



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Back on Track Study

County of Monterey Health Department

Elsa Jimenez
Director of Health

OCHIN Site Principal Investigator: John Muench, MD, MPH

This document serves as a Memorandum of Understanding for the County of Monterey Health Department to participate in the Back on Track project. The effective date of this MOU is October 1, 2018.

Back on Track is a Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded 3-year collaborative study. This study is led by the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI) in partnership with OCHIN, Inc. and Harvard Medical School. Study activities have been approved by KPWHRI's human subjects' protection committee (IRB). Project activities are contingent upon continued receipt of grant funds.

The Back on Track study will work with several OCHIN member clinics in Oregon and California in order to evaluate the impact of Medicaid reimbursement policies for treatments for back and neck pain, including various restrictions on long-term opioid prescribing and variable coverage for non-drug treatments such as acupuncture, physical therapy, and chiropractic care. The experiences of patients, clinicians, and administrators within OCHIN health systems in Oregon and California are critical to fully understanding the impact of state Medicaid guidelines around opioid prescribing and use of other treatments.

This 3-year project runs from 11/01/17 – 10/31/20. This Memorandum of Understanding states (a) what participating members agree to do as part of Back on Track, (b) what participating members will receive as part of the project, and (c) the project timeline.

A. Participating members agree to:

1. Provide permission for OCHIN to share aggregated service area, clinic and/or department-level identified information with external partners on the project team. Our external partners on this project include Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute, Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research and Harvard Medical School.
2. Provide permission for OCHIN to identify potential patient participants via viewing personal health information ("PHI") within the OCHIN Epic Electronic Health Record. The study team will contact patients who are: 18 years and older, receive Medicaid insurance, have a diagnosis of back or neck pain, and who have either received chronic opioid therapy or have not received chronic opioid therapy. Patients meeting the study eligibility criteria will be identified in the EHR by OCHIN's research team, who will securely transfer information for potential participants to the Kaiser Permanente Survey Research Program. The Kaiser Survey Research Program is contracted to manage all mail and phone call outreach to potential participants, the collection of survey data, and the reimbursement of study participants.

Patients who agree to participate will be asked to complete between 1 to 5 surveys over the course of one year. The number of surveys requested depends on how long a patient has had back or neck pain and their use of pain medication. Surveys will collect information about pain, functional outcomes, satisfaction, treatment-related adverse events and use of treatment services. Recruitment materials and surveys will be available in English and Spanish. Participants will be reimbursed \$30 for the baseline survey, and an

additional \$10 per completed survey. If participants complete all surveys requested, they will receive a \$20 bonus. Participants can opt out of the study at any time.

If your service area is interested, we can work with you on additional methods for patient recruitment. These methods could include but are not limited to: MyChart outreach, distribution of study information onsite, and working with specific staff to tailor patient outreach activities. To reflect the higher levels of effort involved in these approaches, we would provide additional clinic impact support.

3. Provide the study team with service area letterhead and a signatory from your organization (of your choosing) to be included in the recruitment letter sent to potential participants. Service area letterhead and signatures will be shared with Kaiser's Survey Research Program, who will manage the mailings to potential participants. Your staff will have the opportunity to review all outreach materials before they are sent out to eligible patients.
4. Allow us to conduct one or two fact-finding phone calls with members of your staff in order to collect information on the types of services available for pain management. We will ask about clinical workflows related to pain treatments and Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorder. Each phone call should take no longer than 30 minutes.

B. Participating clinics will receive:

1. By participating, your organization will provide patients and staff members with an opportunity to contribute to scientific knowledge about the how policies can impact back pain, opioid prescribing, and improve access to care among underserved patients in Oregon and California.
2. Participating clinics will be informed of study results and made aware of any publications.
3. In recognition of your service area's participation in this project, we will provide you with a \$2,900 clinic impact fee once project activities are completed.

C. Study timeline:

1. The study team will obtain service area letterhead and names of letter signatories. We will work with you to socialize the project with care teams and staff at each of your health centers.
2. Our research team will send recruitment materials to eligible patients. We anticipate patient outreach to occur between October 2018 and March 2019. OCHIN's research team will notify your service area when outreach to eligible patients is initiated and when it is completed.
3. The study team will schedule and conduct the fact-finding phone calls with appropriate staff persons as soon as possible.

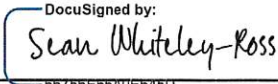
Your health centers' active participation in this study will end once these activities have been completed.

The County of Monterey Health Department hereby agrees to perform the activities outlined above for the purposes of the research project entitled, "A Naturalistic Experiment Evaluating the Impact of Medicaid Treatment Reimbursement Changes on Opioid Prescribing and Patient Outcomes Among Patients with Low Back Pain" described above, and subject to the IRB-approved research protocol.

SIGNATURES

For the Organization: _____ **Date** _____

Name, Role or Position (print): _____

For OCHIN:  _____ **Date** 8/30/2018

Name, Role or Position (print): _____

OCHIN Back on Track Study

COUNTER SIGNATURE PAGE, (continued)

COUNTY OF MONTEREY

By: _____

Elsa M. Jimenez, Director of Health
Department of Health

Date: _____

Approved as to Fiscal Provisions:

By: _____

Gary Giboney, Auditor-Controller

Date: _____

Approved as to Legal Form:

By: _____

Stacy L. Sactta, Deputy County Counsel

Date: _____