



“Road Testing” Electronic Medical Records for Effectiveness Research

June 4, 2008

8:30 AM- 2:30 PM

Washington Marriott

1221 22nd Street NW

Washington, DC 20037

8:30 Introduction and Overview

Presenter: Darren Zinner, PhD, Brandeis University

8:45 Current and Future Potential of EMRs for Generating Information on Effectiveness

This session will review the current capabilities of existing EMR systems and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of conducting such analyses.

Presenter: Paul Tang, MD, Palo Alto Medical Foundation

9:45-11:30 Using EMRs to Determine Therapeutic Effectiveness – Lessons from the Field

Case studies will examine how leading provider systems are using data from EMRs to generate new knowledge, examining both the technical and procedural difficulties in performing such analyses.

Case Study 1: Veterans Health Administration, Seth Eisen, MD

10:30-10:45 Break

Case Study 2: Geisinger Health System, Walter “Buzz” Stewart, PhD

11:30 Promise and Pitfalls of Outcomes Research using EMR Databases

This session will review the methodological challenges in utilizing observational data from EMRs. Through research that compares published RCT results to those generated from EMR databases, it will compare how well existing and new methods can control for unmeasured confounding.

Presenter: Richard Tannen MD, University of Pennsylvania

12:15 Lunch

1:00 Using EMRs in Decision-Making – focusing on the “When” and “How”

This session will discuss the policy implications of using EMRs for effectiveness research. When and under what conditions can EMR data be used to develop credible evidence for decision-makers?

Moderator: Stuart Altman, Brandeis University

Panel: Jean Slutsky, AHRQ

Philip Burstein, GlaxoSmithKline

Steve Pearson, ICER