

About the Conference

The conference opened Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007, with an orientation panel session provided *A Introduction to the PBRN Model and Interdisciplinary Panel Discussion*. The keynote address was presented by John Hickner, M.D., a family practice PBRN researcher and AHRQ consultant.

Panel members included:

Donald DeNucci, D.D.S., M.S., NIH Program Director for Practice Based Research

Kelly Goode, PharmD, Virginia Commonwealth University, a practice-based researcher within a small chain grocery pharmacy in Richmond, VA

Rebecca Chater, R.Ph., Director of Clinical Services for Kerr Drug of North Carolina.

On Friday, Feb. 23, 2007 participants heard presentations from:

J. Lyle Bootman, PhD, recent co-chair of the IOM committee on Preventing Medication Errors

James W. Mold, MD, Network Director of the Oklahoma Physicians Resource/Research Network

Grace Kuo, PharmD, Director of the Southern Primary-care Urban Research Network

Lucy Savitz, PhD, Senior Associate of Abt Associates, Inc.

The remainder of the conference was highly interactive, with four breakout groups generating action plans and devising strategies for improving medication use through PBRNs. Participants were able to choose two of four roundtable topics on Saturday, Feb. 24. Each of the roundtables was staffed by experts in the areas of methodological issues; network recruitment, retention and training; data collection and management; and network administration.

Documents distributed as part of the conference workbook included:

- Information on speakers and participants
- Pre-conference reading materials
- Background paper
- Bibliography with references to organization and development of research networks, research and methodological issues, examples of PBRN research in the literature, information on resources and support for PBRNs and links for selected PBRN Web sites