



**Family Medicine Leadership Consortium (FMLC)
AAFP Foundation – Organizational Update
Subject: Update Specific to Topic - Research Capacity Building
July 2024**

The request for this Fall's 2024 organization update for the FMLC is to focus on three specific areas: Research Capacity Building, AI, and POCUS. The AAFP Foundation is not engaged in AI for the practice setting or clinical education of POCUS. The following organizational update reflects the Foundation's work related to research capacity building through our signature program area, Family Medicine Discovers, our Rapid Cycle Scientific Discovery and Innovation Program. RapSDI was launched in 2019 in collaboration with the AAFP National Research Network, now the DARTNet Institute.

Family Medicine Discovers - Scientific Signature Program Area

Research is an integral element of family medicine, and the AAFP Foundation is dedicated to the on-going development and advancement of practice-based research in the field of family medicine. *Family Medicine Discovers* joins our other two signature program areas in moving the specialty forward through meaningful research. Following is a program description along with key highlights over the past year.

Rapid Cycle Scientific Discovery and Innovation

RapSDI is a collaboration between the AAFP Foundation and the DARTNet Institute that seeks to build research capacity for scientific discovery and innovation in family medicine by funding practicing family physicians to generate new evidence and innovative models for "what works" in real-world primary care settings. FMD RapSDI seeks to attract and support practicing family physicians who are inexperienced researchers but interested in contributing to the knowledge base of family medicine to execute short-term innovative and high-impact projects.

This program has a two-tiered application. The first-round application is a low-burden application. Questions should address scientific & clinical questions that have a high potential to advance the knowledge base of the specialty and proposed projects should be feasible to accomplish within a 12-month timeline. Four applicants ("finalists") advance to a second round, in which finalists complete an in-depth standard research application with assistance from a mentorship team comprised of DARTNet Institute leadership and external content or methods experts. Physicians selected as FMD RapSDI Scholars serve as Principal Investigators for their projects while receiving support and mentorship from experienced researchers to perform project activities, conduct data analysis, and disseminate results.

Key Highlights:

- **Manuscript Published:** In August 2023, the inaugural RapSDI manuscript titled, *Research interests of family physicians applying for research training*, was published in BMC Medical Education. The manuscript can be read at the following link: <https://bmcmmededuc.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12909-023-04562-0>.

- **Cycle 5:** On September 29, 2023, the application period opened and closed on January 16, 2024. We anticipate the fifth round of awards (2 x \$40,000) will be awarded to Cycle 5 FMD RapSDI Scholars in December 2024.
- **Cycle 4:** Scholars are implementing projects. Chris Oh, MD, project topic: *Can previously established penicillin oral challenge protocols be safely and effectively implemented in primary care clinics?* T.M. Ayodele “Ayo” Adesanya, MD, PhD, project topic: *Can financial coaching through a medical-financial partnership improve overall, cardiometabolic, mental, and financial health (compared to a financial education booklet control group)?*
- **Cycle 3:** Allene Whitney, MD, presented a subset of her work at the 2023 North American Primary Care Research Group. Poster titled, *Comparison of prenatal care utilization rates prior to and during the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- **Cycles 1-2:** Vijay Singh, MD (Cycle 1 Scholar) submitted a brief report to Journal of American Board of Family Medicine and is currently under review. Sanjay Batish, MD (Cycle 2 Scholar) submitted his manuscript to the American Journal of Preventative Medicine.