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NACDS Foundation Announces Research Opportunity to Study Health Impact of Pharmacist-Provided Medication Management in Care Teams

\$750,000 grant opportunity to explore strategies to improve medication use in Accountable Care Organizations and Patient-Centered Medical Homes

Alexandria, Va. – The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Foundation today announced a \$750,000 grant opportunity to conduct research examining the impact of medication management services on patient health outcomes within existing medical homes or accountable care organization (ACOs) delivery models, and released a corresponding [Request for Proposal](http://www.nacds.org/user-assets/pdfs/2012/newsrelease/NACDS_Foundation_RFP_1_19_12.pdf). ([http://www.nacds.org/user-assets/pdfs/2012/newsrelease/NACDS Foundation RFP 1 19 12.pdf](http://www.nacds.org/user-assets/pdfs/2012/newsrelease/NACDS_Foundation_RFP_1_19_12.pdf))

Many public and private demonstration projects exploring patient-centered care teams are currently under way. Medical homes and ACOs are comprised of medical teams, led by physicians, that coordinate patient care across the entire healthcare continuum. Experts have called for the evaluation of medication management as a quality improvement strategy within these models as a way to improve patient health outcomes. Evidence shows that when physicians and pharmacists work collaboratively to optimize medication use, better patient health outcomes are achieved. Currently, poor medication adherence costs the nation approximately \$290 billion annually resulting from avoidable and costly health complications, worsening of disease progression and hospital stays.

The NACDS Foundation intends to fund, over a two year period, approximately two grants to non-profit research organizations or academic institutions. This research will help identify whether pharmacist-led interventions within team-based healthcare delivery systems improve patient health outcomes.

"The utilization of care teams is increasingly recognized as an effective strategy to remedy the often fragmented healthcare delivery system by coordinating treatment to improve health outcomes," NACDS Foundation President Kathleen Jaeger said. "Medication management research will help identify opportunities for medical homes and ACOs to better meet their patient health outcome goals."

Selected research projects are anticipated to begin this fall and last approximately two years in duration to capture long-term health outcomes and the impact of medication management services.

The NACDS Foundation's request for proposals (RFP) can be accessed [here](http://www.nacds.org/user-assets/pdfs/2012/newsrelease/NACDS_Foundation_RFP_1_19_12.pdf). ([http://www.nacds.org/user-assets/pdfs/2012/newsrelease/NACDS Foundation RFP 1 19 12.pdf](http://www.nacds.org/user-assets/pdfs/2012/newsrelease/NACDS_Foundation_RFP_1_19_12.pdf))

For more information about the NACDS Foundation's activities, please visit their website at <http://www.nacdsfoundation.org>.

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The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization that serves as the education, research and charitable affiliate of NACDS. The NACDS Foundation seeks to improve the health and wellness of the people in America. It utilizes education, research, and charitable involvement to help people improve their health and quality of life through an understanding of medication therapy and the importance of taking medications appropriately. For more information, please visit www.NACDSFoundation.org.