Practice-based Research Networks (PBRNs) bring together practitioners and researchers to collaborate on projects and answer research questions that are applicable to “real-world” practice. Although PBRNs have existed for more than 125 years in medicine, they are relatively new to the pharmacy profession. Professional organizations such as the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP), and American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) have developed research training and support for PBRN research within pharmacy.1

In February 2008, collaboration among the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy, the Minnesota Pharmacists Association, and pharmacist practitioners throughout the state resulted in the Minnesota Pharmacy PBRN.2 Faculty at the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy collaborated with the American Pharmacy Services Corporation (APSC), a cooperative of independent pharmacies, to establish a community pharmacy network that was active between 1998 and 2003.3 Most recently, Purdue University established Rx-SafeNet, a PBRN of community pharmacists focusing on medication safety issues.4

Example PBRN Projects

- Medication Error Detection, Amelioration, and Prevention (MEDAP) Study. American College of Clinical Pharmacy PBRN5
- Advancing Medication Reconciliation in an Outpatient Internal Medicine Clinic through a Pharmacist-Led Educational Initiative. Minnesota Pharmacy Practice-Based Research Network6
- The Effect of a Novel Proactive First Day Prescription Counseling Program on Adherence to Select Cardiovascular Medications. Minnesota Pharmacy Practice-Based Research Network7

To address practice issues and conduct research to improve medication use and health outcomes, and advance the practice of pharmacy across all settings in Kentucky, the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy’s Center for the Advancement of Pharmacy Practice has established CAPPNet - a collaborative practice-based research network of pharmacists. For more information about CAPPNet, please complete a registration form and return it to the address provided. Alternatively, you can email CAPPNet and we will contact you to discuss your participation.

About the UK College of Pharmacy

The UK College of Pharmacy is among the top 5 pharmacy schools in the nation. In January 2010, the College opened a new 286,000 sq.ft. state-of-the-art academic and research facility. For more information visit our website.

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