

COMMUNITY NEWS

VOL. 3, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 30, 2016

WVPBRN represented at the Annual ATRN Health Summit

The Appalachian Translational Research Network held its 5th Annual Health Summit November 17-18 in Cincinnati, Ohio. This year's event was hosted by the Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training at the University of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Sessions included Bioinformatics and Community Engagement Best Practices, Lifestyle, Chronic Disease, and Prevention Research, as well as research poster presentations.

Several WVCTSI and WVPBRN members presented at the event. Judith Feinberg, MD, from the West Virginia University Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry, presented the keynote address, *Drug Use and Intervention in Appalachia*. Arnold Hassen, PhD, director of the Center for Rural and Community Health at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and co-director of the WVPBRN, provided great information regarding Greenbrier County's experiences and utilization of big data in small populations.



Jay Mason and Stacey Whanger, MPH, presented best practices of policy and practice change impact in clinical and community settings. They gave an overview of the Community Engagement and Outreach program within WVCTSI, how policy and practice changes can be beneficial and drive research agendas for practices and communities, and described examples of how we have shown impact through these changes.

Other members highlighted project findings through poster presentation. Charleston Area Medical Center had five posters represented during the session, as well as the CAIPEC project, a collaborative project between the University of Kentucky and the WVPBRN.

The Summit also included an ATRN Leaders Meeting. Mary Emmett, PhD, and Jay Mason, represented the WVCTSI.

SPOTLIGHT: Low back pain project takes off in the WVPBRN

The WVPBRN is participating in a network project assessing how common low back pain is in West Virginia, how low back pain is currently being treated, and identifying the potential benefits of and barriers to using a research-supported low back pain screening tool and associated recommended treatments at primary care sites.

Brianna Sheppard-Willis, PhD, program coordinator of the WVU Institute for Community and Rural Health, is leading the project with assistance from Treah Haggerty, MD, MS, assistant professor in the WVU School of Medicine Department of Family Medicine, and Bobbi Sykes, BSMT (ASCP), MS, Director of the Practice-based Learning at the WVU School of Public Health. Dr. Sheppard-Willis submitted this protocol in the spring and was approved by the WVPBRN Protocol Review Committee.



The goal for this project is to collect baseline de-identified data on prevalence and types of current treatment in West Virginia primary care. Regional provider focus group discussions will be held to determine current needs and resources as it relates to low back pain management. This information will be used to address low back pain in West Virginia and partner with the WVPBRN along the way to determine improved access and care quality.

For more information on participation, please contact Dr. Sheppard-Willis (absheppard@hsc.wvu.edu) or Stacey Whanger, MPH, (swhanger@hsc.wvu.edu) by December 7, 2016. Individuals can participate in baseline de-identified data, focus group discussion, or both. The focus group discussion is open to any primary care provider from your clinic, and multiple providers can participate from one site. Date and location of the focus groups will be determined once participant interest is collected.

Suicide Screening and Risk Assessment in Primary Care Training

The WVPBRN recently sponsored a free training webinar given by Mary LeCloux, PhD, LICSW, focusing on screening, assessment, and intervention with suicidal patients in primary care. This webinar covered risk factors and epidemiology of suicide in West Virginia, how to screen for suicide risk, how to complete a brief but thorough risk assessment, and how to provide short-term safety planning and follow-up care for suicidal patients. Dr. LeCloux provided hands-on experience to attendees by describing case scenarios and discussing the best ways to care for at-risk patient.

Several WVPBRN medical providers, nursing staff, and behavioral health clinicians who work in primary care attended the training.

The webinar and PowerPoint presentation were recorded. Please email Dr. LeCloux at (mary.lecloux@mail.wvu.edu) or Stacey Whanger (swhanger@hsc.wvu.edu) if you are interested in obtaining a copy of the recording.

**West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network
Community Engagement and Outreach Core**
West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute
WVU Health Sciences Center
PO Box 9102
Morgantown, WV 26506-9102
304-581-1885
[WVCTSI Website](#)
[WVPBRN Website](#)



Visit us: [WVCTSI Facebook Page](#)
[WVCTSI Twitter Page](#)

Have any thoughts/comments/ideas? Contact:

Stacey Whanger, Network Coordinator, swhanger@hsc.wvu.edu

Adam Baus, Associate Director, abaus@hsc.wvu.edu

Jay Mason, Program Coordinator, jdmason@hsc.wvu.edu