

*I am not a teacher but
an awakener.*

Robert Frost

PRESCRIPTION
FOR

health highlights

PROMOTING HEALTHY BEHAVIORS IN PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH NETWORKS

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*Your NAC at Work
May 2003, Princeton, NJ*

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PBRNet: A Terrific Tool, Compliments of AHRQ

PBRNet is a terrific tool that reflects the commitment of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to building capacity for practice-based research. It solves important data collection and communication issues that previously required large amounts of time and effort by network and practice personnel.

It's here now. It works. It's yours.

It enables reporting observations and engaging in interactions with collaborators that we used to only yearn for, but now have. A heartfelt thanks goes to Steve Bernstein, PhD, computer scientist with AHRQ, and author of this user-friendly extranet.

PBRNet is found at www.pbrnet.org. For access to this extranet, contact Steve Bernstein at sbernste@ahrq.gov. For those curious, the software utilized is IBM Lotus QuickPlace that sits on a central server at AHRQ. UltimateApps is the software used for survey development. For PBRN training and support, Atif Zafar, IT Director with the PBRN Resource Center, is willing and available to help. Atif has set aside office hours on Thursday afternoons or you may contact him to set up another time that works for you. You can e-mail Atif at azafar@iupui.edu.

PBRNet will eventually consist of two web-sites:

- 1) An already operational secure virtual workspace for members of PBRNs and their communities of interest, and
- 2) A PBRN portal available to the public (under development).

Features of the secure Extranet include:

- *Individual PBRN Rooms that provide:*
 - ♦ the ability to share information among members
 - ♦ the ability to publish customized content (documents, reports, newsletters, calendars, instruments, survey data), and
 - ♦ the ability to design/publish/complete online surveys

- *A Community Room that provides:*
 - ♦ information-sharing among all PBRNs
- *The Prescription for Health Room that provides:*
 - ♦ a streamlined forum for communication among program participants
 - ♦ the opportunity to participate in online project discussions
 - ♦ an avenue for project management via the calendar
 - ♦ access to useful study resources/links, and
 - ♦ the ability to make project diary entries online and receive real time feedback



Prescription for Health Online Diary

August 15 marked the launch of the online diary-making feature of PBRNet.

Diary entries are due bi-monthly.

Go to <http://www.pbrnet.org> to make your diary entries.



Colorado or Bust

*Innovators Meeting, Sept. 10-12, 2003
Cheyenne Mtn. Resort, Colorado Springs, CO*