

Commitment to Research & Innovation

To advance pediatric medicine and better serve children and adolescents and their families, the PPOC plans and conducts its own stringently controlled research and quality control projects. We place our primary focus on areas that we determine are most in need of solutions and better clinical approaches.

Below is a bibliography of published and presented PPOC research projects:

Research and Analysis Posters Presentations and Publications

1. Publications by Year

a. 2012

- i. Title: Ambulatory Subspecialty Visits in a Large Pediatric Primary Care Network
Journal: Health Services Research
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, M.D., Jennifer M. Muto, M.D., Gregory Young, M.D.,
Wanessa Risko, M.D.
Published July 2012
- ii. Title: [Correlation of Care Process Measures With Childhood Asthma
Exacerbations](#)
Journal: Pediatrics
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, Emily K. Trudell and Jennifer M. Muto
Published December 3, 2012

b. 2013

- i. Title: [A Quality Improvement Program to Reduce Unnecessary Referrals for
Adolescent Scoliosis](#)
Journal: Pediatrics
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, Emily K. Trudell, M. Timothy Hresko, Lawrence I.
Karlin and Wanessa Risko
Published February 18, 2013

c. 2014

- i. Title: [Effectiveness of an Asthma Quality Improvement Program Designed for
Maintenance of Certification](#)
Journal: Pediatrics
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, Mary E. Francis, Daniel M. Epstein, Jean Santangelo,
Emily K. Trudell, Meghan E. Reynolds and Wanessa Risko
Published June 16, 2014

d. 2015

- i. Title: Shared Care: A Quality Improvement to Optimize Primary Care
Management of Constipation
Journal: Pediatrics
Authors: Daniel Mellon, MD, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Emily Trudell, MPH,
Richard Antonelli, MD, MS, Samuel Nurko, MD, MPH, Alan M. Leichtner, MD,
MHPEd, Jenifer R. Lightdale, MD, MPH

Published May 2015

- ii. Title: Population Health for Children With Asthma: Time to Let Some Fresh Air In
Journal: Pediatrics
Author: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published June 2015
- iii. Title: The Pharmacy- Level Asthma Medication Ration and Population Health
Journal: Pediatrics
Authors: Andrew F. Beck, MD, MPH, Courtney L. Bradley, PharmD, Bin Huang, PhD, Jeffrey M. Simmons, MD, MSc, Pamela C. Heaton, PhD, RPh, PharmD, Robert S. Kahn, MD, MPH
Published June 2015
- iv. Title: Trends in Ambulatory Care for Children with Concussion and Minor Head Injury from Eastern Massachusetts between 2007 and 2013
Journal: The Journal of Pediatrics
Authors: Alex M. Taylor, PsyD, Lise E. Nigrovic, MD, MPH, Meredith L. Saillant, MD, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Mark R. Proctor, MD, Jonathan R. Modest, MPH, and Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published September 2015
- v. Title: Total Direct Medical Expenses and Characteristics of Privately Insured Adolescents Who Incur High Costs
Journal: Journal of the American Medical Association
Authors: Susan H. Gray, MD, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, S. Jean Emans, MD, Elizabeth R. Woods, MD, MPH, Jay G. Berry, MD, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published October 5, 2015

e. 2016

- i. Title: Practice-Based Quality Improvement Collaborative to Increase Chlamydia Screening in Young Women
Journal: Pediatrics
Authors: Amy D. DiVasta, MD, MMSc, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Mary Francis, RN, Glenn Focht, MD, Farah Jooma, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Sara F. Forman, MD
Published May 2016
- ii. Title: 'Constipation Challenge' game improves guideline knowledge and implementation
John Wiley & Sons Ltd. MEDICAL EDUCATION
Authors: Daniel Mallon, Louis Vernacchio, Alan M. Leichtner and B. Price Kerfoot
Published May 2016
- iii. Title: Results of a Primary Care-Based Quality Improvement Project to Optimize Chart-Based Vision Screening for Preschool Age Children
Journal: Journal of AAPOS

Authors: Jonathan R. Modest, MPH, Suzanne C. Johnston, MD, MPH, Katherine M. Majzoub, RN, MGA, Bruce Moore, OD, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Jean E. Ramsey, MD, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published August 2016

- iv. Title: A Telephone Intervention to Achieve Differentiation in Dietary Intake: A Randomized Trial in Pediatric Primary Care
Journal: Pediatric Obesity
Authors: E.T. Rhodes, L. Vernacchio, A.A. Mitchell, C. Fischer, P. Giacalone, D.S. Ludwig and C.B. Ebbeling
Published August 2016

f. 2017

- i. Title: Implementation and Evaluation of Two Education Strategies to Improve Screening for Eating Disorders in Pediatric Primary Care
Journal: Journal of Adolescent Health
Authors: Holly C. Gooding, MD, MSc, Elizabeth Cheever, MSc, Sara F. Forman, MD, Jonathan Hatoun, MD, MPH, MSc, Farah Jooma, MPH, Currie Touloumtzis, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published May 2017
- ii. Title: Implementation of Instrument-Based Vision Screening for Preschool-Age Children in Primary Care
Journal: Pediatrics
Authors: Jonathan R. Modest, MBA, MPH, Katherine M. Majzoub, RN, MBA, Bruce Moore, OD, Vijeta Bhambhani, MS, MPH, Sarah R. McLaughlin, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published July 2017
- iii. Title: Appropriateness of Tympanostomy Tubes in the Boston Metropolitan Area: Are the AAO-HNSF Guidelines Being Met?
Published by the American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery Foundation
Authors: Amy L. Hughes, MD, David Roberson, MD, MBA, Cassandra Bannos, MPH, MBA, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published July 2017
- iv. Title: Educational Initiative to Standardize Concussion Management in Pediatric Primary Care
Journal: Clinical Pediatrics
Authors: Alex M. Taylor, PsyD, Lise E. Nigrovic, MD, MPH, Meredith L. Saillant, MD, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Jonathan R. Modest, MBA, MPH, Madeleine Kuhn, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Published October 2017
- v. Title: Enhancing Pediatricians' Behavioral Health Competencies Through Child Psychiatry Consultation and Education
Journal: Clinical Pediatrics

Authors: Heather J. Walter, MD, MPH, Gina Kackloudis, BS, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Jonas Bromberg, PsyD, David R. DeMaso, MD, and Glenn Focht, MD

Published October 2017

- vi. Title: Primary Care Implementation of Instrument-Based Vision Screening for Young Children

Journal: Clinical Pediatrics

Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Jason Nigrosh, MMHS, Glenn Focht, MD

Published November 2017

g. 2018

- i. Title: Identifying Children at Risk of Asthma Exacerbations: Beyond HEDIS

Journal: American Journal of Managed Care

Authors: Jonathan Hatoun, MD, MPH, MS, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc

Published June 2018

h. 2019

- i. Title: Effect of Instrument-Based Vision Screening for 3-to-5-Year-Old Children on Referrals to Eye Care Specialists

Journal: Clinical Pediatrics

Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Sarah R. McLaughlin, MPH, Vijeta Bhambhani, MS, MPH

Published February 2019

2. Posters and Presentations

a. 2018

- i. Title: Safety Even Reports in Pediatric Primary Care

Format: Poster

Authors: Jonathan Hatoun, MD, MPH, MS, Nicole Pelletier, MPH, Elene Scheff, PT

Presented at Pediatric Academic Societies

b. 2017

- i. Title: Effectiveness of Instrument-Based Vision Screening for Preschool Age Children in Primary Care

Format: Poster

Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Jason Nigrosh, MMHS, Glenn Focht, MD

Presented at Pediatric Academic Societies

- ii. Title: Effectiveness of Instrument-Based Vision Screening for Preschool Age Children in Primary Care

Format: Podium Presentation

Authors: Jonathan Hatoun, MD, MPH, MS, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc

Presented at Pediatric Academic Societies Joint Meeting

c. 2016

- i. Title: Eating Disorder Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment: A Needs Assessment
Format: Poster
Authors: Currie Touloumtzis, MPH, Holly Gooding, MD, MSc, Elizabeth Cheever, BS, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Sara Forman, MD
Presented at Pediatric Academic Societies Joint Meeting
- ii. Title: A Network Approach to Integrating Behavioral Health in Pediatric Primary Care
Format: Presentation
Authors: Jonas Bromberg, PsyD, Glenn Focht, MD, Brad Frithsen, MPH, Ellen Goodman, MSW, LICSW
Presented at IHI's 17th Annual Summit on Improving Patient Care in the Office Practice and Community

d. 2015

- i. Title: Leveraging Learning Communities to Improve Chlamydia Screening in Adolescents
Format: Poster
Authors: Amy D. DiVasta, MD, MMSc, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Farah Jooma, MPH, Mary Francis, RN, Glenn Focht, MD, Sara F. Forman, MD
Presented at the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Annual Meeting
- ii. Title: Transforming Care: Integrating Behavioral Health
Format: Poster
Authors: Amy Armata, MHA, Jonas Bromberg, PsyD, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Brad Frithsen, MPH, Glenn Focht, MD, Ellen Goodman, MSW, LICSW, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Presented at IHI Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care
- iii. Instrument-Based Vision Screening For Preschool Aged Children: An Implementation Study
Format: Poster
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Jonathan Modest, MPH, Katherine Majzoub, RN, MBA, Bruce Moore, OD, Vijeta Bhambhani, MS, MPH, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Temitope Osineye, MBBS, MPH, Glenn Focht, MD, Jean Santangelo, RN, BSN
Presented at the IHI Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care
- iv. Title: Bringing Fully Integrated Behavioral Health to the Pediatric Medical Home
Format: Poster
Authors: Jonas Bromberg, PsyD, Amy Armata, MHA, Brad Frithsen, MPH, Ellen Goodman, MSW, LICSW, Emily Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Glenn Focht, MD

Presented at the Boston Children's Hospital Community Health Day

- v. Title: Instrument-Based Vision Screening for Preschool Aged Children: An Implementation Study
Format: Poster
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Temitope Osineye, MBBS, MPH, Jonathan Modest, MPH, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Katherine Mazjoub, RN, MBA, Bruce Moore, OD, Glenn Focht, MD, Jean Santangelo, RN, BSN
Presented at the Boston Children's Hospital Community Health Day
- vi. Title: Use of Tympanostomy Tubes in the Boston Metropolitan Area: Are the Academy Guidelines Being Met?
Format: Poster
Authors: Amy L. Hughes, MD, Cassandra Bannos, BA, Emily Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, David Roberson, MD
Presented at the American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology Spring Meeting

e. 2014

- i. Title: Total Medical Expense (TME) for Privately Insured Adolescents: Understanding the Causes of High Cost Care
Format: Poster
Authors: Susan H. Gray, MD, Emily Trudell, MPH, Urmi Bhaumik, MBBS, MS, ScD, Nora Boukus, MA, Ann Suny, BA, MBA, S. Jean Emans, MD, Elizabeth R. Woods, MD, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Presented at the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Annual Meeting
- ii. Title: Enhancing Clinical and Patient Value in Well Child Care (WCC)
Format: Poster
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Jonathan Modest, MPH, Emily Trudell, MPH, Glenn Focht, MD, Jean Santangelo, RN, BSN, Nicole Pelletier, MPH
Presented at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum on Quality in Health Care
- iii. Title: Leveraging Learning Communities to Improve Chlamydia Screening in Adolescents
Format: Poster
Authors: Sara F. Forman, MD, Amy D. DiVasta, MD, MMSc, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Farah Jooma, MPH, Mary Francis, RN, Glenn Focht, MD
Presented at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum on Quality in Health Care
- iv. Title: Enhancing Patient Safety in the Pediatric Primary Care Setting
Format: Poster
Authors: Ian Zenlea, MD, MPH, Elene Scheff, PT, Barbara Szeidler, RN, BS, LNC, CPHQ, Jean Santangelo, RN, BSN, Nina Rauscher, MS, RN, CPHQ, Kathy Jenkins, MD, MPH, Glenn Focht, MD

Presented at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum on Quality in Health Care

- v. Title: Improving Annual Vision Screening Rates
Format: Poster
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Jonathan Modest, MPH, Emily Trudell, MPH, Kathy Mazjoub, RN, MBA, Glenn Focht, MD, Jean Santangelo, RN, BSN
Presented at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum on Quality in Health Care
- vi. Title: A Quality Improvement Program to Evaluate Referrals for Myringotomy Tube Insertion
Format: Poster
Authors: Amy L. Hughes, MD, David Roberson, MD, Emily Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Presented at the European Society of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology International Congress
- vii. Title: Leveraging Learning Communities to Improve Chlamydia Screening in Adolescents
Format: Poster
Authors: Sara F. Forman, MD, Amy D. DiVasta, MD, MMSc, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Emily Trudell, MPH, Farah Jooma, MPH, Mary Francis, RN, Glenn Focht, MD
Presented at Boston Children's Hospital's Community Health Day

f. 2013

- i. Title: Shared Care: A Quality Improvement Initiative to Optimize Pre-Referral Management of Pediatric Constipation by Primary Care Providers
Format: Poster
Authors: D. Mallon, L. Vernacchio, A. Leichtner, R. Antonelli, E. Trudell, S. Nurko, J. Lightdale
Presented at the North American Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition Annual Meeting
- ii. Title: Using Learning Communities to Improve Well Child Visit Rates Across a Regional IPA
Format: Presentation
Authors: Jonathan Modest, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Glenn Focht, MD, Jean Santangelo, RSN, BSN, Emily Trudell, MPH
Presented at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum on Quality in Health Care
- iii. Title: PPOC Vision Screening Analysis
Format: Presentation
Authors: S.C. Johnston, L. Vernacchio, E.K. Trudell, K. Majzoub, R. Dayalu, B. Moore

Presented at the American Academy for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Annual Meeting

g. 2012

- i. Title: Improving Patient Satisfaction by Reorganizing Care
Format: Poster
Authors: J. Modest, E.K. Trudell, L. Vernacchio, W. Risko
Presented at the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care Innovations Conference
- ii. Title: Impact of an Asthma QI Program Approved for Maintenance of Certification by the American Board of Pediatrics on Processes and Outcomes of Asthma Care
Format: Poster
Authors: W. Risko, M. Francis, D. Epstein, J. Santangelo, L. Vernacchio
Presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies' Annual Meeting
- iii. Title: Assessing the Impact of a Medical Home Model on Patient Experiences in a Large Pediatric Network
Format: Poster
Authors: W. Risko, E.K. Trudell, J. Modest, J. Santangelo, D. Epstein, L. Vernacchio
Presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies' Annual Meeting

h. 2011

- i. Title: Asthma Exacerbations Among Children 5-17 Years of Age: Definition and Risk Factors
Format: Presentation
Authors: Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc and Jennifer Muto, MBA
Presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies' Joint Meeting
- ii. Title: Healthcare Costs for a Pediatric Population Across the Spectrum of Care
Format: Poster
Authors: Wanessa Risko, MD, DSc, Jennifer M. Muto, MBA, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc
Presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies' Annual Meeting
- iii. Title: Improving Patient Experience by Reorganizing Care: The Effect of the Medical Home
Format: Poster
Authors: Jonathan R. Modest, BA, Emily K. Trudell, MPH, Louis Vernacchio, MD, MSc, Wanessa Risko, MD, DSc
Presented at the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care Innovations Conference