



2023 BRC ANNUAL REPORT

For the ADFM and NAPCRG Boards of Directors

The Building Research Capacity (BRC) initiative, co-sponsored by the Association of Departments of Family Medicine (ADFM) and the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG), was officially launched at the November 2016 NAPCRG conference¹. The initiative grew out of strategic priorities independently articulated by each organization in 2014 around strengthening research capacity within academic family medicine² and has built on the strengths and resources of each organization to develop several main areas over the last 5 years: ongoing curricular offerings (e.g. workshops at NAPCRG, ADFM, and other conferences); a consultation service; a new fellowship program, piloted in 2018-2019 and fully launched in 2021; and an evaluation and assessment arm. The current BRC Subcommittee & Workgroup rosters can be found on our website at: <https://adfm.org/programs/building-research-capacity-brc/>

Below is a report of highlights from the BRC Initiative in 2023. Efforts this year have focused on streamlining BRC support and structure. NAPCRG and ADFM both contribute funding for staffing with Amanda Weidner and Tom Vansaghi providing strategic support and ADFM providing administration and program support. Jessie Vera served in the BRC support staff role until her departure in June; before she left, Jessie made a lot of “hot to” guides for future BRC support. We are excited to welcome JoBeth Hamon into this role as of late August 2023, she continues to be onboarded and has hit the ground running with welcoming the incoming BRC fellows!

We are excited to have many members of the BRC Steering Committee participating in the National Family Medicine Research Summit; the team is also writing a summary of the overall outcomes of the initiative to date.

Upcoming changes to leadership

In 2021 we defined a path for leading BRC by defining a succession plan for the chair and vice chair roles. Each serves a 2-year term (so total term is 4 years). The vice chair position is appointed and ADFM and NAPCRG will rotate the appointment of this position; term dates will be in conjunction with NAPCRG terms (so November rotation).

¹ [The Building Research Capacity \(BRC\) Initiative: to Be Launched at the 2016 Annual NAPCRG Meeting](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5107023/). *Ann Fam Med* 2016;14:585-586. doi: 10.1370/afm.2009.

² [Building Research and Scholarship Capacity in Departments of Family Medicine: A New Joint ADFM-NAPCRG Initiative](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5107023/). *Ann Fam Med* 2016;14:82-83. doi: 10.1370/afm.1901.

In November, Current BRC Steering Committee Chair Peter H. Seidenberg, MD, MOL, FAFP, FACSM, RMSK will complete his term. Current Vice Chair Navkiran (Kiran) Shokar MA MD, MPH will automatically assume the role of chair and will serve November 2023-November 2025. Masahito Jimbo, MD, PhD, MPH, FAFP, was appointed by ADFM as the next Vice Chair for Nov 2023-Nov 2025 and NAPCRG will identify his successor next in the rotation.

Consultations

BRC provides a consulting service for departments and residency programs that need assistance in evaluating their readiness for investing in or expanding their commitment to primary care research. In 2022 we spent significant effort developing a contract template under the guidance of an attorney to help formalize our structure. We have also spent a significant amount of time refining our internal processes for identifying and delivering consultations, including roles, a workflow, and a fee schedule; this document is [available here for review](#) to anyone interested.

This year, we've had two long (30+ hour) consultations, one with University of Illinois Chicago and one with University of Chicago. This brings the total number of consultations delivered by BRC to 15 exploratory and 11 in-depth (paid) consultations.

More information for what consultations can include is now available on our website, here:
<https://adfm.org/programs/brc-consultation-service/>

Fellowship

BRC launched a fellowship on leading change to build research capacity in departments/institutions in 2021. This program is moving into its 3rd cohort in November 2023, with 7 new fellows. These are listed below in **Appendix A**.

We continue to refine the program and its structure based on our ongoing evaluations. For the 2023-2024 cohort, we have increased the tuition to \$7500 to cover registration to two NAPCRG and one ADFM meeting for in person cohort workshops as well as two years of membership in NAPCRG, the honorariums and travel-related costs for BRC Fellowship Faculty, and BRC staff time.

We are very excited that this year we will have the outgoing cohort present their projects as part of the NAPCRG conference, look for:

SPARC Presentations: Strategic Plans to Advance Research Capacity by graduates of the Building Research Capacity Fellowship (BRC.1)
10/31 at 10:15am-12:15pm
Union Square 15 & 16
<https://napcrg.org/conferences/2017/sessions/5726>

Programming (“Curriculum”) at various conferences

In 2023 the BRC team presented “Building Research Capacity: Change Management, A Tool for Meeting your Department’s Research Goals” as a preconference workshop at the ADFM conference and “Increasing Research Capacity: How Much Is Right for You?” at the STFM Annual Conference. We are excited for two presentations at the upcoming NAPCRG conference (in addition to the fellows’ projects noted above). Look for:

The Joy of Research: Discovering, Rediscovering, and Growing It (WS.2)
10/31 at 3:00-4:30pm
Franciscan B
<https://napcrg.org/conferences/2017/sessions/5039>

Strategies to Keep Your (Post-Pandemic) Research Moving Forward (WS.36)
11/2 at 11:45am-1:15pm
Imperial A
<https://napcrg.org/conferences/2017/sessions/5159>

This brings the total number of **presentations and workshops since November 2016 up to 26**. The list of presentations since then is shared as **Appendix B**. Submissions and plans for the 2024 ADFM, STFM, and NAPCRG conference are underway!

Measurement & Evaluation

The M&E subgroup makes sure that all of the BRC programming is evaluated, including fellowship content, presentations at conferences and elsewhere, and consultations. This year, they recruited a few new members to double in size (from 2 to 4!). The new team has been active and engaged.

With the upcoming Research Summit and the special issue of a journal planned as part of the research strategic plan and summit package, the M&E team has been working on a longitudinal evaluation of the program, specifically going back to interview all programs and departments that have had a BRC consultation to learn more about long-term outcomes from the program.

One additional idea under consideration is the creation of a “Research” subcommittee of the BRC Steering Committee that would focus on analyzing the data we have collected over time, such as this effort. This idea is on hold until after the Research Summit when its utility in the “big picture” of the national strategic plan can be better assessed.

Appendix A: 2023-2024 Fellowship Faculty, Mentors, and Fellows

Fellowship Co-Directors

- Stephen Stacey, DO, Director of Osteopathic Education, Mayo Clinic Family Medicine Residency
- Peter Seidenberg, MD, MA Professor, Chair, and Physician at LSU Health School of Medicine

Fellowship Faculty & Mentors include:

- Dean Seehusen, MD, Professor & Chair, Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University
- Lynn Meadows, PhD, Assoc. Emerita Professor, University of Calgary
- Richelle J. Koopman, MD, MS, Professor and Vice Chair for Research and Faculty Affairs, University of Missouri
- Melanie Steiner-Sherwood, PhD, Associate Director of Research Development, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, University of Utah

BRC Fellows 2023-2024

First Name	Last Name	Institution	Position
Julie	Armin	The University of Arizona	Assistant Professor
Jeffrey	Goodie	Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences	Professor, Deputy Director of Research
Jeffrey	Hostetter	University of North Dakota	Associate Program Director
Sarah	Kessler	University of Kansas Medical Center	Professor, Director of Research Division
Mikhail	Koffarnus	University of Kentucky	Associate Professor and Vice Chair of Research
Nathaniel	Miller	Mayo Clinic College of Medicine	Assistant Professor of Family Medicine
Janet	Page-Reeves	University of New Mexico	Professor & Vice Chair for Research

Appendix B: Presentations by Year

Year	Conference	Title
2016	NAPCRG	BRC Launch - Building a culture of inquiry in departments and residency programs
2016	NAPCRG	Role of leadership and senior management in facilitating or impeding scholarship and research development
2017	ADFM	Joy in Research: The Role of the Administrator-Chair Partnership in Inspiring Research
2017	STFM	Creating a Culture of Inquiry in Academic Family Medicine
2017	NAPCRG	Means to Meaningful Mentorship
2018	ADFM	What Does Building Research Capacity Mean to Departments of Family Medicine: A BRC Dialogue
2018	STFM	Should Family Medicine Educators be Expected to Do Research: A Point-Counterpoint Debate
2018	STFM	I Am Not a Researcher: Why Should I do Research? How Participation in Research Makes ME a Better Family Medicine Educator
2018	NAPCRG	Promoting Research and Scholarship in Family Medicine: Finding the Time and Money to Support It: A Building Research Capacity (BRC) Workshop
2019	ADFM	Key Chair Decisions in Building Research and Scholarship Capacity
2019	STFM	Quality Improvement Projects as Research: A Building Research Capacity (BRC) How-To Workshop
2019	NAPCRG	A BRC Forum: How to Do Feasible and Gratifying Research by Aligning with Clinical, Quality and Operational Priorities
2019	NAPCRG	Building Research Capacity: Gathering US and Canada Chair and Research Leader Priorities and Practical Strategies

2020	ADFM	The Leader's Guide to Decision-Making When Building Research and Scholarship Capacity (preconference workshop)
2020	STFM	Creating Great Educational Research Projects - A Building Research Capacity (BRC) Session
2020	NAPCRG	Strategies to Address Research Challenges and Opportunities in the Midst of a Global Pandemic: A BRC Workshop.
2020	NAPCRG	Building Research Capacity: From Priorities and Strategies to Department Actions (preconference workshop)
2020	FMEC	Building Research Capacity: From Priorities and Strategies to Action
2021	ADFM	Research in the Era of Crises: COVID, Health Equity, Population Health, or Making a More Equitable Research Enterprise (preconference workshop)
2022	ADFM	Creating a Strategic Plan for Research in Your Department
2022	STFM	Fulfilling Your Program's Scholarship Requirements Through Readily Available Resources and Creative Strategies
2022	NAPCRG	Utilizing Research Indicators to Boost Your Department's Effectiveness
2023	ADFM	Building Research Capacity: Change Management, A Tool for Meeting your Department's Research Goals
2023	STFM	Increasing Research Capacity: How Much Is Right for You?
2023	NAPCRG	SPARC Presentations: Strategic Plans to Advance Research Capacity by graduates of the Building Research Capacity Fellowship
2023	NAPCRG	The Joy of Research: Discovering, Rediscovering, and Growing It
2023	NAPCRG	Strategies to Keep Your (Post-Pandemic) Research Moving Forward