

PARTNER UPDATE

Spring 2007

Kirkwood Seeks Extension on AHRQ Grant

Kirkwood Community College (KCC) requested a one-year No-Cost Extension (NCE) to spend the remaining funds from the AHRQ/PIPS project. The grant currently ends June 30, 2007 but it is estimated that there will be \$146,026 of total funds not spent by the grant and its partners. This total reflects the estimated balances in various line items for the grant project and its partners.

If AHRQ allows the project to retain the remaining funds, it will create an opportunity for the Cedar Rapids Healthcare Alliance (CRHA) to explore the sustainability of the CAT Clinic. The entire balance of the funds will be used to support the overall operation of the CRHA, and will, in turn, provide support to the CAT Clinic, ensuring the project will be able to continue successfully over the next 12 month period.

AHRQ will notify KCC within the next six to eight weeks if they will approve the NCE.

PIPS Grant Period Ends

The grant period will end June 30, 2007 and the CAT Clinic will continue to be in operation. Carla Huber, ARNP, CAT Clinic Coordinator and Kimberly Rehn, CAT Clinic Assistant will continue to work with patients in the same office at Physicians' Clinic of Iowa and their phone number and e-mail addresses will stay the same.

Effective July 1, 2007 Huber and Rehn will be employed by the CRHA and not PCI. Their relationship with PCI had to cease because the grant period ends June 30, 2007. The CRHA Board of Directors approved this change and is in the process of finalizing healthcare benefits, paid time off, and a holiday schedule for these employees.

CRHA 501(c)(3) Application

The CRHA submitted their 1023 application for their 501(c)(3) to the IRS on March 5, 2007. Approval of the application should be determined by June 8, 2007.

CRHA to Copyright Guide and Documents

In May 2007 the CRHA completed the paperwork to copyright the “*My Guide to Coumadin®/Warfarin Therapy*,” CAT Clinic documents, patient and provider surveys, and the compliance assessment tool.

Check Out the CRHA on the World Wide Web

The CHRA website, www.crhealthcarealliance.org went live on May 1, 2007. If you have suggestions please call Carla Huber at 558-4046.

CRHA Working with The GCRCF

The CRHA has an account at The Greater Cedar Rapids Community

CRHA Board of Directors

James Levett, MD, FACS

Chief Medical Officer
Physicians' Clinic of Iowa
President, CRHA Board of Directors

Mary Ann Osborn, RN, MA
Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer
St. Luke's Hospital

Curtis Reynolds, MD
Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs
Mercy Medical Center

Ersin Atay, MD, FACC
Cardiologists, PC

Pat Berntsen
Executive Director of Grants and Federal Programs
Kirkwood Community College

Lee Clancy
CEO and President
Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

Sally Gray, RN
Board of Directors
St. Luke's Hospital

PIPS Project Executives

James M. Levett, MD, FACS
Chief Medical Officer
Physicians' Clinic of Iowa
Principal Investigator

Ersin Atay, MD, FACC
Cardiologists, PC

Matt McGarvey
The Wellmark Foundation

Cheryle Mitvalsky
Vice President of Resource Dev.
Kirkwood Community College

Mary Ann Osborn, RN, MA,
Vice President & Chief Clinical Officer
St. Luke's Hospital

Curtis Reynolds, MD
Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs
Mercy Medical Center

Primus Ridgeway
Vice President Enterprise Product Assurance
Rockwell Collins

Peter Roberts
Group Vice President
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

SENIOR ADVISOR

Foundation. This account will be used for gifts given to the CRHA. Currently, the CRHA has had five donations for more than \$60,000. Gifts were received from:

- John and Cynthia Bloomhall
- Cardiologists, PC
- James and Kristen Novak
- Mercy Medical Center
- St. Luke’s Hospital

Helen Arnold to Work with the CRHA

The CRHA is in the process of working with Helen Arnold, Arnold Olson Associates. Arnold will provide strategic planning services for the CRHA. She will work with the CRHA to: create a mission statement; gather environmental data; build a strategic plan; construct action steps; and, evaluate the outcomes.

AHRQ’s Health IT Grant RFA Update

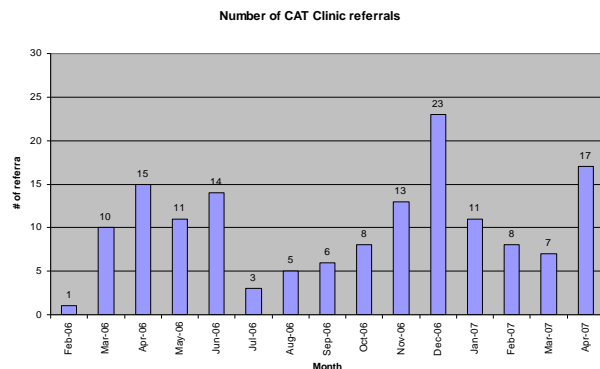
The CRHA and KCC submitted a grant application to the AHRQ’s “Improving Quality through Clinician Use of Health IT” RFA in February 2007. If funded the grant will provide \$1.2 million in funding over three years. Notification regarding award decision for the grant should occur during the summer 2007.

Congratulations Carla!

Carla Huber, ARNP, CAT Clinic Coordinator, recently received her national certification from the American Nurse Credentialing Center as a Clinical Nurse Specialist, Medical Surgical Nursing. She has her Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner license from the State of Iowa.

CAT Clinic Update for the Seventh Quarter

Patient numbers continue to increase with 40 patients enrolled in the CAT Clinic for a total of 190 referrals.



The percent of time CAT Clinic patients are in INR range was 50 percent in April. Data is no longer being collected on the patient’s INR range prior to

David A. Rater, MD, FACC, FACP
PIPS PROJECT TEAM
Joan Atkinson, RN
Director of Quality
Physicians’ Clinic of Iowa

Tonya Arnold
Grant Writer
St. Luke’s Health Care Foundation

Nancy Glab, RN
Dean of Health Science
Kirkwood Community College

Tim Hehr, RN, MA
Mercy Medical Center

Carla Huber, RN, MS
CAT Clinic Nurse Coordinator

Kim Johnson
Executive Director of Continuing Education
Kirkwood Community College

Debbie Mrkvicka
Grants and Contracts Officer
Kirkwood Community College

Kimberly Rehn
CAT Clinic Assistant

Pat Thies
Director of Pharmacy
St. Luke’s Hospital

TECHNICAL CONTRIBUTORS
Ralph Beckett, MD, President
Iowa Health Information Project

Brion Hurley and Tim Taylor
Senior Manager Advanced Process Analysis Dept.
Rockwell Collins

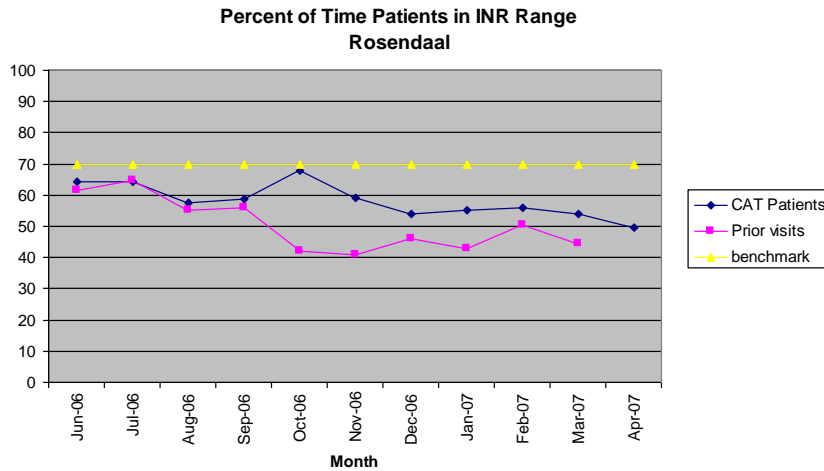
Marcia Ward, PhD
University of Iowa
College of Public Health

Shane Wolverton
Principal
The Delta Group

KCC Health Science Department
Ann Woodward, Professor
Mary Strong, Professor
Lori Jeppson, Head of Nursing (through December 2006)
Sandra Cooper, Director of Nursing (Spring – Summer 2007)

KCC Allied Health Continuing Education Division
Cathy Ross-Garron, Program Dir.
Mike McLaughlin, Director
ISO CONSULTING ORG.
Gary Nesteby, Executive Director
Deb Oliver, Project Manager,
Iowa Quality Center

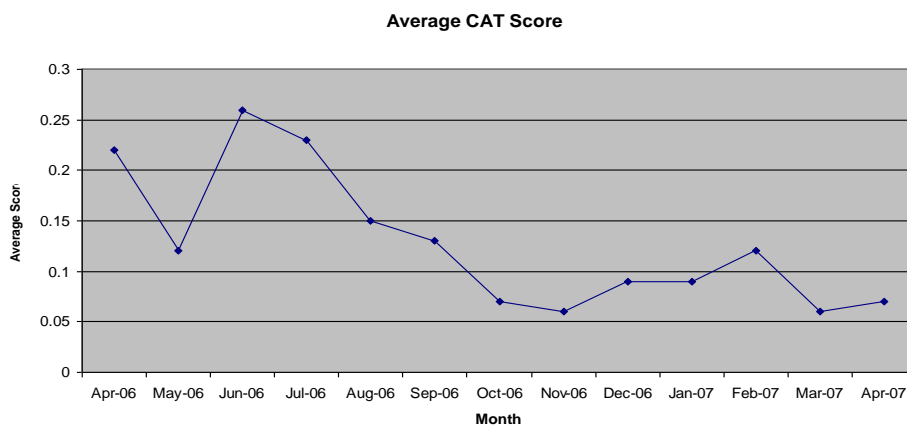
enrolling into the CAT Clinic. Nine months of data had been collected so the Metrics Team felt that is an adequate amount of data.



The patient satisfaction survey was sent in January to all patients who participated in the CAT Clinic from July through September 2006. Twenty-one of 37 surveys (57 percent response) were completed. Patients reported 100 percent satisfaction.

Provider satisfaction surveys were sent to all providers and their nurses who refer patients to the CAT Clinic. Twelve out of 27 providers returned completed surveys (44 percent response). Provider satisfaction results indicate providers are 100 percent satisfied with CAT Clinic services.

The CAT Clinic Compliance Score continues to decrease. This score measures patient compliance regarding changes in medications, diet, alcohol use, missed or extra warfarin doses, and adding or discontinuing an antibiotic, aspirin, or NSAID (like ibuprofen or naproxen), or Amiodarone. A decrease in the CAT Score indicates better compliance with Coumadin® / warfarin therapy.



Workshop for Anticoagulation Management

A workshop for anticoagulation management has been created by Cathy Ross-Garron, BSN, NREMT-P, Program Director of RCEMSE at KCC. This workshop will address various levels of healthcare providers in the hospital, home, and pre-hospital setting. Classes are scheduled for 9/12/07 and 1/17/08. These classes will be advertised in the KCC Fall Allied Health Catalog. In addition classes will be offered at Linn County and surrounding area home health agencies. Each of these agencies has been notified of this workshop through an informational letter that was sent earlier this spring. Classes are awarded CEU's and CEH's.

Grant Team Publishing Papers on the AHRQ/PIPS Project

There are four proposed papers being written for current publications:

- *Harvard Business Review*: “Building a Community of Healthcare: A Cooperative Business Model,” James Levett, MD, and Rob Borotkanics, AHRQ.
- “Utilization of Six Sigma and Lean Tools and Analyzing the Repeatability and Reproducibility of INR Measurements from Different Labs Present in a Community,” Tim Taylor and Brion Hurley, Rockwell Collins.
- “Health Literacy and Anticoagulation Management,” Carla Huber and Nancy Glab.
- “Anticoagulation Management – A Tool to Assess Compliance,” Levett, Huber, Joan Atkinson.

Education and Training Update for the Seventh Quarter

Executive Training sessions were held on Monday, January 8 and Thursday, April 19 at the Kirkwood Training and Outreach Center (KTOS) with 31 and 25 grant business partners attending. A Staff Training session was held on Monday, January 8, 2007 at KTOS and 11 staff members from our business partners attended.

PIPS Invoices

If you have expenses from the PIPS grant please remember to send them to Debbie Mrkvicka at KCC. All expenses must be incurred before June 30, 2007 to be eligible for reimbursement through this grant period. Please call Debbie at 319-398-7110 if you have questions. You can mail or e-mail invoices to her attention at:

Kirkwood Community College
6301 Kirkwood Blvd
P.O. Box 2068
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2068
debbie.mrkvicka@kirkwood.edu

Calendar of Events

Please mark your calendars for the following CRHA activities:

- June 27, 3:45 – 6 p.m.—Executive Training Session, KTOS. Please join your colleagues to celebrate the success of the CAT Clinic, PIPS grant, and to help design the future of the CRHA.
- There are several staff trainings, for more information please contact Deb Oliver, Iowa Quality Center at 319-398-5671.