

Special Issue Focuses on Data's Potential to Drive Health System Transformation

A special issue of *eGEMs* sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) highlights new data insights and capabilities that can help researchers, clinicians, patients, and policymakers use data to transform health care in an era of rapid change.

The open-access, peer-reviewed special issue published by AcademyHealth features 11 papers that explore traditional general hypothesis testing and predictive analytics research, as well as provide case studies that showcase frontline innovations within health systems.

The special issue is introduced in a commentary by Andrew Masica, M.D., MSCI, a member of AHRQ's National Advisory Council, and José Escarce, M.D., Ph.D., a former council member, titled "Innovative Data Science to Transform Healthcare: All the Pieces Matter."

The commentary emphasizes the need for complementary phases for effective analytics including data acquisition, ensuring or enhancing data access and usability, data analysis, and dissemination.

The issue's theme aligns with AHRQ's strategic initiative to increase health care value while building off the agency's core competencies in data and analytics. Central to that initiative is establishment of an integrated data, analytics, and information platform capable of providing a 360-degree view of the health care system.

The special issue provides a snapshot of innovative data use approaches that can be applied in health care transformation.

To learn more about the special issue, visit www.academyhealth.org/AHRQspecialissue.

Special Issue Articles

Data Sourcing and Acquisition

- Patient-Clinician Decision Making for Stable Angina: The Role of Health Literacy
- Understanding U.S. Health Systems: Using Mixed Methods to Unpack Organizational Complexity

Enhancing Data Access and Usability

- Making Evidence Actionable: Interactive Dashboards, Bayes, and Health Care Innovation
- Making Better Use of Population Health Data for Community Health Improvement
- Beyond CHNAS: Performance measurement for community health improvement
- A Spatial Analyses of Health Disparities Associated with Antibiotic Resistant Infections in Children Living in Atlanta (2002-2010)

Data Analysis and Application

- Age-Dependent Hemoglobin A1c Therapeutic Targets Reduce Diabetic Medication Changes in the Elderly
- Predicting the Incidence of Pressure Ulcers in the Intensive Care Unit Using Machine Learning

Data Sharing and Dissemination

- Applying a Commercialization-Readiness Framework to Optimize Value for Achieving Sustainability of an Electronic Health Data Research Network and its Data Capabilities: The SAFTINet Experience
- Innovative Solutions for State Medicaid Programs to Leverage Their Data, Build Their Analytic Capacity, and Create Evidence-Based Policy

