Using PCORnet to Compare Blood Pressure Control Strategies

Researchers
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Lead Alliance Representatives:
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Background and Study Description:
PCORnet is a network of hospitals and clinics across the country that facilitates use of electronic health record data for research. We propose to use PCORnet to study blood pressure control strategies across the country. We will analyze PCORnet data and offer hospitals and clinics information about how well they are doing with blood pressure control, and we will then run two experiments:

1) We will test whether a program run by the American Medical Association works to help clinics achieve better blood pressure control (compared with self-serve access to their materials).
2) We will provide patients with home blood pressure cuffs, but randomly allocate them to different kinds of technology to see what technology works best. We'll compare not just blood pressure control outcomes, but also ease of use of the technology and other things that patients tell us are important.

Patients in the Health eHeart Alliance HTN Cause Group tell us that blood pressure control is important, and that they don't know how to choose between different kinds of home monitoring technology - the results from this study should help answer that question.

How this study meets Health eHeart Alliance criteria for sponsorship

1. Scientifically sound cardiovascular-related research
Having a healthy and controlled blood pressure is a key aspect of cardiovascular health.

2. At least one Health eHeart Alliance member is participating as a patient-leader in a decision-making role and getting compensated for that role
We have budgeted for the Health eHeart Alliance to support a Patient Advisory Board for the study that will provide feedback on key aspects of design of the study, the outcomes we will use for the Device RCT, the materials we use for educating patients about the study, and the dissemination plan. All Advisory Board members will be compensated as per Alliance standards. The Patient Advisory Board will only be supported if the grant is funded. We have

already conducted a Patient-Centered Review session for the grant application submission for which patients will be paid.

3. Accountability reporting on study progress and results back to the Health eHeart Alliance Community and the Steering Committee
We will be happy to respond to Alliance requests for updates on funding status. Carlos Maeztu will be our lead patient and Alliance representative. We will certainly share results from the study with the Alliance, and are planning for the Alliance to use all its communication channels to disseminate those results to our patient communities.

4. Co-authorship for at least one Alliance patient-leader on final results publication
We will invite at the patient Chair of the Patient Advisory Board (and perhaps others) to join the writing team as a co-author on the final results publication.

5. Acknowledgement of the Health eHeart Alliance in the final results paper
We will acknowledge the Health eHeart Alliance in the final results paper

6. Adequate funding
We are applying for funding from PCORI for this project, and are including Alliance costs in the budget. We would compensate patients through a contract with the Alliance.