

SORCE

Thank you for your collaboration in 2012

As Medical Director of the Surgical Outcomes Research Center (SORCE), I am proud to update you on our progress over the last year. The SORCE mission focuses on training the next generation of researchers, creating high-impact research, and facilitating policy and system-level interventions aimed at improving the effectiveness, efficacy, and efficiency of healthcare delivery. Established in 2005, SORCE has grown into a multidisciplinary collaboration of researchers from across health science disciplines, including over 25 UW faculty from 15 departments and 4 schools, and clinicians at 35 clinical practice sites across the Washington State. Our staff of 46 includes research scientists, analysts, coordinators, and support personnel, as well as 3 post-doctoral fellows and 22 undergraduate student interns. Our growth in personnel over the past 6 years has corresponded to record levels of funding, outstanding research productivity, and an outcomes research training program that is unrivaled.

As part of our training mission, SORCE aims to be the premier resource to junior faculty, post-doctoral fellows, residents, and other trainees growing skills in health services, outcomes, and comparative effectiveness research. SORCE is currently in its third year of a NIH-funded T32 post-doctoral training program and is a founding member of the UW Centers for Comparative and Health Systems Effectiveness (UW CHASE Alliance). SORCE-affiliated faculty and trainees participate in weekly work-in-progress sessions to gain exposure to different methodologies and approaches and receive mentorship from world-class leaders in healthcare system evaluation, health economics, and patient-centered and comparative research. Moreover, SORCE takes pride in cultivating staff to be first-class partners to investigators and facilitating continual professional development. Staff participate in bi-monthly SORCE-sponsored Brown Bag Lunches and several other on-going Department, UW CHASE Alliance, and University training opportunities.

In pursuit of the research aspect of our mission, SORCE has been awarded over \$27 million in grant support over the last 6 years and is driving the science of outcomes research. SORCE maintains an active portfolio of research aimed at the discovery of new mechanisms for diabetes resolution, assessing the health economic impact of surgical or other invasive interventions, exploring the role of behavioral economics in decision making, addressing inappropriate care, and driving quality improvement science. Over the last 2 years, SORCE

investigators have actively built CERTAIN, a network of Washington State healthcare providers and organizations participating in continuous evaluation of healthcare delivery and research with the aim at getting to better patient care. Through CERTAIN, SORCE investigators run studies designed to provide evidence on the effectiveness, benefits, and harms of different treatment options for different types of patients in real-world settings. CERTAIN goes to lengths to include patient voices in its work in order to understand the real impact of healthcare interventions and to help researchers focus on the issues that matter to patients. CERTAIN emphasizes the importance of the engagement of a broad range of stakeholders in its work, including clinicians, payers, and policymakers and hosts numerous forums and advisory groups that allow all healthcare stakeholders to take part in directing and participating in research.

SORCE's third mission is to change the way healthcare is delivered so that the right people get the right operations, at the right places, and at the right time. As the academic partner to the Foundation for Health Care Quality and the Surgical Care and Outcomes Assessment Program (SCOAP), SORCE investigators have been instrumental in changing the way healthcare providers across the State assess the quality of care; have developed partnerships with insurers and payers around performance monitoring; have expanded performance surveillance to include over 20 procedure-types across multiple specialties; and have introduced patient-reported outcomes into statewide continuous quality improvement efforts. In the last year alone, SORCE investigators have advised the State of Washington on payment reform initiatives and have worked to change the way the health of patients is optimized before surgery through the Strong for Surgery public health campaign.

We are excited about the phenomenal growth of SORCE in the past few years across our triple mission and the many opportunities the future holds for our group. Thank you for your support of SORCE in the last year, and we look forward to another productive year of partnership in 2013.



Dave Flum, MD, MPH
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

- 35 Active partnerships with clinical practices and healthcare foundations
- 53 Publications and invited presentations
- 28 Programs and projects underway
- 7,000+ Patients screened for inclusion in research studies
- 96% 3-year retention rate achieved in the Longitudinal Assessment of Bariatric Surgery (LABS) Study
- 13,429 Surgical procedures reviewed for quality and performance benchmarking
- 12,623 Patients surveyed by the Patient Voices Project
- 25 Multi-stakeholder and Patient Advisory forums hosted
- 180 Professional skill-building courses taken by SORCE staff
- 22 Brown Bag Sessions held internally to promote staff learning

STAFF: 41

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS: 3

STUDENT EMPLOYEES: 5

UNDERGRADUATE INTERNS: 22

ACRONYMS: 115

CONTACT INFORMATION/SOCIAL MEDIA:

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CERTAIN program website: www.becertain.org

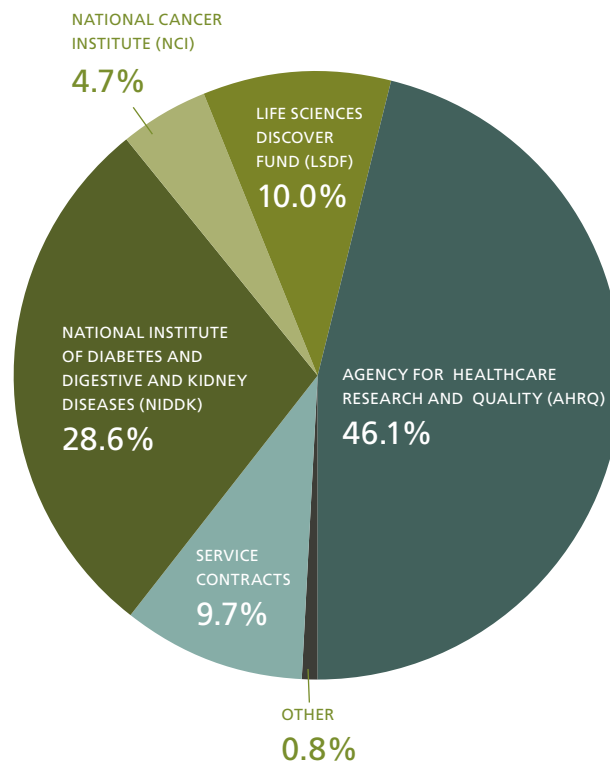
SORCE website: depts.washington.edu/sorce

Find our Strong for Surgery program on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/StrongforSurgery

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Search Groups for "SORCE" and "CERTAIN" to find us on LinkedIn

FUNDING SOURCES



\$27,119,678

TOTAL EXTERNAL FUNDING RECEIVED SINCE 2007

