

# DI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



## A Letter from the CEO

This is such an exciting time in the life of DARTNet Institute (DI) and we are extremely pleased to share some of the highlights with you, our clients. Since being appointed Chief Executive Officer in April, the organization has continued to experience exponential growth in both our registry services and clinical research activities. Even amid rapid growth, we remain mindful each and every day that the relationships with our clients are always at the heart of the important work that we do. This spring marked an important step forward for the organization as the DI Board of Directors unanimously approved several critical changes to DI's infrastructure and operations. In addition to my appointment, DI's founder, Dr. Wilson Pace, was appointed to the newly established role of Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Pace retired in June from the University of Colorado after 37 years as an esteemed faculty member and endowed chair in the school of family medicine, allowing him more time to focus on DARTNet activities. The board also created a new Patient Safety Committee, which will serve as a guide to our new Patient Safety Registry. You will learn more about the opportunity to join this registry in the pages to follow. The first few months of my tenure have been full of excitement and I am very optimistic for DI's future as a dynamic leader in our field. In the months ahead, you can anticipate hearing more about new offerings in population management, expanding metrics, and tools to support the evolving requirements of MACRA legislation. We thank you for your partnership and look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.

Kind Regards,

*Allyson Jasper, CEO*

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### DARTNet Noteworthy

Turner White, President of the DARTNet Institute Board of Directors, was awarded Faculty Member of the Year at Rockhurst University in April.

DARTNet Institute would like to welcome Mary Shirling to the Executive Leadership team as DARTNet's new Director of Finance.

For more News visit: <http://www.dartnet.info/News.htm>

The DARTNet Institute is a rapidly growing collaboration of practice-based research networks that are building a national collection of data from electronic health records, claims, and patient-reported outcomes. The networks blend quality improvement, effectiveness, and translational research with a data-driven learning system.

## DI Registry Updates

### DI Quality / Foundation

DARTNet is working on a rollout timeline for the Quality and Foundation Suite clients. The goal is to have client data in the Registry by end of Q3 2016. DARTNet will work with Network partners directly on more specific details.

### Cerner ASP Clients

Version 2 data query and files tested successfully in Q2. DARTNet is processing all data in batch groupings. As data becomes available in the Registry user interface, DARTNet will email super users with login credentials and a link to training videos and guides. All Cerner organizations that were registered by the end of Q2 2016 should have data to view in the registry user interface no later than the end of Q3.

### eCW Clients

The eCW data query was validated and finalized in late April. eCW is in the process of extracting and transferring historical data files for all clients registered with DARTNet. A roll out plan has been established based on the date that the client contract was signed. After the data transfer, it takes 6-8 weeks for the data to become available in the Registry user interface. All eCW clients should have data transferred to DARTNet by end of October 2016. Organizations who registered in 2014 and early 2015 will be able to view data in early Q3. All other organizations will be able to view data by end of Q4 2016. As data becomes available in the Registry user interface, DARTNet will email super users with login credentials and a link to training videos and guides.

### Individual Hosted Clients

DARTNet is working directly with several clients that represent approximately 15 other data sources. Please contact [DIRegistry@dartnet.info](mailto:DIRegistry@dartnet.info) if you fall into this category and have questions regarding your data or timeline.

**Questions? Contact us at:**  
[DIRegistry@dartnet.info](mailto:DIRegistry@dartnet.info)



## Practice Performance Registry- MU2 Update

**In the Final CMS Rule for Meaningful Use, Public Health and Clinical Data Registry Reporting have been consolidated into a single Objective 10.** All Eligible Professionals (EPs) who participate in the DI Practice Performance Registry and use a certified EHR technology to provide data meet the Clinical Data Registry Reporting measure of Objective 10. In addition, EPs can now meet two measures of Objective 10 by submitting data to both the DI Practice Performance Registry and the Patient Safety Registry.

## Component Patient Safety Organization Registry (DCPSO) Update

**DARTNet is excited to announce that a second DARTNet Clinical Data Registry is ready to accept data.** The DARTNet Component Patient Safety Organization is accepting data for the new **Patient Safety Registry**. These data will be used to improve population health outcomes and to increase patient safety. This registry meets the requirements of a Clinical Data Registry in the CMS Meaningful Use Objective 10: Public Health and Clinical Data Registry Reporting.

Please contact [DIRegistry@dartnet.info](mailto:DIRegistry@dartnet.info) for more information.

<http://www.dartnet.info/ComponentPSO.htm>

**Available metric list and Development timeline can be found at:**

[www.dartnet.info/PracticePerformanceRegistry](http://www.dartnet.info/PracticePerformanceRegistry)

### New specialty categories added in Q2:

- **Cardiology:** *Chronic Disease Mgmt and Screening (ASCVD, CAD, IVD, HTN)*
- **Endocrinology:** *Diabetes Management and Screening*

### Specialty categories in development Q3:

- **Podiatry:** *Diabetic Foot Care and Screenings*
- **OBGYN:** *Women's Health; Chronic Disease Mgmt and Preventive Screenings*
- **Pediatrics:** *Childhood Immunizations; Chronic Disease Mgmt and Preventive Screenings*

## Reminder For Registry Clients

Check the Registry Share-Point documents section regularly for updates to the user manuals or training videos.

New training videos scheduled to be available in August.

The University of Washington (UW) has partnered with DARTNet for almost ten years to help support 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. Laura-Mae Baldwin, Kari Stephens, and Gina Keppel are among many who have been instrumental in contributing to the research collaborations between DARTNet and UW. In addition, UW colleagues Christy Fong, Jessica Yeung, and Steve Senter are members of the DARTNet IT Team, through an agreement between DI and the UW Institute of Translational Health Sciences. The University of Washington is collaborating on numerous projects with DARTNet including:



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

- Data QUEST Data Warehouse
- Team-based Safe Opioid Prescribing project
- Acute Pain in Primary Care project
- Longitudinal Epidemiological Assessment of Diabetes Risk (LEADR) project
- Integrating Behavioral Health into Primary Care project.

The Data QUEST network provides researchers and clinicians with access to research data sets generated from electronic health records across small primary care practices in rural areas of Washington and Idaho. The University of Washington is delighted to partner with DARTNet to build a combined clinical data repository that can lead to regional and national health discoveries and innovative improvements in quality of care.

The UW team completed the interview below.



**Kari Stephens, PhD**  
(1, 3, 4, 5)



**Laura-Mae Baldwin, MD, MPH** (1, 2)



**Gina Keppel, MPH** (1, 2)

**Photo Key:**

1. UW—Institute of Translational Health Sciences
2. UW—Dept of Family Medicine
3. UW—Dept of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
4. UW—Dept of Biomedical Informatics and Medical Ed.
5. DARTNet—Board of Directors

**Describe your work with DARTNet (DI)**

*The University of Washington's Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS) has developed an electronic health data-sharing network for research called Data QUEST. Data QUEST includes 20 primary care clinics that are part of the WWAMI region Practice and Research Network (WPRN), a primary care practice-based research network in the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI) region of the United States. Data QUEST contains electronic health record data on over 225,000 patients seen in its rural-serving clinics*

*DARTNet provides and maintains the technical infrastructure enabling the extraction and standardization of electronic health record data across Data QUEST primary care clinics, and extracts data used for individual research studies and for efforts to support health improvements across our network. We also work with DARTNet on larger efforts to improve data quality within complex data sharing networks.*

**What has surprised you most about working with DI?**

*It's amazing how symbiotic and essential having strong partnerships between industry and academic institutions can be as we work to solve tough data sharing problems.*

**Why did UW choose DI as a network partner?**

*Our goals align with those of DARTNet – to use EHR data for research and practice improvement. We began this partnership looking for tools to help Data QUEST partner practices use their own EHR data most effectively, while also harnessing these data for research efforts. Being part of a national network grown out of a practice-based research perspective is a natural fit.*

**What might DARTNet be surprised to know about your team?**

*Our Coordinating Center consists of a trio of moms! Laura-Mae has two daughters – one a nurse, one an actor in NYC; Kari has two sons and a daughter with her oldest about to become a teenager, and Gina has a boy with a girl due to arrive in September.*

**As a researcher, what sorts of trends do you see in healthcare?**

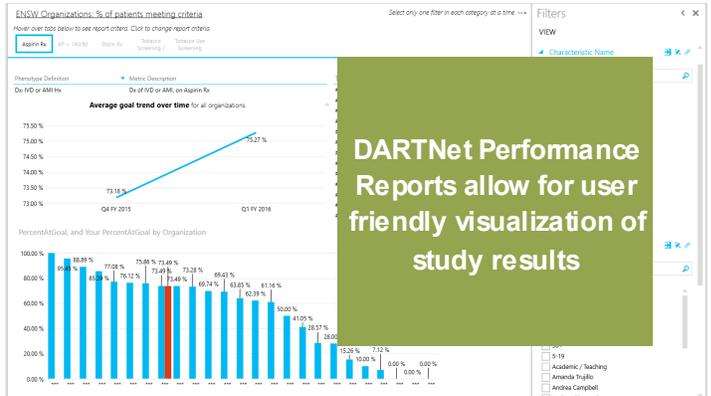
*We are engaged in trends to take human-centered, practice-centered, provider-centered, and patient-centered approaches to disseminating new and best practices in primary care. We see team-based care growing and technology being leveraged to make more innovations possible.*

# RESEARCH

## Longitudinal Epidemiologic Assessment of Diabetes Risk

This project will develop a registry of several million individuals at high risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes. The \$5 million contract funded by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and led by Westat Research Corporation will search for new risk factors and refine previously understood risk factors.

*Better Information for  
Enhanced Patient Care*



## The Colorado State Innovation Model (SIM)

Colorado SIM, a \$65 million grant, will recruit 400 primary care practices to participate in practice transformation efforts. Participating practices will be split into three cohorts. Each practice will work with a Practice Facilitator to design and implement a Practice Improvement Plan. The SIM practices will play an integral role in achieving Colorado SIM's goal of providing access to integrated physical and behavioral health care services in coordinated systems, with value-based payment structures, for 80 percent of Colorado residents by 2019. DARTNet manages data presentation and reporting.



## PREPARE

Person Empowered Asthma Relief (PREPARE) is a study to compare the effectiveness of the Patient Active Reliever Trigger Inhaled Corticosteroid Strategy (PARTICS) strategy, in addition to provider care education versus provider education alone, in reducing the asthma exacerbations among African-American and Hispanic/Latino adults. The PARTICS strategy consists of using an inhaled corticosteroid inhaler at the same time that participants use their beta-agonist rescue inhaler.

This \$14 million dollar grant is funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and lead by principal investigator, Elliot Israel, MD from the Brigham and Women's Hospital/ Harvard University. DARTNet manages the patient data collection, including consenting, randomization, and follow-up surveys. Dr. Pace, of DARTNet, leads the overall support system for 14 clinical sites that will be directly recruiting patients.



## DARTNet & UCD Evaluation Hub

DARTNet has partnered with the Evaluation Hub from the University of Colorado-Denver, with a goal of improving the Practice Performance and Patient Safety Registries' user experiences to ensure that DARTNet registries provide the most value to partners and practice end users. DARTNet welcomes Whitney Jones and Doug Fernald from the Evaluation Hub. Whitney Jones, PhD, MSPCA, is a behavioral scientist trained in mixed methods research and evaluation. Doug Fernald, BA, MA incorporates his anthropology training to a variety of research and evaluation projects to assist in improving the many health issues that face America.



Whitney Jones, PhD, MSPCA



Doug Fernald, BA, MA

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[www.dartnet.info](http://www.dartnet.info)

## Employee Spotlight



This quarter's employee spotlight features Michael Holmes, one of our Development Operations Specialists. Michael started working for DARTNet in March 2016 and has made a big impact on our company in the few months he has been employed. We interviewed Michael to give readers a chance to get to know our new IT Professional!

### What do you like most about DARTNet?

I get to expand my knowledge on newer systems where my opinions not only matter, but are sought and utilized.

### Prior to DARTNet, what was the most unusual or interesting job that you ever had?

Marine Corps. Having to establish a local area internet with email/web/share folders in the middle of an undisclosed desert location across a satellite network while wearing a flak jacket and Kevlar helmet is highly unusual.

### What have you always wanted to try?

Skydiving, but I will.

### What are a few things most people don't know about you?

(1) I am a classically trained opera singer. (2) I am one of 4 siblings. (3) I am about to buy my first house.

### What are your hobbies / interests?

I go to the gym, and play semi-competitive volleyball and pool.

## Reminder for Quality / Foundation Suite Clients: EHR UPGRADING SOON?

Let DARTNet know when you are expecting a version update to your EHR. These updates can effect the DARTNet data connectors, data imports, data element mapping and access to EHR Interface.

Contact Caitlin Watkins with questions.

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