Hey Community Engagers,

Many thanks to those who submitted nominations for PACT Council membership. The nominations now go to the PACT Nominating Committee (aka PACT Executive Committee) for consideration. Stay tuned...and keep thinking about possible good candidates.

Fernando Pineda-Reyes is one busy dude. We know him best through his role on our CCTSI PACT Council, but he was glimpsed in a PBS NewsHour video that aired January 25th, "Telenovelas: Are Spanish-Language Soap Operas Good for Your Health?" Along with romance and scandal, Spanish-language soap operas provide some clear messages on health care for Latinos in Colorado. Take a look. [http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/health/jan-june12/telenovelas_01-25.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/health/jan-june12/telenovelas_01-25.html)

Additionally, Fernando is co-author of a 2011 Community Engagement Conference Think Tank Meeting report published in the *Science Translational Medicine* journal. Way cool!

Editor's Summary: In August 2011, scientists and policy-makers held a conference entitled "Using Information Technology to Improve Community Health: How Health Care Reform Supports Innovation." At the conference, four "Think Tank" sessions convened, one which was "Health Information Technology (HIT) as a Resource to Improve Community Health and Education." During this session, a diverse group of 30 individuals discussed ways that HIT could engage communities to improve patient health, education, and research involvement.


Read the article at: [http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/4/119/119mr1.full.html](http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/4/119/119mr1.full.html)

The national CTSA Consortium has a new website! To visit the site, click the following link or copy it into your browser, [www.ctsacentral.org](http://www.ctsacentral.org).

**PCORI's First National Priorities for Research and Research Agenda**

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) issued for public comment their first draft [National Priorities for Research and Research Agenda](http://www.pcm.i.org/researchpriorities/). The priorities and agenda provide a framework and identify the broad questions that must be addressed so that patients can make better and more personalized decisions in partnership with their clinicians across all areas of health. The public comment period will remain open until 11:59 p.m. EST on March 15. PCORI encourages individuals to provide
comment through its website but will also accept input by mail. Responses received through www.pcori.org will be displayed for public view on the website.

PCORI is holding additional forums to obtain and incorporate public feedback on the draft National Priorities for Research and Research Agenda. These forums include focus groups, involving patients, caregivers and clinicians, as well as a national dialogue session on February 27 in Washington, D.C. The dialogue is open to the public and will be accessible through a webcast and teleconference to allow individuals to participate remotely.

Stay safe in the snow and have a great weekend,
Jack Westfall