



OHSU

Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

# Systematic Reviews of Drugs Within Classes: Searching for Health Care Value

**WEIGHING THE EVIDENCE:  
Conducting Reviews of Pharmaceuticals in Four Countries  
April 22, 2005  
Washington, D.C.**

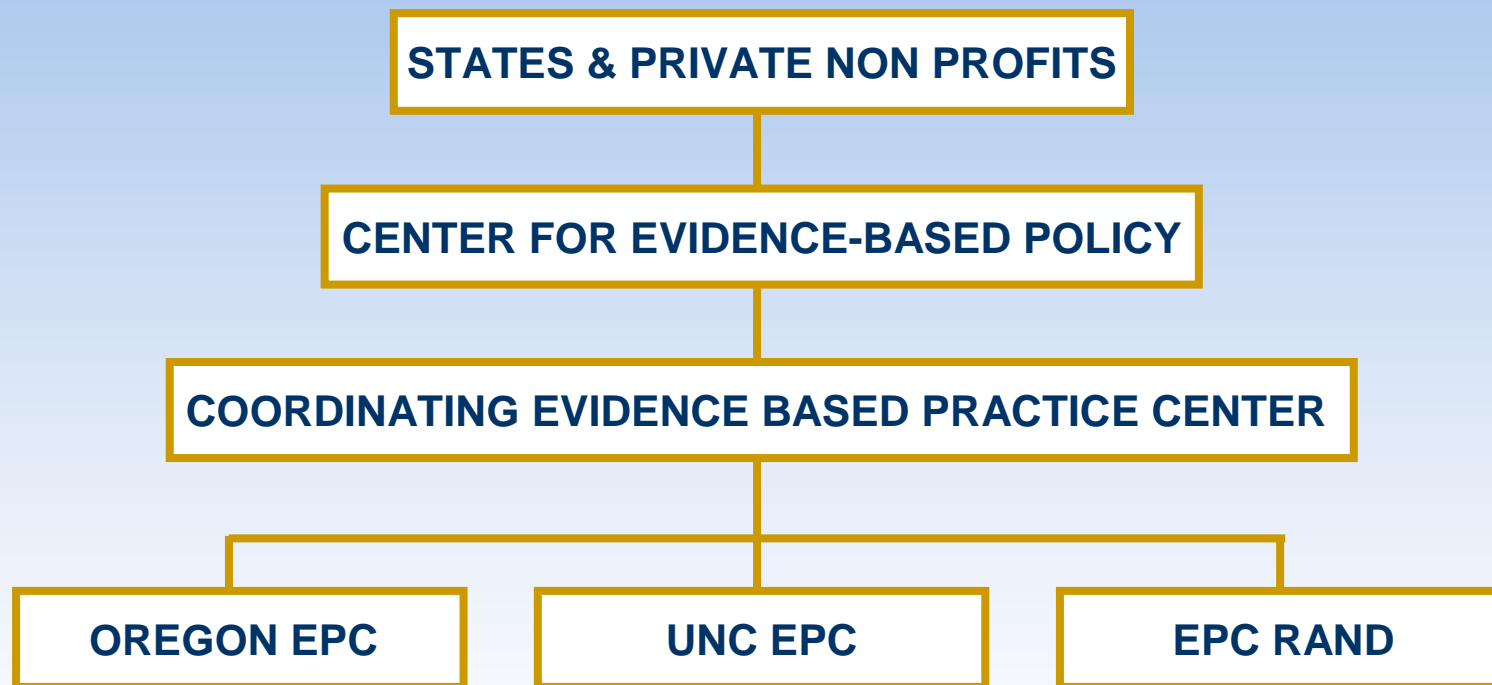
CENTER FOR EVIDENCE  BASED POLICY  
*Globalizing Evidence, Localizing Decisions*

# Drug Effectiveness Review Project

*Self-governing collaboration of organizations that:*

- Obtain and synthesize global evidence on the relative effectiveness, safety and effect on subpopulations of drugs within therapeutic classes.
- Support policy makers in using the evidence to inform policy in local decision making.

# Overview of Project



# Participating Organizations

- Alaska
- Arkansas
- California
- Oregon
- Washington
- Idaho
- Wyoming
- Kansas
- Michigan
- Missouri
- Minnesota
- North Carolina
- Wisconsin
- CHCF/CALPERS
- CCOHTA

Other organizations are in the contracting process.

# Systematic Reviews

## Comparing Effectiveness of Drugs Within Classes

- Key questions
- Inclusion/exclusion criteria
- Global data search
- Evaluation of data quality
- Synthesis of good quality data
- Draft report and peer review
- Final report
  - Presentation to participants
  - PowerPoint
  - Executive Summary
  - Full text report (Public Domain)

# Template Key Questions

1. What is the comparative efficacy of different (name drug class) in improving (name the outcome desired) for (name type of patients by symptoms, disease etc.)?
2. What are the comparative incidence and nature of complications (serious or life threatening, or those that may adversely affect compliance of different (name the drug class)) for patients being treated for (name the type of patients by symptoms, disease, etc.)?
3. Are there subgroups of patients based on demographics (age, racial/ethnic groups, gender), other medications or co-morbidities (obesity for example) for which one or more medications or preparations are more effective or associated with fewer adverse effects?

# Systematic Reviews

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# Drug Company Interaction

- One day informational conference
- Dossier Submission
  - Evidence relevant to key questions
  - No economic data
  - Center is industry contact
  - Public Comment Period
- Full disclosure policy



# First Four Classes Oregon Conclusions

1. **PPIs/heartburn** — "no significant demonstrable differences among them"
2. **Long-acting opioids** — "insufficient evidence to draw any conclusions about the comparative effectiveness"
3. **Statins/cholesterol lowering** — "evidence supports the ability of lovastatin, pravastatin and simvastatin to improve coronary heart disease clinical outcomes."
4. **NSAIDs** — "no significant clinical differences for pain, VIOXX presents potential cardiac risk"

# Classes Reviewed

1. PPIs
2. Long-acting opioids
3. Statins
4. NSAIDs
5. Estrogens
6. Triptans
7. Muscle Relaxants
8. Oral Hypoglycemics
9. Incontinence Drugs
10. ACE Inhibitors
11. Beta Blockers
12. Calcium Channel Blockers
13. ARBs
14. 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Antidepressants
15. Atypical Anti-psychotics
16. 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Antihistamines
17. Anticonvulsants for Pain and BiPolar
18. Inhaled Corticosteroids
19. ADHD Drugs
20. Alzheimer's Drugs
21. Anti-platelet Drugs



# Use by Participants

- Provider/prescriber/consumer education (NC, CHCF)
- Augment P&T Committee Information with thorough and transparent reports (AK, MI, WI, MN, MO)
- Primary P&T Committee Information base (WA, WY, OR, ID, KS)
- Support to other levels of government (CCOHTA)
- Inter-relationship between PDL exception process, savings, and restrictiveness of lists

# Relevance to Other Payers

- Individual Consumers
- Business
- Labor
- Medicare

# Contact Information

[www.ohsu.edu/policycenter](http://www.ohsu.edu/policycenter)

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