

The SOARNet Sentinel



Underinsurance Study Advances

Fall 2009
Volume 5, Issue 2

Contents

Underinsurance Study	1
PRIMENet Meeting	1
2010 Events	1
Asthma Action Plans	2
PRIMENet Study	2
Social Capital Study	3
Practice Spotlight	3
Mission Statement	4
Our Members	4

SOARNet recently completed data collection for a study that documents the frequency of parents' inability to follow the recommendations of their children's clinicians due to inadequate health insurance and parents' inability to pay for the services/recommendations. The survey asked if parents did not see a specialist, did not complete a lab test, or did not fill a prescription in the 12 months prior to the survey. Almost 2000 parents completed surveys in offices throughout SOARNet.

About one in six parents reported that it has become more difficult to obtain necessary health care for their children over the past three years. The lowest and highest income subgroups of parents were less likely to report increasing difficulty presumably because the lowest subgroup has public insurance and the highest has better private insurance compared to the middle income subgroups (between \$15,000 and \$75,000 annual income). Children's underinsurance and subsequent failure to comply with clinicians' recommendations has become a major public health issue early in the 21st century.

Data from individual practices that compares them to the greater Dayton community will be shared with practitioners soon.

PRIMENet Meeting in Albuquerque



Domenici Center at The University of New Mexico

Members of PRIMENet (Primary Care Multi-Ethnic Network) met at the University of New Mexico in October 2009. Members met to discuss implementation of a grant to be started across many of the networks soon (see page 2, PRIMENet Study) and to review a number of potential projects to be implemented by PRIMENet.

Networks from around the country discussed a variety of potential collaborative projects. The underinsurance study that was completed in SOARNet (modeled after a similar study performed in a family practice network in Colorado - SNOCAP) may be one of the projects completed throughout the network. Other potential topics included acanthosis nigricans and diabetes, health literacy, mental/behavioral health care, patient centered medical home, colorectal cancer screening, testing "teach back", and family histories.

2009 - 2010 Events

- ◆ February 3, 2010 - Ohio AAP Open Forum, Dayton, Ohio - Topic - Foster Care
- ◆ May 1-4, 2010 - Pediatric Academic Society Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia
- ◆ June 16-18, 2010 - AHRQ'S 2010 National PBRN Research Conference, Bethesda, Maryland



Asthma Action Plan Study Begins

The asthma action plan study began data collection this summer. The objective of this study is to assess the ability of parents to correctly utilize a written asthma management plan to correctly respond to asthma scenarios. Once a caregiver's response is analyzed, it is compared to literacy data (obtained with a brief tool administered in the office) to determine what factors are associated with the ability to correctly utilize plans.

Data collection has been completed at four of the participating sites and will begin at the fifth site in December 2009. Preliminary data analyses have shown a direct association between health literacy and the correct use of asthma action plans.

Dr. Shalini Forbis will be submitting two abstracts with data from this study to the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in May 2010. Please feel free to contact Dr. Forbis with questions (Shalini.forbis@wright.edu).

If you would like to participate in this study please contact Caroline McNicholas at 937-641-4225.

PRIMENet Study Begins

Drs. Bill Spears and Jack Pascoe are co-investigators in a national study funded by the National Institutes of Health that addresses critical issues and best practices for studying families from various minority groups. Primary care practice-based research networks from around the country will participate. The Principal Investigator is Victoria Neale, PhD from Wayne State University. Other sites involved in the project are SOARNet (Wright State University), SpurNet (Baylor University), RIOSNet (The University of New Mexico), and CRN (The University of California/San Francisco). The study will consist of "key informant" interviews of experienced investigators as well as focus groups of minority parents to identify "best practices" for research within specific minority populations.



Dr. Eberhart joined members of PRIMENet in Albuquerque in October 2009



Social Capital Abstract Accepted for Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Meeting

Soarnet's Social Capital Study abstract was recently accepted for platform presentation at the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Meeting in San Diego (Nov. 2009). The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars program fosters the development of physicians who will lead the transformation of Americans' health care. These future leaders will conduct innovative research and work with communities, organizations, practitioners and policy-makers to address issues essential to the health and well being of all Americans.

SOAR-Net clinicians have recruited over 750 parents to participate in the Social Capital Study, funded by a grant from The Children's Medical Center of Dayton Research Foundation. This study has been a cooperative effort with clinicians, office staff and research assistants working together to advance this field of research.

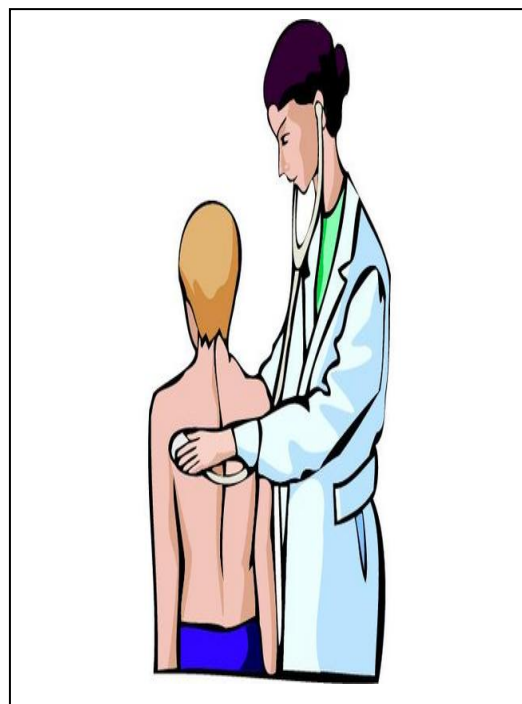
Practice Spotlight

Northwest Dayton Pediatrics

SOARNet is excited to welcome Northwest Dayton Pediatrics to our network. The physicians at Northwest Dayton Pediatrics have been serving the Englewood and Brookville communities for years. Their physicians, R. Paul Deenadayalu, MD, FAAP, Irene L. Marsidi, MD, FAAP, Claire McDowell, MD, Gerald A. Molfenter, MD, FAAP, and Donald A. Pelsor, MD, FAAP met with us and were enthusiastic to participate in our network. They started the underinsurance study just a few weeks after becoming a member of SOARNet.

The physicians at Northwest Dayton Pediatrics have a philosophy to take care of their patients whenever possible. They are the only practice in the area that is routinely open 7 days each week for walk-in hours to benefit those patients already established with their practice who are ill. Patients rarely have to use the emergency room or urgent care centers because of their extensive office hours.

Their main office is in Englewood. They have a satellite office in Brookville.



Our Vision

Members of the Southwestern Ohio Ambulatory Research Network (SOAR-Net) are committed to improving the health and welfare of all children and adolescents.

Our Mission

Members of SOAR-Net collaborate within our unique collection of primary care practices (urban, suburban, rural, and military). We share new knowledge from our studies among network members and others. We aim to make important contributions that enable primary care clinicians to provide high quality, culturally competent care to their young patients.

Our Members

The participating practices of SOARNet have one thing in common; they are diverse.

Children's Health Clinic

Community Child Health Centers

Cornerstone Pediatrics

Indian Ripple Family Health Center

Ollie Davis Family Health Center

Ohio Pediatrics, Inc.

Northwest Dayton Pediatrics *

SOAR-Net Sentinel Editor: Greg Eberhart M.D.

Pediatric Associates of Dayton *

PriMed Physicians of Dayton

Rocking Horse Center

South Dayton Pediatrics

University Medicine-Pediatrics

WPAFB Pediatric Clinic

* - New Members!

We're on the Web!

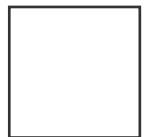
www.med.wright.edu/soarnet

Contact us for more information:

Caroline.mcnicholas@wright.edu

(937) 641-3277 or (937) 641-4225

Southwest Ohio Ambulatory Research Network
c/o John Pascoe, M.D., M.P.H.
WSU Dept. of Pediatrics
One Children's Plaza
Dayton, OH 45404



NAME/ADDRESS