



AUGUST NEWSLETTER, 2022

ARTMOUTH CO-OP

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND
PRACTICE-BASED RESEARCH NETWORK

Est. 1972

Dear CO-OP members,

It's August 1st and that means today is [World Lung Cancer Day](#)! As such, we wanted this month's newsletter to be themed around this event, from our Member Spotlight to our Awareness Events at the end of this issue. As always, we have project updates, information about upcoming conferences, and some exciting news about our 43rd Annual Meeting. We hope you enjoy it!

We would appreciate your feedback on our newsletters, please take a few moments to fill out our [satisfaction survey](#)!

Member Spotlight

Dr. Rian M. Hasson is a Thoracic Surgeon and Assistant Professor of Surgery at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, The Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, and The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. She was born and raised in Southern California and completed her undergraduate degree at The University of California, Berkeley. She completed medical school at the Keck School of Medicine at USC and moved to Boston, MA for her general surgery training



at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She completed her cardiothoracic residency at The Ohio State University and additional training in thoracic surgery at the Mayo Clinic. She joined the faculty at Dartmouth-Hitchcock in August of 2018.

Currently, she is an active health services researcher and her current research projects focus on identifying and ameliorating disparities in lung cancer screening. Her drive for health equity stems from the health disparities present in her own family as two of her grandparents died of smoking-related diseases. Early in her career, their illnesses peaked her desire to study preventive mechanisms. Today, as a practicing thoracic surgeon, she is motivated to eliminate disparities in lung cancer screening and identify racial/ethnic disparities in Surgery and healthcare to increase the inclusion of underrepresented groups.

To promote a healthy work-life balance, in her spare time she enjoys international clinical experiences, having served in Rwanda, Ecuador, and Costa Rica, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.

What made you decide to join the Dartmouth CO-OP?

Partnering with the CO-OP was vital to reach the patient population in rural areas. Community partnerships and clinics are the lifeblood of connecting to those in these rural communities. The CO-OP is filled with a variety of diverse minds that come together to share the same goal; to put patients first and connect with the community. Everyone in their individual silos can come together to deliver interventions to those most in need.

What research have you done with the CO-OP before?

Most research has been focused on provider referral and lung cancer screening. We have partnered for a recent COBRE submission and worked with some for a Levy Incubator project. Dr. Hasson's most recent research has focused on patient barriers to their participation in lung cancer screenings and connecting with providers to see how they can increase referral rates.

What current research are you doing now that you would like the CO-OP to know about? And what do you enjoy most about this current work?

The goal of the Levy Incubator project* is to increase patient uptake and provider referrals in lung cancer screenings within a 30-mile radius. After initial interviews, it was found that a lot of patients do not know about lung cancer screening. We want providers to have a mechanism to aid in the referral process and to help them manage those on the back end. The role of the primary care provider (PCP) is so undervalued in today's society, while they are responsible for so many screening

measures, prevention, and even the management of chronic issues. Assisting PCPs to manage patients in the lung cancer screening process to be available is the goal of this project.

I love the fact that we are taking scientific results that were found to be true and spreading this to society to save lives. Rates of lung cancer screening are struggling. There is an appreciation for getting patients into the door and seeing the direct response in the clinic. Being able to tell patients that while a diagnosis is scary but was caught early and there are tools to help and save lives.

*Read more about this Levy Incubator project below.

What advice would you give to someone looking to become more involved in the CO-OP?

I would say go for it! There are so many opportunities and ways to be involved. My experience with the CO-OP has been nothing but positivity and a willingness to collaborate. The CO-OP is a valuable resource to those wanting to connect with the community, with a shared goal of putting the patient first. The collaboration with the CO-OP has helped make the Levy Incubator project as sound as it could be, due to the direct community connection that CO-OP members have to address community-specific needs.

What's something about you that people might not know?

That I have a twin sister who is the smarter one. She is my role model, much of my career in terms of research is modeled after her and the work that she does.

Understanding Patient and Provider Barriers and Facilitators of Lung Cancer Screening in a Rural Population to Facilitate Education and Implementation of a Targeted Campaign to Increase Enrollment. Co-PIs: Rian Hasson, MD and Karen Schifferdecker, PhD, MPH

- **Project Overview:** Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths. Previous research and updated clinical guidelines support lung cancer screening (LCS) for high-risk adults* to improve morbidity and mortality. Despite these recommendations, less than 5% of all eligible patients participate in LCS, potentially leading to reduced quantity and quality of life. The current strategies to encourage optimal, goal-concordant, LCS in our rural environment are not yielding successful results; therefore, new strategies require exploration and investigation.

* high-risk for lung cancer is defined as (50-80 years old, 20 pack-year smoking history, and current smokers or those who quit in the last 15 years).

- **Current State:** Overall the project is doing well and a provider toolkit has been created. This provider toolkit was created to address patients' lack of knowledge about lung cancer screening, give providers an easy way to identify eligible patients, and give information about managing patients both in the pre-screening and screening process. This project has a three-pronged approach; patient awareness campaigns and other advertisements for LCS for clinics, pilot of a new and updated approach to documenting tobacco history in EPIC and a lung cancer screening eligibility calculator, and last through grand rounds and clinic visits to different specialties to speak on the lung nodule clinic, the importance of shared-decision making, tobacco cessation and to share results. The study team will be piloting in primary care and other clinics.



Summer is now in full swing and all our ongoing projects are too. We hope the forward momentum on these studies continues and we will update you on their progress in the months to come. As mentioned last month, there are even a few publications in the works by CO-OP members, so be on the lookout for those in future editions.

Project Updates:

- Clinician & Patient Utilization of Expanded Age Range for the HPV Vaccine and Shared-Decision Making. PI: Maureen Boardman MSN, FNP-C, FAANP
 - **Current State:** Data collection is still ongoing, and surveys have been distributed to both clinicians and patients. The study team has been meeting with study sites monthly, to check in on progress. The response rate is coming closer to the desired targeted responses, but still is a ways away.
 - **Involvement:** If you are a practicing clinician in a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in the states of Vermont or New Hampshire, and would like to participate in this study, please click the link here: [HPV Vaccine Clinician Survey](#). If you have any questions about this study please contact Maureen

Boardman (Maureen.B.Boardman@dartmouth.edu OR MBoardman@littlerivers.org).

- Overcoming COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Rural Northern New England for Adults.
PI: Maureen Boardman MSN, FNP-C, FAANP
 - **Current State:** The clinician portion of this study has made great headway, but we are still looking for even more participants. All clinic sites have received materials and have begun data collection for the patient portion of this study. The study team will meet with clinic sites monthly to check progress.
 - **Involvement:** If you are a clinician employed in primary care in Maine, New Hampshire, or Vermont, and would like to participate in this study, please click the link here: [COVID-19 Clinician Survey](#). If you have any questions about this study please contact Maureen Boardman (Maureen.B.Boardman@dartmouth.edu OR MBoardman@littlerivers.org).

- The Cover Health Care Workers Project: COVID-19 Protection to Ensure Resilient Health Care Workers. PIs: Andrea Cassells, MPH; Maureen Boardman, MSN, FNP-C, FAANP
 - **Current State:** Currently the early intervention group, Lamoille Health Partners, is on the way to completing their post-intervention surveys. The deadline for completion has been extended to allow for more time to collect responses. The late intervention group, Little Rivers Health Care, will receive training for their practice site champions at the beginning of August and will begin training staff shortly thereafter.

- ACEs in Community Practice: Correlating Patient's Distress, Desire to Discuss with their Clinician and with Resilience. PI: Patricia Glowa, MD Study Team: Ardis Olson, MD
 - **Current State:** This study is currently finalizing data analysis and is in the early stages of manuscript preparation.



The CO-OP is currently looking for someone to join our team as our Director of Research Operations. The summary and qualifications for this position are posted [here](#). The anticipated hire date is January 1st, 2023.



Want to present your research? Our directors are presenting at AAMFP and NAPCRG! Check out their accepted presentations for the 2022 NAPCRG Annual Meeting, November 18-22, 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona below:

- *Overcoming COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Rural Northern New England for Adults* by Maureen Boardman (**Presenter**). Dorothy Barker, Zoe Daudier, Troi Perkins
- *Clinician & Patient Utilization of Expanded Age Range for the HPV Vaccine and Shared-Decision Making* by Maureen Boardman (**Presenter**). Dorothy Barker, Kristen Bigelow-Talbert, Zoe Daudier, Troi Perkins

Join our CO-OP leadership and members in meeting with other clinicians and professionals within the field by attending one of the numerous upcoming conferences.

- [25th NIMH Conference on Mental Health Services Research \(MHSR\)](#), August 2-3, 2022, 11 AM-6 PM EST, Virtual
- [NH Healthcare Workers for Climate Action: Surgical Care in the Era of Climate Change](#), August 10, 2022, 6-7 PM EST, Virtual
- [NAPCRG 2022 ICPF Conference](#), September 8-9, 2022, Savannah, GA
- [AAFP PerformaceNavigator Workshop: Cardiometabolic Conditions](#), September 8-10, 2022, Minneapolis, MN
- [MPHA's 38th Annual Conference - Adapting in Times of Adversity: The Role of Public Health in Strengthening Maine's Communities](#), October 11-13, 2022, Virtual
- [International Conference on Physician Health](#), October 13-15, 2022, Orlando, FL
- [Principles in the Care of Transgender and Intersex Patients](#), October 13-15, 2022, Phoenix, AZ
- [2022 Mental Health Management Summit](#), October 17-18, 2022, Orlando, FL
- [UCSF CME: Primary Care Medicine: Principles & Practice 2022](#), October 19-21, 2022, San Francisco, CA, In-Person or Virtual
- [AAFP Emergency & Urgent Care Live Course](#), October 27-30, 2022, Bonita Springs, FL
- [2022 New England Rural Health Conference](#), November 1-2, 2022, Killington, VT, Hybrid
- [American Public Health Association 105th Anniversary](#), November 6-9, 2022, Boston, MA
- [Association of Medical Colleges](#), November 11-15, 2022, Nashville, TN
- [50th NAPCRG Annual Meeting](#), November 18-22, 2022, Phoenix, AZ



2023 Annual Meeting: Climate & Political Determinants of Health

Our Annual Meeting [Save the Date](#) is now here! We are pleased to announce our plans for the return of an in-person Annual Meeting, themed around [Climate & Political Determinants of Health](#) in Stowe, Vermont on January 27th-29th, 2023. Please keep an eye out for more information on early registration, hotel booking, and meeting speakers. Until then, feel free to check out our [42nd Annual Meeting Recordings](#).

Get yourself prepared for our 2023 meeting by joining 150+ participants in a Project ECHO with DartmouthHealth on [Climate And Health: Towards Climate-Informed Care & Advocacy](#).

New Dental Residency Application Cycle Now Open

Per the request of Cathy Morrow, former chair of the Department of Community & Family Medicine, she wanted us to share this information about a new [AEGD Program - Rural Track](#) beginning on September 1st, 2022. Please feel free to share this opportunity. [AEGD Flyer](#) | [Rural Track Dental Residency Program in NH Brochure](#) | [Recruitment Program Information](#)



World Lung Cancer Day Events

- [Lung Cancer Foundation of America](#), August 1, 2022, 12-3 PM EST, Virtual
- [Gathering HOPE Social Hour](#), August 9, 2022, 8 PM EST, Virtual
- [Monthly Lung Cancer Living Room: Living With Small Cell Lung Cancer](#), August 16, 2022, 8:30 PM EST, Virtual
- [#TogetherSeparately: Surviving Survivorship](#), August 17, 2022, 3:30-5 PM EST, Virtual
- [Cycle for Air: Autumn Escape Bike Trek](#), September 24-25, 2022, Cape Cod, MA
- [COPD Educator Course](#), October 6, 13 & 20, 2022, 8 AM-2 PM EST, Virtual
- [Cycle for Air: Trek Across Maine](#), June 16-18, 2023, Brunswick, ME

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DartmouthCO-OPNNEPBRN@Hitchcock.org with the subject title "UNSUBSCRIBE" and nothing in the body of the email.

Dartmouth Northern New England Cooperative Practice-based Research Network

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