Community Health Partnership
A Model for Local Empowerment:
Baltimore Study Results
Investigators

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sanofi-aventis U.S. developed the Community Health Partnership (CHP), a health awareness program launched in October 2008, to help reduce healthcare disparities.

- African American patients
- Hispanic patients
- Five US cities including Baltimore
University of Maryland worked with the CHP’s Community Health Action Team (CHAT) in Baltimore to:

- Establish and support development of CHP and CHAT
- Assess CHP program engagement & community impact
  - Conducted focus group interviews (FGIs) and key informant interviews (KIIs)
  - Analyzed, interpreted and reported results of local data
Study sample was qualitative, including broad cross-section of the community to assess program impact:

- Community Stakeholders - Members of the CHP Community Health Action Team (CHAT)
- Patients - Baltimore Men's Health Center patients
- Healthcare Providers - Family Practice and Internal Medicine physicians & staff
Global Findings

- The University of Maryland’s assessment of the CHP concludes the following:
  - Approximately 200 health care providers volunteered to participate in CHP
  - An estimated 10,000 patients were impacted by the CHP program
  - The CHAT and CHP programs were viewed favorably
Global Findings (Cont.)

- CHAT and CHP have influenced access to care and community participation
- CHAT members are adamant that the CHP program must continue
- Greater provider participation is desired to expand CHP benefit
Global Findings (Cont.)

- Patients stated that the CHP program and its tools, including local health resource guides have directly increased their care.

- The CHP program in general and resource guides have opened doors for:
  - Patient empowerment
  - Communication with their health care providers
Community Health Action Team (CHAT) members expressed very favorable impressions of the CHP

- Awareness of local resources
- Awareness of the importance of health

The CHP represents the largest scale community health approach in Baltimore’s history
Patients Results

- CHP program has “opened doors for communication”

- Very favorable impressions of the CHP’s ability to provide:
  - Names and addresses of health care organizations
  - Institutions that assist patients who have barriers to care

- Patients also benefit from the CHP through networking with other patients

- Despite problems with access to care and undesirable wait times at some facilities, patients agree that active engagement in consistent health care is important
Health Care Provider Results

- Increasing awareness of local resources influenced
  - Access to care
  - Community participation in healthcare
  - More empowered patients
Take Away Points:
Community Stakeholders (CHAT)

- Community Health Action Team (CHAT) members are adamant that the CHP program must continue.
- CHAT members express gratitude to sanofi-aventis U.S. for starting the first "city-wide" initiative of its kind.
- The program is unique, including a broad array of parties working together.
- This initiative goes far beyond historical smaller health initiatives.
Take Away points: Patients

- The majority of patients expressed an increase in the continuity of their care over the past year because of their ability to identify resources in their community.
- The CHP program has helped open doors for better physician/patient communication.
- Patients view physician support staff as an integral part of the CHP program.
  - Perception of quality of care is heavily influenced by healthcare provider staff.
- Patients are willing to contribute to development of program materials.
Providers believe that the CHP not only helps the patients of CHP engaged physicians, but spills over into the surrounding community.

Physicians believe that the CHP program has impacted their patients by motivating them to communicate more during office visits.

Healthcare providers want additional disease-specific education materials for their patients and continuing education lectures from their expert peers.

The medical/healthcare staff want to be recognized as active participants in the CHP program.
Discussion

- Reform the health care system through community-based programs
  - Patient-centered medical home
  - Trends in primary care
  - Reduction/elimination of health disparities
  - Collaboration between existing community health resources
Discussion (cont’d)

- Additional research would help to gain a better understanding of how the CHP program impacts:
  - Patient empowerment
  - Patient health outcomes
  - Physician-patient communications