

The PCORnet Bariatric Study compared benefits and risks of the three most common bariatric surgery procedures—Roux-en-y gastric bypass, adjustable gastric banding, and sleeve gastrectomy. The observational study used electronic health record (EHR) data for over 65,000 patients from 41 participating healthcare organizations across the country. Data were collected through the PCORnet distributed research infrastructure from several clinical research networks (CRNs), including REACHnet. Results and publications are available [here](#).

Short- and Long-term Effects of Antibiotics on Childhood Growth: The PCORnet Antibiotics (ABX) Study

The ABX Study examined the effects of antibiotic use in the first two years of life on body mass index (BMI) at ages 5 and 10 years and on growth trajectories to age 5. The observational study used electronic health record (EHR) data for over 362,000 patients from 35 participating healthcare organizations nationwide. Data were collected through the PCORnet distributed research infrastructure from several clinical research networks (CRNs), including REACHnet. Results and publications are available [here](#).

COVID-19 Citizen Science Study

The COVID-19 Citizen Science Study is recruiting patients into a digital cohort of "COVID-19 Citizen Scientists," gathering patient-reported data, and linking with electronic health records (EHR) to evaluate the impact of shelter-in-place policies and containment and mitigation strategies. The University of California at San Francisco is leading the study in partnership with Louisiana Public Health Institute and REACHnet partner health systems Ochsner Health and Baylor Scott & White Health.

Genetic testing to Understand Renal Disease Disparities across the U.S. (GUARDD-US)

GUARDD-US is a pragmatic clinical trial enrolling patients of African ancestry with hypertension. Participants receive apolipoprotein L1 (APOL1) genetic testing, and the trial aims to determine the effect of returning APOL1 genetic risk information to patients and their primary care providers on systolic blood pressure (SBP). Participating from REACHnet are University Medical Center New Orleans and Baylor Scott & White Health. This project is part of the NIH-funded [IGNITE Pragmatic Trials Network](#).

Pragmatic Evaluation of Events and Benefits of Lipid-lowering in Older Adults

The purpose of [PREVENTABLE](#) is to learn if taking a statin could help older adults, age 75+, live well for longer by preventing dementia, disability, or heart disease. PREVENTABLE is enrolling 20,000 participants nationwide. Participating REACHnet partners are: Ochsner Health, DHR Health, Baylor Scott & White Health, and University Medical Center New Orleans.

Louisiana Experiment Assessing Diabetes – Zero Dollar Copayment (LEAD-ZDC)

LEAD-ZDC is a prospective observational study to assess the effectiveness of zero dollar copayment for select common diabetes medications on patients' medication adherence, blood glucose (A1c) control, diabetes complications, and healthcare utilization. Tulane University is leading the study in collaboration with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana and REACHnet partners in Louisiana.

Utilizing PCORnet to Support Transition from Pediatric to Adult-Centered Care in Patients with Congenital Heart Disease

The Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) study is led by the Louisiana Public Health Institute in partnership with Children's National Hospital and seeks to establish a congenital heart disease (CHD) surveillance program through PCORnet to understand the impact of gaps in recommended care in CHD patients and create a cohort of patients of various CHD disease subtypes for prospective studies. Participating REACHnet sites are Ochsner Health and University of California at San Francisco.

Multi-state EHR-based Network for Disease Surveillance (MENDS)

MENDS is a CDC-funded initiative that seeks to test an automated chronic disease surveillance system using data routinely stored in health records to provide clinically detailed, efficient, and timely information from large, diverse populations with minimal added work and cost for health departments or clinicians.

Find more information about REACHnet projects on our [website](#).