

Appendix 1. Research Categories and levels in PCORI-CHAT

Category	Definition	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Causes of Disease	<p>Patient-centered research to find out the root cause of diseases and what makes them more or less likely. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where you live • Family history • Life experiences • Public policies 	<p>PCOR is done on causes and risks for diseases that affect many people or are very severe.</p>	<p>Research for level 1 plus additional research on causes and risks for diseases that affect fewer people and/or are less severe</p>	<p>In-depth research on causes of diseases that provides a detailed understanding of a wide variety of diseases.</p>
New Approaches	<p>Research about new ways to find, diagnose, treat, and manage illness</p>	<p>Little funding for patient-centered research on new ways to detect, diagnose, treat and manage illness</p>	<p>Some funding for research on new ways to detect, diagnose, treat and manage illness.</p>	<p>Increased funding for finding new and better ways to detect, diagnose, treat, and manage illness.</p>
Promote Health	<p>Research to find out how to prevent illness and promote health. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better lifestyle choices • Better workplace environment • Healthier communities 	<p>Patient-centered research on basic health promotion and prevention for the general population. This includes research on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On helping people make healthy choices, • Disease prevention • Simple ways to make jobs and neighborhoods healthier 	<p>Patient-centered research includes studying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More complicated ways to make communities, jobs, and other places healthy and safe, • Ways to promote emotional and mental health <p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting physical well-being. 	<p>In-depth research related to promoting health and disease prevention that includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research on effective policies • Implementation of best practices in communities

Compare Approaches	Research to compare ways to find, diagnose, treat and manage illness to see what works best.	Some research compares different ways to detect, diagnose, treat and manage illness to see what works best.	More research compares different ways to detect, diagnose, treat and manage illness to see what works best.	In-depth research comparing different ways to detect, diagnose, treat and manage illness to see what works best
Patient-Doctor	<p>Research into improving the relationship between doctors, health care workers, and patients. This includes improving communication for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-management techniques • at-home decisions • ways to make managing disease easier <p>This also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving trust • increasing respect • cultural sensitivity 	Some research on improving patient understanding and communication, including ways to help patients make better decisions about healthcare, and to manage their own health	More research to improve patient-doctor relationships and communication with patients. More funding for research to improve the cultural awareness and sensitivities of doctors and the medical system and to increase trust between patients and doctors.	Funding for larger scale studies on patient-centered approaches to improve communication between patients and health systems (not just doctors)
Quality of Life	Research to understand patient needs and wishes and how to improve their quality of life.	Some patient-centered research to better understand how individuals define quality of life and what they need or prefer in healthcare to have better life quality.	More patient-centered research to better understand how individuals define quality of life and what they need or prefer in healthcare to have better life quality including	In-depth patient-centered research to better understand how individuals define quality of life and what they need or prefer in healthcare to have better life quality including

			how much it differs from patient to patient.	how much it differs from patient to patient and how to measure it better.
Multiple Conditions	Research to look at better ways to treat patients with two or more health problems.	How to treat and manage multiple health problems that are often found together.	Research studies how to treat and manage multiple health problems less often found together.	Increased research on improving care for those patients with multiple conditions.
Special Needs	Research about how to improve the well-being of people with mental, emotional, or physical problems across their lifespan such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children with development disorders • adults with mental illness such as depression or bipolar disorder • adult and adolescent substance abuse 	Research into some of the basics for individuals of all ages with mental, emotional, or physical problems. This addresses only the most common issues and populations.	Patient-centered research for individuals of all ages with mental, emotional, or physical problems that includes some research focused on specific populations and ages.	Patient-centered research for individuals of all ages with mental, emotional, or physical problems that includes studying uncommon conditions
Families/Caregivers	Research on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caregivers, families and communities • How illness affects those who aren't the patient. • How family, friends and 	Some research on how family, friends, neighbors, communities, and social support networks affect patient-centered outcomes.	More research on how family, friends, neighbors, communities, and social support networks affect patient-centered outcomes. Also	Increased funding for research on how caregivers, families, and communities affect patient-centered outcomes and ways to limit the

	communities and social supports affect patient centered outcomes.		includes how illness affects those who are not the patient.	amount of time and stress a caregiver finds themselves when caring for the patient.
Access	Studying how to improve availability and accessibility of care, including research on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies • Transportation • Cost • Telemedicine • Care delivery • Referrals 	Research examines how governmental policies, cost, healthcare workforce and tele-medicine affect the availability and convenience of healthcare and patient-centered outcomes.	Research studies also examine how transportation, location of healthcare, and new ways to deliver care affect access and health.	Research studies on pilot projects that improve access to care are performed in order to look for solutions that can help many people.
Improve Research	Studying how to make patient-centered research better. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studying methods of including community and patient views and input • Improving trust in research • Training researchers to be more inclusive • Better ways to communicate research results • How to practice more ethical research. 	A few people are trained in patient-centered research. Some research aims to improve scientific methods. Some research studies how to include patient and public views in research and how to communicate results. Some research on how to make research fairer, less harmful, and how to improve trust.	Research is done to support training people to be the next generation of patient-centered outcomes researchers and support for more community-based research. Researchers 51 study how to improve the experience of research for patients, families, and communities and how to improve research ethics.	Research studies on pilot projects that improve research are performed in order to implement solutions broadly.
Health Inequity	Some people	Patient-centered	Patient-centered	A great deal of

	<p>may have worse health for non-medical reasons, for example, where they live, money, race, or religion. This research tries to understand and reduce those differences</p>	<p>research to understand health differences related to disadvantage or discrimination focuses on the most dramatic differences, and the largest disadvantaged groups.</p>	<p>research to understand health differences related to disadvantage or discrimination includes differences for smaller disadvantaged groups and subgroups, and some less dramatic differences.</p>	<p>research focuses on reducing health differences related to disadvantage or discrimination</p>
Rare Diseases	<p>Research on how to treat and prevent rare diseases and how to help families deal with rare disease. Research on rare diseases sometimes takes longer and costs more than research on more common conditions.</p>	<p>Patient-centered research in other categories sometimes includes or focuses on rare diseases. Some patient-centered research for questions unique for those with special needs.</p>	<p>Patient-centered research in other categories sometimes includes or focuses on rare diseases. Some patient-centered research for questions unique for those with rare diseases.</p>	<p>Patient-centered research focuses on questions that relate to rare diseases.</p>