

UCSF

Department of Family &  
Community Medicine



**Center for  
Excellence  
in Primary Care**

ADFM Research Committee  
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<https://cepc.ucsf.edu/>

# CEPC

- Founded 2003 when I became chair of UCSF Dept FCM and recruited Tom Bodenheimer to UCSF FCM faculty
- Mission statement: *CEPC identifies, develops, tests, and disseminates promising innovations in primary care to improve the patient experience, enhance population health and health equity, reduce the cost of care, and restore joy and satisfaction in the practice of primary care.*
- Scope
  - Research and Evaluation
  - Training
  - Practice Facilitation
  - Policy and Advocacy

# CEPC Team (ca.2020)



# Recipe to Bake a Primary Care Center

- Brilliant, collaborative people pursuing their passions with shared mission
- Start up funds
  - Chair recruitment dowry
  - Permanente Medical Group gift
- Diverse research portfolio, with emphasis on implementation science and evaluation
  - Topics: PC innovation/transformation, self-management/health coaching, teams, patient engagement, equity/SDOH, burnout, others
  - Methods: systematic reviews, descriptive field work/case studies, surveys +/- linked secondary data, pragmatic trials, RCTs
  - Diverse funders: foundations, PCORI, NIH, AHRQ, AAFP, AAMC, health systems, campus pilot grants, others

# Learning Health System approach integrating health system improvement, research, education

- System Transformation Evaluation Project (STEP)
  - Initiated 2011 as practice facilitation program for PC clinics in SF (SFHN, UCSF, FQHCs), with local foundation grant and partnership with local Medicaid managed care plan
  - Evaluation included annual surveys of PC clinicians and staff, including focus on burnout for quadruple aim
  - Never published on overall transformation outcomes, but burnout data proved extremely fruitful for research products
  - After grant ended, SFHN and UCSF Health assumed funding of annual surveys due to high value for informing organizational improvement work
  - Additional grants (AMA on EMR and burnout, AHRQ R03)

# Learning Health System

- Teaching Clinic Transformation: Clinic First Model Project
  - AAMC grant to study and describe innovations in primary care teaching clinics (Clinic First Model)
  - Development of Clinic First curriculum
  - Partnership with AFMRD on national residency program collaboratives for implementing Clinic First

# Challenges

- Funding
  - Lots of small grants and contracts
  - Large grant challenges (NIH, PCORI, AHRQ)
    - Chasing money leading to projects outside of primary care
  - Lots of in-kind effort
  - Subsidies from CEPC training revenues
- Inclusion of clinicians from other disciplines on project teams
- Alignment with existing UCSF PBRN (SF Bay Collaborative Research Network); and with other FCM research programs
- Faculty development for PC researchers