January 10, 2014

Dear Colleagues:

I am excited to inform you that the Kentucky ACP chapter, in collaboration with the national ACP, has been awarded a grant from Pfizer to conduct a quality improvement (QI) project aimed at improving the screening, diagnosis, and safe and effective treatment of chronic pain in primary care practices that are part of ACOs and/or are pursuing recognition of a patient-centered medical home (PCMH).

The funds will permit up to ten practices in Kentucky to participate in educational and QI activities that will help them identify practices that better help them implement screening and diagnostic tools, select therapeutic options, and make referrals for their chronic pain patients. Participating practices, who identify a physician champion and additional practice staff leader, will be able to achieve practice assessment points for their physician members, receive intensive hands-on assistance, gain CME or CE for all of their health care providers, and receive a generous stipend for the practice.

We will begin recruiting practices in the next few weeks. At this point, I would like to solicit interest from those who may be interested in serving on the planning group for the project. Project co-leaders, will join me in planning and implementing the program, working with national experts, and ultimately reporting out our results. This role will require participation in several conference calls and a couple of face-to-face meetings. There will be an expensed orientation and training session in Atlanta, GA on January 23-24.

Please e-mail me over the next few days if you would like to participate or want more information. This is a great opportunity for our chapter, our practices, and our patients!

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