

What is HERN (Health Experiences Research Network)?

HERN is a network building a repository of evidence-based patient experiences with specific aspects of health and health care. HERN uses a methodology developed at Oxford University and adopted by researchers in 12 countries to date. All have launched websites featuring representative video and audio clips from rigorously conducted in-depth

interviews. www.healthexperiencesusa.org is the new US website.



Who wants this information?

- Patients and families wanting to learn from the experiences of others
- Clinicians seeking to understand aggregate patient expectations and experience
- Educators wanting to include the patient perspective in teaching
- Researchers who want to improve health care by taking **patients**' perspectives into account
- Policy Makers eager to highlight patient experience while avoiding anecdotal accounts

- The websites www.youthhealthtalk.org from the UK achieve over 100,000 visitors monthly
- ~2 million visits are from US and this numbers continues to rise
- 75% of UK medical schools use healthtalk content in teaching
- Articles have appeared in high-impact journals e.g. Milbank Quarterly and BMJ

Who is involved with this project?

Patients, clinicians, advocates, educators and funders from around the country along with researchers from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Yale University, Oregon Health & Sciences University (OHSU), and Johns Hopkins University. HERN is planning multiple additional modules focused on various pressing health issues.

What other projects do you currently have underway?

Researchers at OHSU and the VA are producing a module on Traumatic Brain Injury in veterans. With funding from the Macy Foundation, researchers at UW-Madison are integrating content from the young adults with depression module into the 3rd year medical school primary care clerkship.

How can I get involved?

If you are interested in supporting a future module on a particular health topic or know someone who may be, please contact Drs. Rachel Grob or Nancy Pandhi at rachel.grob@wisc.edu; nancy.pandhi@fammed.wisc.edu.

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