Who We Are



AcademyHealth is the professional home for health services researchers, policy analysts, and practitioners, and a leading, non-partisan resource for the best in health services research (HSR) and policy. We promote interaction across the health services research and policy arenas by bringing together a broad spectrum of players to share their perspectives, learn from each other, and strengthen their working relationships. Our organizational affiliates and individual members are central to our efforts to advance research, policy, and practice.

Core activities that support our mission include convening conferences and seminars, providing research support and professional development opportunities, and facilitating knowledge transfer activities.



We support the development of more and better health services research.

AcademyHealth works to improve both the supply and quality of health services research by expanding and improving the scientific basis of the field, increasing the capabilities and skills of researchers, and promoting the development of the necessary financial, human, infrastructure, and data resources. These efforts include:

- → Hosting meetings, such as the Annual Research Meeting, that provide a forum for the best research the field has to offer and serve as learning opportunities for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.
- → Advocating, through the Coalition for Health Services Research, for greater federal investment in the infrastructure that supports the field.
- → Supporting investigator-initiated research as the national program office for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Healthcare Financing and Organization initiative and Public Health Services Research grants.

We support the use of the best available research and information.

AcademyHealth disseminates research findings, assists with the translation of findings and experience into useful information for decision makers, and works to improve communication between health services researchers and policymakers. These activities include:

- → Convening learning networks, such as our efforts on behalf of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's Medicaid Medical Directors Learning Networks, that share new research, applications and the insights of experience among policy professionals facing similar challenges.
- → Leading international study tours that provide unique, small-group opportunities for researchers and policymakers to learn from the experiences of international health systems and health care reforms.
- → Bringing policymakers and researchers together annually to discuss and debate policy priorities and research needs during the National Health Policy Conference.

We assist health policy and practice leaders in addressing major health challenges.

AcademyHealth provides high quality policy and technical assistance to policymakers at all levels. We offer educational programs to advance the use of policy analysis and research, and work to identify areas where additional research and information are needed. These activities include:

- → Facilitating educational and technical assistance for states working toward substantive coverage reforms as the national program office of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's State Coverage Initiatives Program.
- → Offering a unique, three-day course that provides an in depth look at the policymaking process in Washington.