

PCORI Update and Priorities



Claudia Grossmann, PhD
Associate Director
Research Infrastructure & Innovation



Get To Know PCORI®

PCORI

- Nonprofit that funds patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research (CER)
- Widely acknowledged as a leader in driving U.S. clinical research to become more patient-centered
- Provides funding for CER, engagement in research, dissemination and implementation and research infrastructure projects



Our Mission



Our Mission

Help people make better-informed healthcare decisions, and improve healthcare delivery and outcomes, by producing and promoting high-integrity, evidence-based information that comes from research guided by patients, caregivers, and the broader healthcare community

- National-scale resource to conduct patient-centered CER
- Research ecosystem also well suited to conduct:
 - Real-world evidence studies
 - Pragmatic clinical trials
 - Population health research
 - Health systems research
 - Studies on how best to engage patients in research



What are PCORI's priorities for PCORnet®?

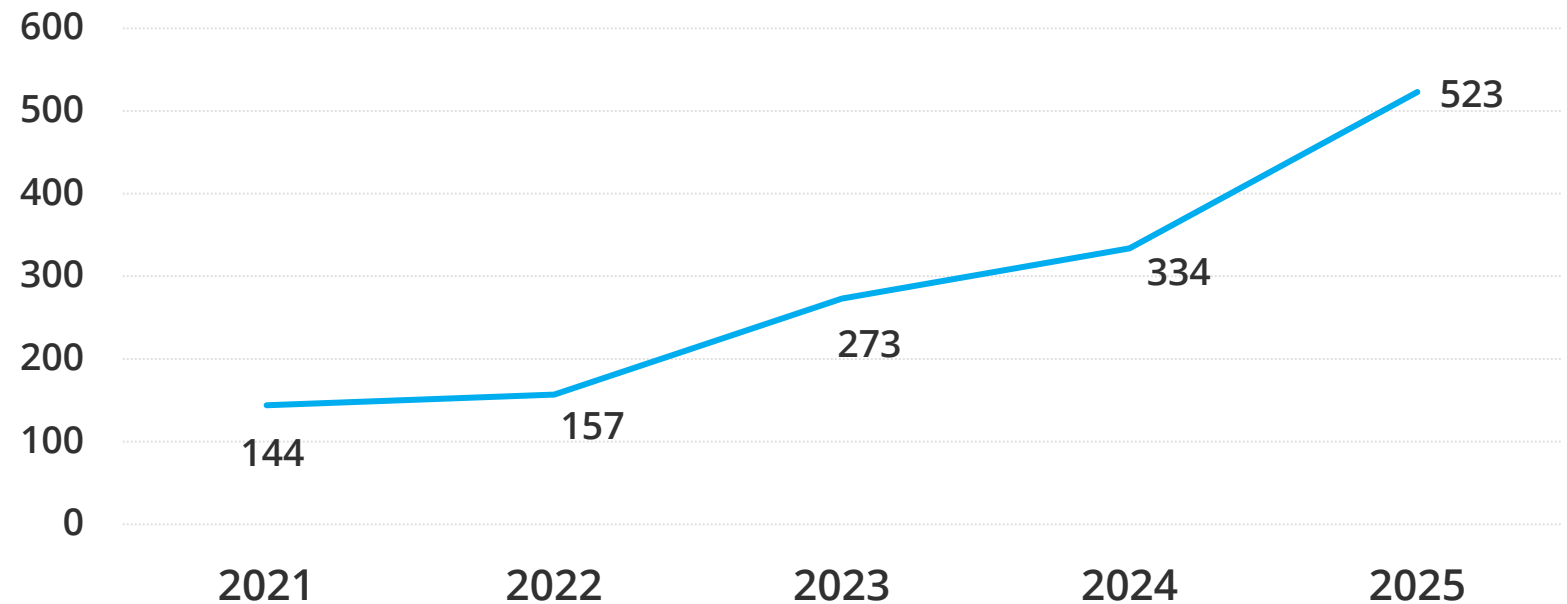
- Increase awareness and use of PCORnet
- Develop new partnerships to use PCORnet for range of research types
- Enhance the infrastructure by incorporating new data types (e.g., social drivers of health, patient reported outcomes) in the PCORnet® Common Data Model
- Increase representation of different populations and care settings across PCORnet
- Use PCORnet to inform PCORI's research agenda and funding opportunities



Increasing Awareness and Interest in PCORnet® Among the Research Community

- **Front Door requests** continue to steadily increase.
- **The PCORnet® newsletter** has had steady growth since its inception.
- **The PCORnet® Playbook** has been viewed 3,617 times within its first six months.

PCORnet® Front Door Requests



Requests are attributed to the year they are received.

*Data through Dec 31, 2025

Getting Started With PCORnet®

Other Resources

Other resources to explore:

PCORnet® Playbook

- Modules offering information on how to use PCORnet and what to expect when collaborating with the Network

PCORnet® Population Insights

- Data visualizations and reports offering cohort descriptions of populations available through PCORnet

PCORnet® Clinical Research Network Site Profiles

- Linked snapshots of PCORnet site capabilities

PCORnet® Playbook

1	2	3	4
Introduction to PCORnet	Getting Started with PCORnet	Using PCORnet to Power Your Research	Sharing Your Research Results
• Introduction • What Kind of Research Can the PCORnet Infrastructure Support? • Frequently Asked Questions	• Knocking on the PCORnet® Front Door • What is a PCORnet® Study?	• What to Expect • Administrative Simplicity • Pricing Guidance	• Dissemination for PCORnet® Studies • Strategies and Methods • Resources

PCORnet® Population Insights

Each year, PCORnet connects researchers with health data from everyday healthcare encounters with nearly 47 million people nationwide through eight PCORnet® Clinical Research Networks (CRNs) and over 70 partner organizations participating in PCORnet.

Access to broad data through PCORnet helps researchers design and implement large-scale, innovative, patient-centered health research.

PCORnet® Clinical Research Network Site Profiles



Collaborators with the expertise and patient populations to meet your needs

The PCORnet infrastructure offers access to real-world data through partnerships with PCORnet® Clinical Research Networks (CRNs). PCORnet® CRNs are groups of healthcare institutions across the U.S., from large academic health centers to local community clinics, united by a commitment to speed patient-centered research via PCORnet.

Each PCORnet® CRN is listed below with links to their partner sites' profiles. These profiles can help inform collaboration and research studies from the proposal to implementation phase by providing a snapshot of available populations and site capabilities.

Research Powered by PCORnet®



\$1B+

Research
Funding



325

Funded Studies



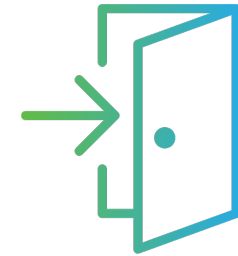
62

PCORnet® Studies



1075

Publications about
Research Powered
by PCORnet®



1805

PCORnet® Front
Door Requests

Numbers reflect 2015- Feb 2026, except
for PCORnet® Front Door requests which
are from November 2018 - February
2026.

What is a PCORnet® Study?

PCORnet® Studies represent a deep level of partnership to advance patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research and other national-scale research.

PCORnet® Studies are committed to:

1. Collaborating with two or more PCORnet® Clinical Research Networks (CRNs)
2. Ensuring participants and patients are engaged throughout the project lifecycle
3. Broadly disseminating findings and returning study results to participants
4. Sharing study progress, performance metrics, and best practices with the network regularly
5. Leveraging the PCORnet® Common Data Model as appropriate



62

PCORnet® Studies



\$703M

PCORnet® Study
Funding



196+

PCORnet® Study
Publications

Four Broad Pragmatic Studies Category 3 Studies



Research

Awarded; Contract pending

A Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing Renal Effects of Vancomycin Combined With Either Piperacillin/Tazobactam or Meropenem



 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Get Care ▾

Patients & Families ▾

Healthcare Professionals ▾

Locations

Specialties

Search 

Philadelphia Awarded Prestigious Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Funding Award To Study Kidney Stone Surgical Intervention



NEWS BRIEF

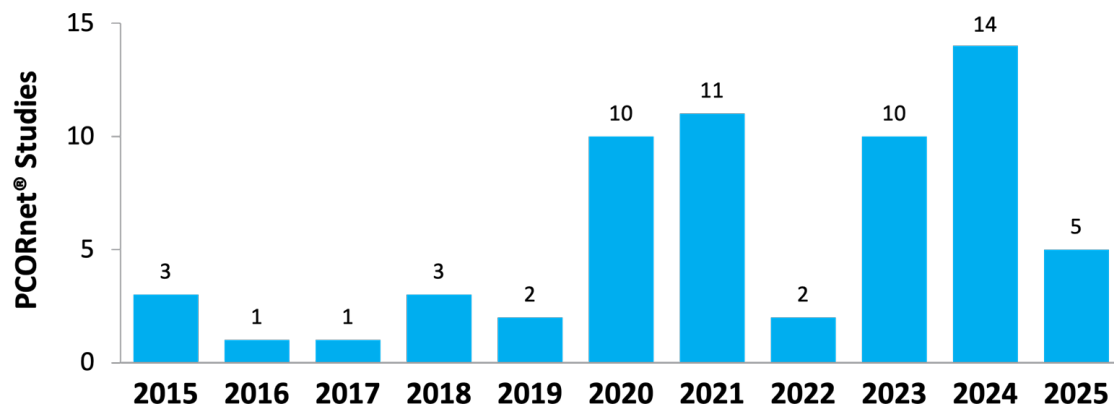
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Awarded Prestigious Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Funding Award to Study Kidney Stone Surgical Intervention

December 16, 2025

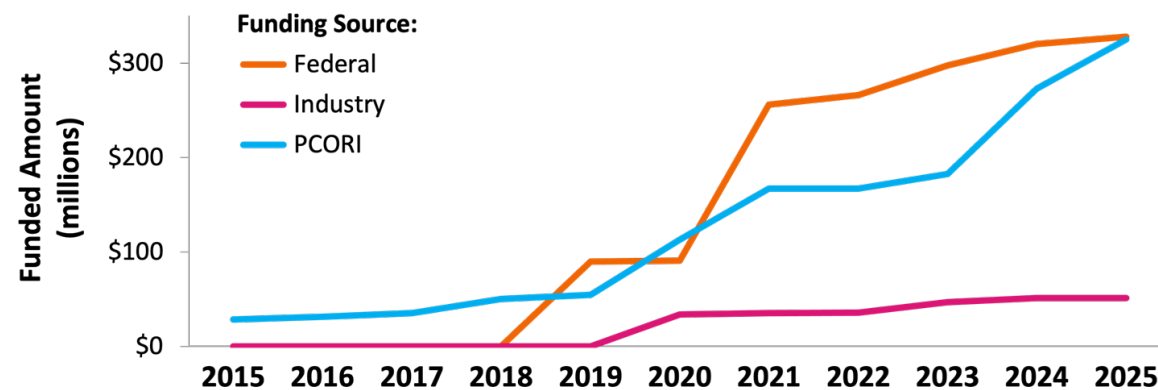
By Any Measure, There Has Been Great Success in Getting PCORnet® Studies Funded



Number of PCORnet® Studies



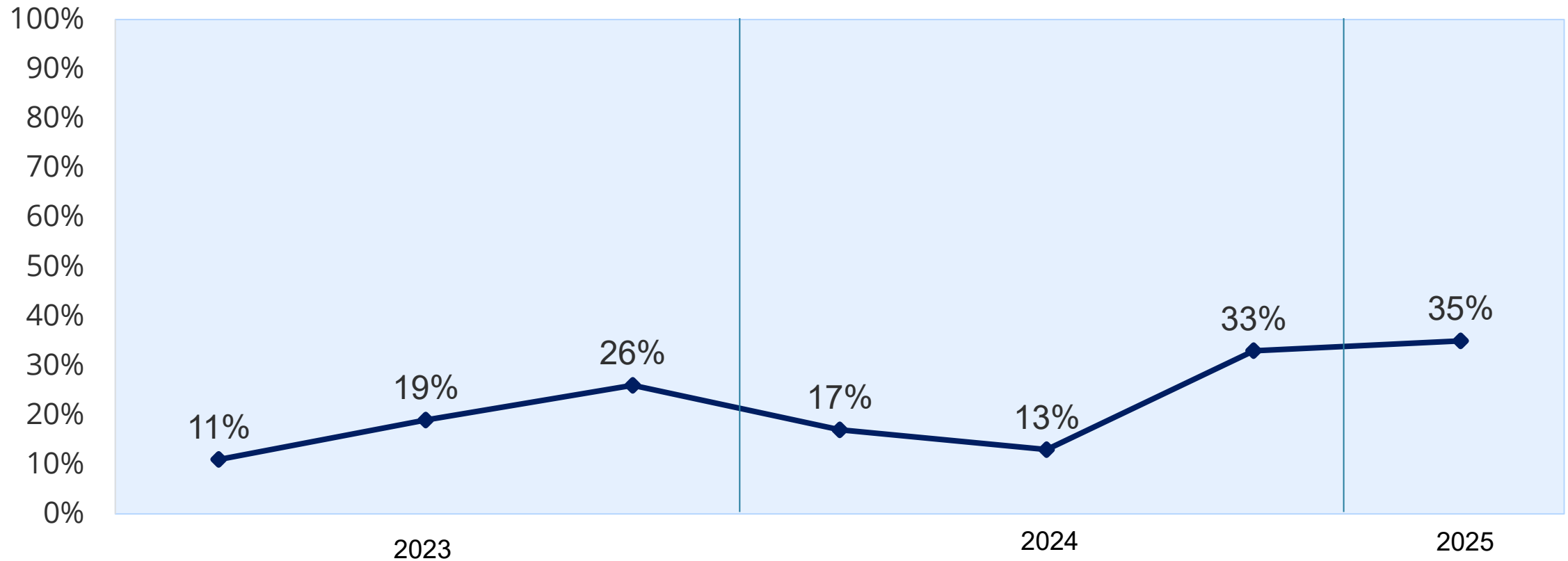
Cumulative Funding 2015-Feb 2026



More PCORI-Funded Studies Are Using PCORnet[®]



PCORI-Funded Research Awards



*Awards are attributed to the year in which it was submitted

Unique Features of PCORnet® That Investigators Can Use To Optimize Patient-Centered Research



**Prep-to-
Research**



**Tools for Study
Startup**



**Sites for
Recruitment**



**PCORnet®
Common Data
Model**

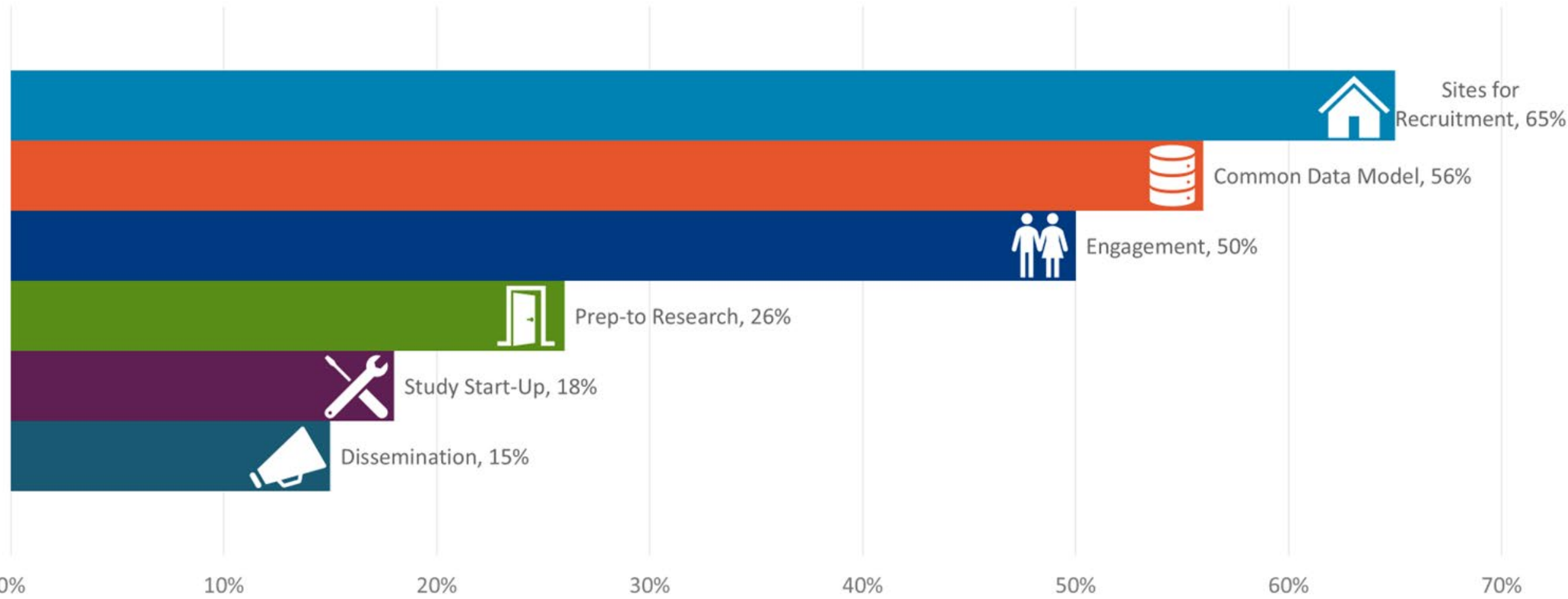


**Engagement
Tools**



**Dissemination
Tools**

Features of PCORnet® Used in PCORI-Funded CER Awards Cycle 1 2020 – Cycle 1 2025



Represents the percentage of 34 studies funded starting in Cycle 1 2020.

Funding Success Brings Increased Visibility Excellent Execution and Efficiency is Expected



PCORI Funding Opportunities

What is Patient-Centered CER?

Comparative Clinical Effectiveness Research (CER) compares benefits and harms of two or more medical treatments, clinical or care delivery strategies or other approaches to health care that are currently in use in clinical practice.

- Focuses on outcomes that are important to patients and other stakeholders
- Seeks to help patients and other stakeholders make better-informed decisions
- To see a comprehensive list of research that PCORI does NOT fund, please visit: [Research We Fund FAQs | PCORI](#)

Research Funding Opportunities



Phased Large Awards for Comparative Effectiveness Research

Large, meritorious and innovative studies with some risks

Up to \$22M
(for feasibility and full-scale study phases)

Broad Pragmatic Studies

Studies aligned with at least one of PCORI's three funding categories, including PCORnet® studies

1. Up to \$5M
2. \$5 to 12M
3. Up to \$12M

Topic-Focused

Stakeholder-driven topics, issues and questions of national significance

Variable

Science of Engagement

Development and validation of measures; development and testing of engagement techniques

1. Up to \$1M
2. Up to \$1.5M

Methods

Improve use of AI and ML, improve study design, support data research networks, ethical and human subject protections in CER

Up to \$750K

2026 Funding Cycle LOI Deadlines

Cycle 1: Jan. 6 | Cycle 2: Apr. 28 | Cycle 3: Sept. 8

*All funds and timeline noted above are subject to change

BPS Category 3 for PCORnet® Studies



- Category 3 is an option in the Broad Pragmatic Studies (BPS) PCORI Funding Announcement (PFA) to support PCORnet® Studies that advance PCORI's National Priorities
- Total direct costs $\leq$ \$12 million, up to 5 years
- Studies must:
 - Address PCORI's National Priorities for Health
 - Include 2 or more Clinical Research Networks (CRNs)
 - Share study progress, performance metrics (e.g., Days to IRB, Number of days to first patient enrolled) monthly
 - Share best practices at least annually with the Network (e.g., PCORnet® Steering Committee), as outlined in additional PCORnet® Study milestones
 - Use PCORnet resources to improve the efficiency of the patient-centered research conducted (e.g., PCORnet® Common Data Model, single IRB, engagement resources)

Structured Mentorship Opportunity in PCORI's Broad Pragmatic Studies Funding Announcement



- Structured Mentorship is an optional opportunity in the Broad Pragmatic Studies PFA that supports mentorship for early- and mid-career investigators, investigators transitioning to patient-centered CER, and patient and community partner mentees
- Allows up to 25% effort for mentees, 5% effort for mentors
 - Not a supplement: total budget must not exceed 10% of direct cost of award
 - Allows for up to two mentees per award
- Designed to be an in-service learning opportunity; mentees must have a planned role on the CER project that contributes to the scientific aims of the study
- Primary mentors must be a PI or Co-I. Additional mentorship from other study team members may be covered with justification
- Structured Mentorship must be included at the time of application
- For more details, visit PCORI's website: pcori.org/funding-opportunities

Program Goal

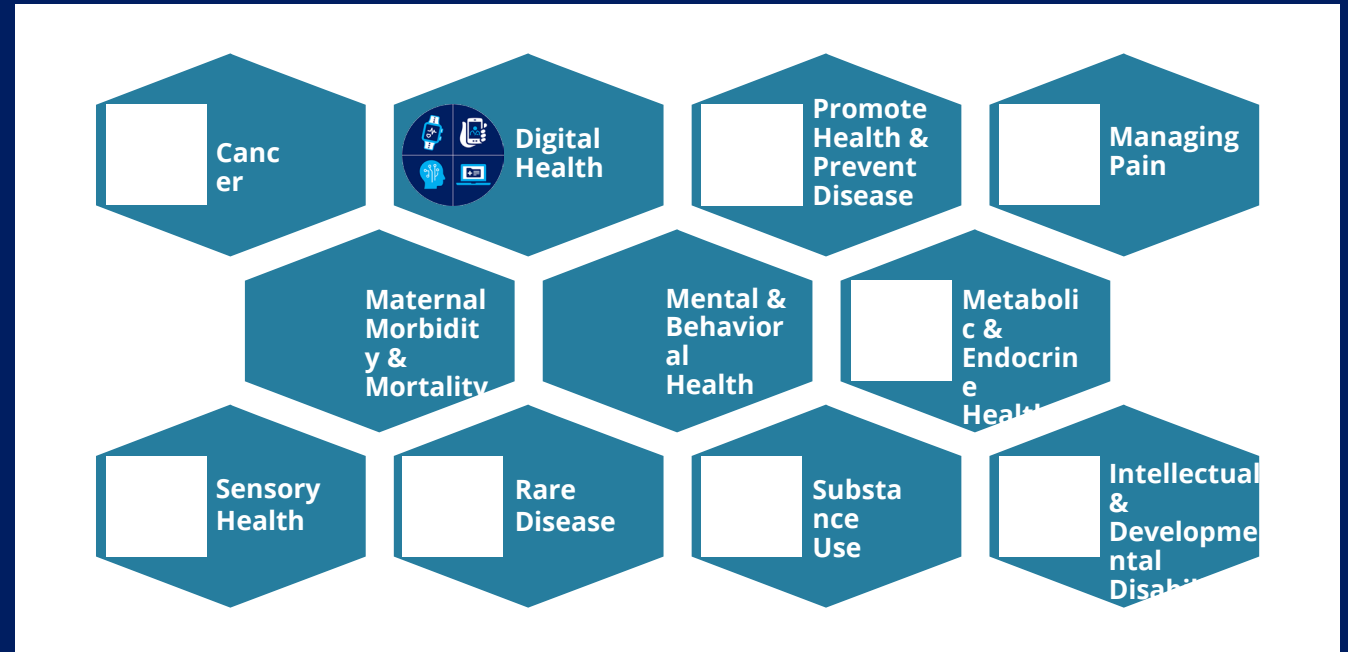
To expand the pathway of individuals who are prepared to serve meaningful roles on patient-centered CER projects and apply for PCORI funding

The Research Project Agenda Guides the Development of Focused Funding Opportunities

Topic Themes

- Inform funding opportunities
- Address widespread health conditions and challenges
- Highlight evidence gaps to improve health outcomes and patient care

PCORI'S RESEARCH PROJECT AGENDA TOPIC THEMES



Upcoming Funding Announcements Cycle 3 2026



- **Addressing Health Outcomes for Individuals With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) and/or Rare Diseases (RD)**
 - Better Health Outcomes by Improving Access to Patient-Centered Care
 - Health System Approaches to Improving Care Transitions
 - Pharmacologic and Nonpharmacologic Approaches to Improving Physical and Mental Health
 - Addressing the Health and Well-Being of Caregivers for Individuals With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Rare Diseases
- **Substance Use**
 - Evidence-Based Strategies To Advance Prevention and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders
 - Evidence-Based Interventions for Overdose Prevention
 - Strategies To Reduce Nicotine and Tobacco Use
 - Treatment Strategies Addressing the Intersection of Poor Sleep and Substance Misuse/Substance Use Disorder

Key Dates

- **PFA Opens**
Aug. 4, 2026
- **Applicant Town Hall**
[Aug. 12, 2026; noon \(ET\)](#)
- **Letter of Intent (LOI) Deadline**
Sept. 8, 2026; 5 pm (ET)
- **LOI Status Notification**
Oct. 13, 2026
- **Application Deadline**
Jan. 12, 2027; 5 pm (ET)



Representative
Involvement



Early & Ongoing
Engagement



Dedicated Funds for
Engagement &
Partner Compensation



Build Capacity To
Work as a Team



Meaningful Inclusion of
Partners in
Decision Making



Ongoing Review &
Assessment of
Engagement

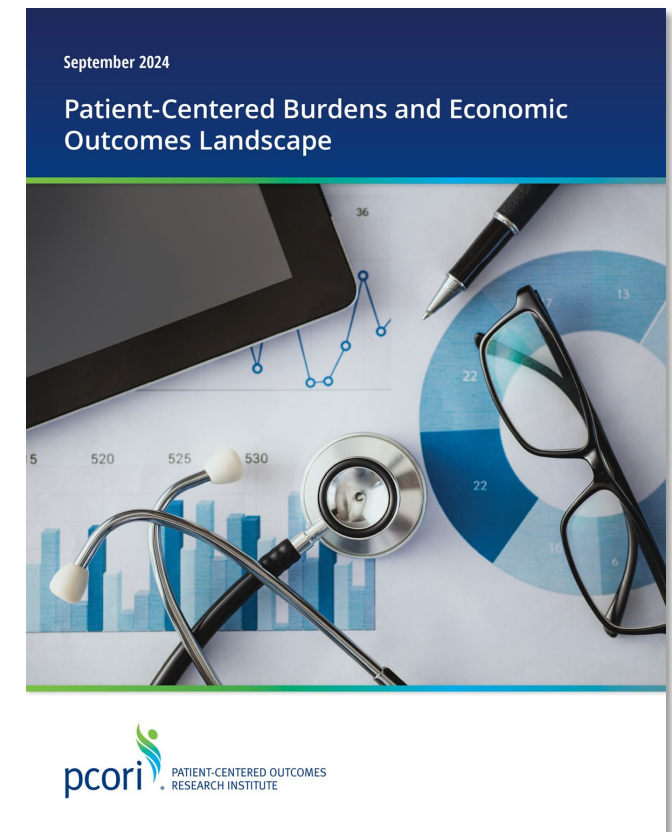
[Online Guidance](#)

[PDF](#)

[FAQs](#)

Patient-Centered Burdens and Economic Outcomes (PCBEOs)

- PCORI encourages its funded researchers to capture the full range of outcomes in CER, including PCBEOs
- Include often-overlooked financial impacts that can create barriers to care
 - Examples: Lost wages, transportation expenses, childcare costs
- Available Resources:
 - PCBEO Landscape report with practical examples
 - Technical support documents providing research guidance



Questions



Engagement Funding Opportunities



Capacity Building	Convening Support
Support projects that help communities increase their ability to participate across all phases of CER	Convene communities of interest to explore critical issues related to CER and/or communicate PCORI-funded research findings to targeted communities
\$300K	\$125K
Up to 2 Years	Up to 1 Year
2026 Funding Cycle LOI Deadlines Spring: Mar. 30 Autumn: TBD	

*Funding opportunities, funds and timeline noted above are subject to change

Dissemination and Implementation of PCORI-Funded Research Findings



Engagement Dissemination <i>(open competition)</i>	Dissemination Projects <i>(limited competition)</i>	Implementation Planning <i>(limited competition)</i>	Implementation Projects <i>(limited competition)</i>	Implementation Projects <i>(open competition)</i>
Support projects that help organizations and communities actively deliver PCORI-funded research findings	Support projects that facilitate active communication of PCORI-funded research findings	Support the planning of projects that facilitate the uptake of evidence from PCORI-funded studies into practice	Support projects that facilitate the uptake of evidence from PCORI-funded studies into practice	Support projects that facilitate the uptake of evidence from PCORI-funded studies into practice
Up to \$300K	Up to \$300K	Up to \$200K	Up to \$2.5M	Up to \$2.5M
Open Dates: Jan. 21 and TBD	Open Dates: Dec. 2	Open Dates: Dec. 2	Open Dates: Dec. 2	Open Dates: TBD

*All funds and timeline noted above are subject to change