

Signature Program Centers

For the people, systems, and decisions that make evidence matter.

Health care decisions are complex, costly, and high-stakes. Too often, the research that could make them better never reaches the people who need it. Not because the evidence is not there, but because the systems, skills, and connections needed to move it from research to practice have never been built at scale. These are structural failures, and they play out every day in exam rooms, legislative chambers, and hospital boardrooms across the country.

AcademyHealth is building what has been missing.

Our four Signature Program Centers each tackle a distinct part of what it takes for evidence to actually improve health. Together they support the people behind the research, strengthen the systems that make research possible and impactful, and ensure evidence reaches the decisions it is meant to improve.



Health Services Research Acceleration Center

Powering the evidence our field depends on.

Researchers trying to answer health care's biggest questions face fragmented data, disconnected systems, limited collaboration infrastructure, and funding models that reward isolated work over shared progress. This Center builds the shared infrastructure that changes that: curated data catalogues, coordinated research networks, investigator matchmaking that connects expertise across institutions and disciplines, and funding mechanisms that pool resources around the field's most pressing shared challenges, including the ones no single funder would take on alone.

Champions of Evidence Center

Equipping the people who make evidence matter.

Researchers are trained to publish, not to translate. Decision makers are expected to interpret evidence they were never taught to read. Both sides need different skills for evidence exchange, and no one has made it their mission to build those skills simultaneously. This Center does, creating a professional community where being a champion for evidence is the shared norm, not the exceptional achievement.

Evidence into Policy Center

The right evidence, in the right hands, right now.

When a policymaker faces a high-stakes decision, they need the right expertise and evidence fast. This Center activates AcademyHealth's research community in response to real-time policy needs, connecting federal and state policymakers with trusted experts, and synthesizing evidence in formats decision makers can act on now.

Innovation Adoption Center

Building the movements that change health.

Proven innovations stall without coordinated action. This Center builds and activates coalitions across health systems, industry, insurers, researchers, patient communities, and policymakers to coordinate the campaigns, partnerships, and sustained momentum needed to turn evidence into standard care for every patient.

Meet the Center Leads

Champions of Evidence Center

- Megan Collado, Senior Director, megan.collado@academyhealth.org
- Danielle DeCosta, Director, danielle.decosta@academyhealth.org

Evidence into Policy Center

- Michael Gluck, Vice President, michael.gluck@academyhealth.org
- Amanda Brodt, Director, amanda.brodt@academyhealth.org

Innovation Adoption Center

- Elizabeth Cope, Chief Programs and Science Officer, elizabeth.cope@academyhealth.org
- Sarah Hoyt, Senior Manager, sarah.hoyt@academyhealth.org

HSR Acceleration Center

- Kamila Mistry, Senior Director, joining July 2026

AcademyHealth works to make research matter because better evidence leads to better health. As the nonpartisan home for health services and policy research, we support the people behind the research, strengthen the system behind the science, and make sure evidence gets used to improve health and health care for all.

Learn more at academyhealth.org.