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The purpose of the survey is:

- To improve our understanding of evaluation research needs, priorities, and gaps for AAPCHO member centers.
- To guide and strengthen evaluation research efforts and capacity for AAPCHO and its member centers.
- To enhance AAPCHO's capacity to work together with member centers to improve access to and quality of primary health care services for medically underserved Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Evaluation research includes assessing the needs of health center services to apply for funding, the productivity of services, best practice service delivery models, behavioral, clinical, community or policy impact of services or models of care, and/or intervention outcomes.

Evaluation may be conducted in many ways through internally supported or externally grant-funded projects and include needs assessments, satisfaction surveys, quality assurance, and other approaches.

The survey targeted all 22 AAPCHO community health centers (CHCs) providing direct services.

- 45% CHC participation rate. (10 of 22 CHCs)
- 13 management/executive staff from 10 CHCs participated in the survey.
- 8 phone survey interviews; 5 online surveys.

All respondents indicated that research has an important role in improving patient services and achieving higher standards of care.

Role	# of Respondents
Improve patient services / Achieve high standards of care	13
Funding requirements	2
Contribute to knowledge base	2
Share best practices	1
Ensure services are given at appropriate times	1

Many CHCs currently participate in research activities.



Many CHCs currently work on diabetes projects.

Recent Research Activity	# of Respondents
Diabetes Collaborative/Project/Program	7
Health Disparities Collaborative/Project/Program	3
Depression Collaborative/Project/Program	2
Youth Development Programs	2
Asian American Hepatitis B Program	2
Patient Satisfaction	1
Metabolic Syndrome	1
Electronic Health Record Pilot	1
Healthy Foods Program	1
Quality Improvement	1
Community Needs Assessment	1

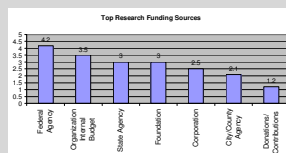
Funding (69%) and staffing (62%) were indicated as key factors in sustaining evaluation research programs.

Factor	# of Respondents
Funding	9
Staff availability	8
Provider interest	3
Use of technology	2
Recruitment of research subjects	1

Many CHCs lack research capacity.

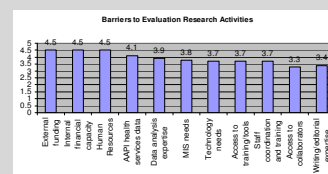


Federal Agency was the most important funding source.



•5=Highest Importance; 1=lowest importance.

External funding, internal financial capacity and staffing capacity were emphasized as major barriers to evaluation research activities.

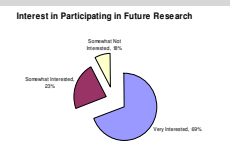


•5=Strongly agree; 1=Strongly Disagree.

The major technical assistance needs for increasing health center staff's research capacity included research methodology (69%) and data analysis (69%).

Technical Assistance Needs	# of Respondents
Research methods	9
Data analysis	9
MIS needs	7
Health center-related research	7
General research concepts	6
Conducting database searches	6
Arranging meetings with potential collaborators	6
Information or data on AAPI health	6
Writing research grants / publications	5

The majority of CHCs are interested in future research activities.



Comments from AAPCHO CHCs

- Only on specific projects (3)
- Project must be beneficial to patients/quality of care (3)
- Project must not be too time consuming (1)
- Project must have available funding (1)

Preferred Research Activities

Activities	# of Respondents
Partner with AAPCHO or other institutions	11
Become a site for conducting evaluation research	11
Have a Research Dept at health center	10
Participate in research advisory group	9
Help frame research that can be applied to policy	9
Carry out research, data collection	8
Conduct analysis of findings	7
Develop research reports, manuscripts	7
Develop research protocol and methods	5

Research Priority	Avg. Score
Chronic Disease	4.9
Outcomes of Care	4.6
Quality of Care	4.5
Mental Health & Substance Abuse	4.4
Access to Care	4.1
Elder Care	4.0
Maternal/Infant Health	4.0
Adolescent and Pediatric Care	3.9
Adult Care	3.9

Participants rated each reaction promptly on a 5-point scale.

5. Highest Priority 4. Lowest Priority

Preferred Ethnicity	# of Responders
Chinese	9
Vietnamese	8
Cambodian	6
Filipino	6
Laotian	5
Korean	4
Native Hawaiian	4

Preferred Ethnicity	# of Respondents
Hmong	2
Japanese	2
Samoan	2
Thai	2
Asian Indian/South Asian	2
Marshallese	1
Micronesians	1
Chuuksese	1

Summary

- Chronic Disease followed by Outcomes and Quality of Care were highest priority research topics.
- All CHCs indicated that research has an important role in improving patient services and quality of care.
- Many CHCs currently conduct work on diabetes and continue to view this as a high priority.
- Funding and staffing capacity were emphasized as major factors/barriers in research participation.
- Although most were interested, most did not have experience working with outside research collaborators.

Conclusions

- Prioritizing research for AAPCHO health centers is becoming an integral part of the health center mission
- Most health centers currently lack the human resources with research expertise and funding to adequately develop, implement, and sustain research projects.
- Technical assistance and collaboration with AAPCHO and other external research institutions will be an important step to support future health center research.

Contact Information

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