

# OPTI-West Research & Faculty Development E-Bulletin

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## AHRQ Product relevant to PBRNs

AHRQ and Mathematica Policy Research are pleased to announce the release of a decisionmaker brief and white paper on how to improve the quality of the Patient-Centered Medical Home(PCMH) evidence and evaluations to ensure that the best policy decisions are made. Many of you are involved in practice re-design initiatives such as the PCMH. Even if you are not, you may be studying interventions at the practice level rather than the patient level. If so, the white paper described below may be of interest.

The decisionmaker brief offers a concise description for decisionmakers of why and how to commission effective evaluations of medical home demonstrations. It provides insights into what outcomes to assess, why to include control practices, and why not accounting for clustering can doom an evaluation.

The white paper provides information about how to determine the effect sizes a given study can expect to detect, identifies the number of patients and practices required to detect policy-relevant, achievable effects, and demonstrates how evaluators can select the outcomes and types of patients included in analyses to improve a study's ability to detect true effects.

You can access the brief and white paper by clicking on the following links:

[Power brief \(Improving Evaluations of the Medical Home\)](#)

[Power paper \(Building the Evidence Base for the Medical Home: What Sample and Sample Size Do Studies Need?\)](#)

Please feel free to share both of these resources with colleagues who may be interested. Additional resources can also be found on the PCMH website at [pcmh.ahrq.gov](http://pcmh.ahrq.gov).

If you have any questions about our work, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks -

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