

Better Information for Enhanced Patient Care

DARTNet's Mission:

To transform multi-sourced data into standardized, actionable health information that supports patient care, quality improvement, patient safety and health improvement, and collaborative learning and research.

DARTNet's Vision:

A robust health information source that empowers health care professionals and researchers to transform what we know into what we do.

What is the DARTNet Institute?

The DARTNet Institute (DI) is a not-for-profit research institute that coordinates and supports research, quality improvement, and safety activities across partner research networks through the aggregation, analysis, and standardization of electronic health data. DI supports collaboration among practice-based research networks that are working to build a national collection of electronic health record (EHR) data, claims data, and patient reported outcomes data. DI seeks to blend quality improvement, effectiveness research, and translational research with a data driven-learning system.

DARTNet federated networks are able to securely link electronic health information across the boundaries of individual practices, hospitals, or health organizations while maintaining patient privacy.

DARTNet Supports Quality Improvement, Patient Safety, and Other Reporting Registries

The **DI Practice Performance Registry** compiles and processes EHR data to provide participating organizations and practices with graphical views of how they are performing on specific measures and how they compare to other organizations within the registry. The Practice Performance registry is endorsed by the American Academy of Family Physicians as a Quality Improvement Registry.

DI is recognized by The Agency for Healthcare Research (AHRQ) as a **Patient Safety Organization (PSO)**. PSOs were created as part of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005, which encourages clinicians and health care organizations to share quality and patient safety information to improve population health outcomes. Through this process, PSOs can help health care professionals learn from quality and safety events and prevent them from happening in the future. The **DARTNet Component PSO (DCPSO)** experts collect and aggregate clinical data to determine underlying causes of patient safety events. Data are presented in the **DI Patient Safety Registry (PSR)** and accessed through a secure web-based interface.

The DARTNet Registries are a growing catalyst for peer to peer interaction and represent over 30 clinical and surgical specialties. The generated benchmarking reports provide a space for data-driven discussion and learning. Both registries are recognized as Specialized Registries for CMS reporting in the Medicaid Meaningful Use Stage 2 and 3 and MIPS reporting.

DARTNet also supports upcoming MACRA / MIPS reporting with partner **Able Health**. The **Able Health MIPS Solution** tracks performance on any MIPS quality measure and supports Advancing Care Information and Improvement Activities reporting all in one place to ensure success in MIPS.

DARTNet Supports Clinical Decision Support and Population Management Tools

The **Point of Care Decision Support** tool empowers providers to transform a routine acute care appointment into an effective and efficient disease management and prevention visit. Data from the practice EHR are collected and compared against a knowledgebase of nationally recognized guidelines to produce



patient-specific recommendations at the time of the patient encounter – or the “point of care.”

DI has partnered with Apervita Inc to provide the **Apervita Platform** and **Apervita Marketplace** to DARTNet clients. The Platform allows practices to identify and create outreach lists of patients who are not meeting recommended chronic disease management and preventive care guidelines. The Apervita Marketplace allows practices to access a database of analytics created by leading health organizations and run those analytics against their patient populations.

DARTNet Supports Research

DARTNet is a collaboration of practice-based research networks that are able to share EHR data that can be used across multiple research designs. DARTNet also includes a broad set of EHR data from hundreds of clinical organizations that can be used for observational research once fully de-identified.

How does DARTNet get clinical data? DARTNet uses three models for data extraction:

- 1) Full health data XML / flat file
- 2) Limited data set extraction for a specific study
- 3) 3rd party vendor to handle the data extraction and standardization. DARTNet partner, **Park Street Solutions**, can provide ETL data extraction software to collect and analyze raw data files.

DARTNet partners with research networks and academic institutions across the country to conduct observational and interventional studies using available electronic data, clinical decision support systems, and feedback activities. Some recent research includes:

- assessment of type 2 diabetes risk and mitigation factors,
- effectiveness of integrating behavioral health clinicians into primary care practices,
- identifying best practices for dementia diagnosis among the elderly,
- studying asthma medication combinations with asthma education to reduce asthma exacerbations,
- identifying and managing Chronic Kidney Disease, and
- improving adult immunization rates.

Most projects result in a dataset that is available for additional research. These datasets are available as both de-identified dataset or for query. Contact DARTNet for purchase information.

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