

KENTUCKY AMBULATORY NETWORK

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2001

Matt Kelder, KAN Administrator

E-mail: [Matt Kelder](mailto:Matt.Kelder@kanet.org)

Phone: (859) 323-3592



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NETWORK!!!!

KAN currently has 104 members.

*If you know of anyone who would like to join the network, please have them contact

*** **KAN Partners and Advisors** ***

The Kentucky Ambulatory Network is composed of practicing primary care physicians, nurse-practitioners, physician assistants, researchers, public health experts and clinical administrators, dedicated to improving primary health care through research of direct importance to its members. Key institutional partners in this endeavor include the Kentucky Academy of Family Physicians, the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, their affiliated Family Practice Residency programs, the Center for Rural Health, and the Kentucky Primary Care Association. The General Advisory Committee (GAC) for KAN is composed of KAN private practitioners, plus representatives from these organizations. The GAC will steer the activities of KAN, and need strong input from practicing physicians. Service on this committee will probably require less than 10 hours per year, including one meeting at the annual KAN Convocation. The GAC has one open clinician seat remaining. If you would consider serving, please contact **Kevin Pearce, MD** at **859-323-3592**.

*** **First KAN Study Underway** ***

- "NAMCS-Plus", KAN's first study, is ready to go! KAN member workgroups have finalized the methods for the study which is a replication of the CDC's National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS). These groups have also added 4 high-priority questions to the NAMCS form that were targeted by KAN members at the November Convocation.
- Each KAN practitioner will be asked to fill out NAMCS forms on a sample of their patients for a one-week period twice in a year. A brief summary of the study is enclosed.
- Six community KAN members have volunteered to pilot the NAMCS-Plus study in their practices during March and April. The full scale study will start in May.

*** **Lunchdate With KAN** ***

The KAN Nurse Coordinator and a KAN faculty member would like to schedule a time to bring lunch to your practice and discuss KAN and the NAMCS-Plus study with you and your office staff. For the lunch session to be the most beneficial to your practice in conducting the NAMCS, it is best to schedule it 1 to 2 weeks before you practice will be completing the study forms. To help us in planning these lunch sessions, a calendar with instructions is enclosed to circle weeks most convenient for your practice to complete two study weeks. We will try to accommodate as many of the scheduling preferences as possible.

Do you have a "catchy" name for the Newsletter? If so, let us know.

*** **Collaboration Opportunities Available** ***

"NAMCS-Plus" is only the beginning. Over the next 2 ½ years we have the funding to conduct two more studies. Do you have an idea for a KAN study? Talk to your colleagues. Tell us about it. Then we can put together a workgroup of university and community colleagues to explore the topic, propose the idea, and plan the study. Please contact Margaret Love, PhD (859/323-6747), Kevin Pearce, MD (859/323-3592), or Bryan Yeager, PharmD (859/257-4880) if you have an idea you would like to pursue with KAN.

The word about KAN is out! Potential collaborators have approached KAN about conducting research together. Before pursuing any of these collaborations, we would need to assess interest level among KAN members and form workgroups of individuals engaged and willing to help. Topics include: What are important issues in palliative care that warrant research, from the perspective of primary care physicians? Could primary care physicians conduct surveillance and help alert health officials in the event of a biological attack? *More information about these opportunities will follow in the next newsletter.*