



Hello!
Fall 2023

Research. Quality.
Transformation.



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Updates and News from the Kentucky Ambulatory Network

Hello KAN members! KAN continues in our mission to engage our members as we learn of your interests and facilitation needs.

In the last few months, KAN coordinator, **Courtney Ortz, PhD**, has traveled to **19 of the clinical sites of the King's Daughters network to meet with members**. She has visited primary care clinics in Ashland, Catlettsburg, Flatwoods, Grayson, Greenup, Olive Hill, and Sandy Hook in Kentucky in addition to South Point and Ironton, Ohio.

During these visits, Courtney has provided a description of KAN, and what KAN can do for them: providing information about research studies and quality improvement opportunities for both the KAN member, their institution, and their patient populations. Help us continue to expand our network! Find our LinkedIn page (see last page of this newsletter) and pass along this newsletter!

We also work to assist you in developing your own funding applications or projects. In her visits, Courtney discussed the procedures the King's Daughters network clinics currently have in place to conduct, track and address CRC screening, as they have expressed interest in submitting a grant application to facilitate these processes in their clinics. Stay tuned for more updates regarding these activities. **If you would like to schedule a time for KAN leadership to meet with you in your clinic, please contact us at KAN@uky.edu and see links on last page of this newsletter.**

Welcome Dr. Amina Shalash to the KAN Advisory Board

Dr. Amina Shalash joins our board of 7 members who voluntarily commit their time to attend 2 board meetings per year and respond to research requests from KAN members.

Dr. Amina Shalash is a solo family medicine doctor in a rural health clinic, Winchester Family Practice. She has practiced for 21 years. Dr. Shalash has nine individuals who are employed at her practice including an APRN, a physician who works when Dr. Shalash is out of the office, which is typically 3-4 days a month, an office manager/biller, CMAs, an administrative assistant, and her husband and daughter, who do maintenance and accounting, respectively.

Dr. Shalash trained under Dr. Kevin Pearce, founder of KAN in 2000. She reports that she participated in a KAN supported diabetes study about 12 years ago and she still implements what she learned under the study. Dr. Shalash states that she knew things, but was not good at documenting, and this study which developed a flow sheet



for the EMR helped with that.

Solo family doctors used to comprise about 30% of practices and now only comprise about 6%, so she feels very alone and isolated.

Dr. Shalash has always been interested in research and is known for saying, "When I retire, I will do this as a research study." She has a list of research study ideas and hopes to be able to complete them one day. As a solo family medicine physician, it is difficult to participate in research. Research can be an excellent way to engage with others across the state with similar interests.

Dr. Shalash is excited to learn about the KAN processes as a board member! Please join us in welcoming her to the board.

Dr. Omer Atac Visits KAN Clinic



Omer Atac, MD, PhD is a visiting scholar from Türkiye who has been in Kentucky for a year and will be here for at least another year. He is splitting his time at The American Board of Family Medicine with Lars Peterson, MD, PhD, and the College of Public Health Department of Health Management and Policy at UK. He received his MD from Marmara University in Türkiye and his Phd in Public Health from Istanbul University in Türkiye. His current position is Assistant Professor at the International School of Medicine, Istanbul Medipol University in his country. Dr. Atac received a postdoctoral scholarship from The Scientific and

Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK).

Dr. Atac was interested in visiting a non-academic primary care physician office and Dr. Peterson reached out to KAN to see if we could assist. KAN arranged for Dr. Omer Atac to visit Dr. Richard Dartt's office at Northgate Medical Group in Harrodsburg, KY.

Dr. Omer Atac reports having a positive experience with his visit. He expressed how welcoming Dr. Richard Dartt's team was, and explained that a big difference he saw in this clinic as compared to the clinics back home was that at Dr. Richard Dartt's office, they schedule appointments based on the reason for visiting which they do not do back home. He reports this appears to be more productive.

**THANK YOU TO OUR KAN
CLINIC, NORTHGATE
MEDICAL GROUP, AND DR.
RICHARD DARTT AND STAFF
FOR
ALLOWING DR. OMER ATAC TO
SPEND THE DAY WITH YOU!!!!**

Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR)

KYIR is a secure, web-based information system that stores immunization records for individuals of all ages in Kentucky. Healthcare providers contribute vaccination data into the registry either manually into the KYIR user interface or through electronic health record (EHR) connections to KYIR through the Kentucky Health Information Exchange (KHIE). It is free of charge and patients can access their records as well.

KYIR Public Portal Link: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/idb/Pages/kyirportal.aspx>

The flyer below is linked to this site in a Spanish version as well.

KY Immunization outreach: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/pages/iom.aspx>

GETTING VACCINATION RECORDS HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER!

Through the secure Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR) Public Portal you can obtain a copy of your immunization records.

ON THE KYIR PUBLIC PORTAL, YOU CAN ACCESS:



DIGITAL COPY

A digital copy of your immunization records.



SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

For students under 18 years of age a digital copy of school certificates can be obtained.



COVID-19 SMART HEALTH CARD

A copy of your COVID-19 vaccination records or a SMART Health Card: A digital copy of your COVID-19 vaccination records that can be stored on a phone.

To access a copy of your immunization records from the KYIR Public Portal scan the QR code provided or visit:

chfs.ky.gov/KDPHMyVaxRecord



If you are unable to access your immunization records through the KYIR Public Portal please contact the KYIR Helpdesk at:

KYIRHelpdesk@ky.gov

If your Immunization records are incomplete please contact your healthcare provider.



Kentucky Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Other KAN Activities

2023 KAFP CONFERENCE

KAN had a vendor booth at the KAFP Conference in Bowling Green back in September! It was nice to see everyone and expand our network! We appreciate the support and are here to help you with your research needs!



2023 Kentucky REC Conference

KAN Director, Karen Roper, PhD, attended this conference addressing social determinants of health and displayed a KAN vendor table.



Current Research KAN is Supporting

ACTIVELY RECRUITING!

More detail on each of these **Research Opportunities** is shown in the pages that follow!

- Dr. Micky Koffarnus' NIH Experimental treatment research study aimed at facilitating abstinence from alcohol. *Recruiting patients 18 years or older who drink excessively and are interested in cutting down or quitting*
- Dr. Stacy Stanifer's study evaluating a tip sheet for patients with respiratory conditions and weak immune system who experienced flooding. *Recruiting all clinic staff in Southeast Kentucky.*
- Dr. Karen Roper's video CME/research opportunity on treating patients with Opioid Use Disorder. *Recruiting Physicians (MD, DO, APRN, PA) employed in primary care family or internal medicine in Kentucky. Gain up to 1.25 CME and \$75*

Research Opportunities

Patient Education for flood-affected individuals. (included in this newsletter)

Natural disasters, like the flooding southeastern Kentucky experienced, present unique challenges for persons with weak immune systems and those with chronic respiratory conditions, as well as the healthcare systems which must stand ready to keep them safe and healthy.

Those with weakened immune systems and chronic lung conditions need tailored health and safety education following a flood to decrease infection risk, breathing complications, and reduce treatment delays. UK-CARES and UK Healthcare developed a patient education tip sheet that provides **guidance to the patient and/or caregiver on topics such as infection and mold avoidance, food and water safety, medication considerations and care coordination** to assist with the care of these vulnerable patients.

This work meets a tremendous and immediate need for flood recovery resources for adult and pediatric patients with weakened immune systems and chronic lung conditions.

DR. STANIFER'S GOALS

1. To disseminate the tip sheet! We are thrilled to offer this through KAN primary care network connections!
2. To gather healthcare provider opinions on the usability, usefulness, perceived impact, and dissemination of the tip sheet. In doing so, we will be better prepared to support patients and healthcare systems before and following natural disasters.

SEE THE FLYER INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER, including a link and QR code that people can use to request either printed or an electronic version of the tip sheet: **Elect to participate in the study by providing us with feedback on the content.**

In addition to the tip sheet, Dr. Stanifer and her team will evaluate the social media reach of PSAs as a means of disseminating post-flood health and safety guidance for vulnerable populations.

Please use the links below to view these PSAs:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVZqCUc6IeQ>
<https://youtu.be/bzKDaR43FU>

Dr. Mikhail Koffarnus, is conducting an NIH-funded experimental treatment research study (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT03883126) aimed at facilitating abstinence from alcohol.

This study aims to provide incentives (depending on group assignment) contingent upon verifiable alcohol abstinence as measured via a small, portable breathalyzer three times per day.

Potential participants are required to attend between one to two in-person sessions. Then, over the course of 15 months, participants complete 10 follow-up questionnaires (each questionnaire takes about 1 ½ to 2 hours to complete) that can be completed at home and are compensated \$30 per completed questionnaire.

Depending on randomized group assignment, participants will be asked to submit breathalyzer samples three times per day and also self-report withdrawal symptoms and drinks consumed each day. The remote breathalyzer is small (fits in the palm of the hand) and breathalyzer submissions take less than 1 minute to complete. Participants will be provided a cell phone if they do not have a compatible cell phone or would not like to use their own cell phone.

Compensation for completing all study activities is dependent on the randomized group assignment and may range from \$375 to \$1,412 over the 15 months.

Please share this opportunity with any patients you think may benefit from this research.

<https://healthful.ukhc.org/participate/>

EDUCATIONAL (CME) and Research Opportunity

MDs, DOs, APRNs, PAs: Contribute to Research with this PAID + CE opportunity!

Primary care currently represents fewer than 1 in 5 providers offering medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD). **This educational activity presents how one primary care doctor tackles some of the most common fears, myths and perceived barriers to prescribing buprenorphine in the busy office setting.**

SEE THE FLYER INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER -or- reach out to us by email at: FamMed.UKyResearch@uky.edu



Joining KAN: SHARE THESE LINKS!

KAN Organizational Member Form

Organizational
examples include:
health departments
KAFP, KPCA,
Foundation for a
Healthy KY
clinics

<https://redcap.uky.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=NH9WY-WWTHTN9437A>



KAN Individual Member Form

Individual members include:

MDs, PAs,
RN, APRN, Nurse midwives,
counselors, social workers,
dentists, dental hygienists,
pharmacists

<https://redcap.uky.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=7RE8ANJFL37JD37X>



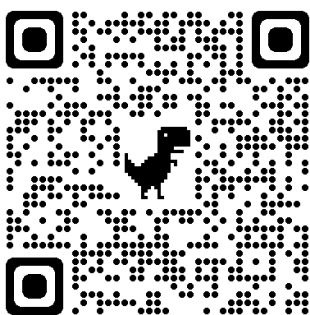
Questions, Comments? Ask us anything!

KAN@uky.edu

OR

Karen Roper, PhD
KAN Director
859-257-4880

OR Courtney Ortiz, PhD
KAN Coordinator
859-218-6135



Join our LinkedIn group!!

This LinkedIn group is **intended to** allow members to continue connections/collaborations through discussions, polls, notifications of events, and opportunities for research, CEU's, etc.

Please find us on LinkedIn and follow us! <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14116632/>



Prescribing Buprenorphine in Primary Care Video Research Study UP TO 1.25 CME AND \$75 PAYMENT PROVIDED

Overview:

This educational activity presents how one primary care doc tackles some of the most common fears, myths and perceived barriers to prescribing buprenorphine in the busy primary care office setting. This is a 2-part video activity. There are accompanying surveys that are part of this activity for purposes of educational research.

Target Audience:

Physicians (MD, DO), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, Physician Assistants employed in primary care family or internal medicine in Kentucky



For Complete Activity and Registration Information:
QR code or <https://www.ccentral.com/node/1807>

This activity offers 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™] credit for watching two videos and completing survey questions, both before and after the videos. Later, we will contact learners with a link to a subsequent video which offers an additional 0.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]. Participants are also sent a choice of electronic gift card options valued at \$50 for the first, and \$25 for the second part of the activity.

Questions?
Email the
team at:

FamMed.UKyResearch
@uky.edu

CECENTRAL



JOIN US!. Our hope is to create a ripple effect on the patient care offered in our communities that suffer from high rates of Opioid Use Disorder!



Flooding and Care of Patients with Respiratory Conditions and Weak Immune Systems

Care of patients with respiratory conditions and weak immune systems requires special consideration following a flooding event.

Patient Education Tip Sheet

- Care coordination
- Infection avoidance
- Replacement of medications
- Guidance for those relocated to an emergency shelter
- Medication considerations
- Food safety
- Water safety
- Mold

To request copies and learn about the research study follow this link or scan this QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/a6v397w7>



Join a Research Study to Help us Evaluate the Tip Sheet!

Do you provide care to a patient with a respiratory condition or a weak immune system who has been affected by the July 2022 flooding in southeast Kentucky?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study evaluating the content of the tip sheet.



Principal Investigator: Stacy R. Stanifer, PhD, APRN, AOCNS stacy.stanifer@uky.edu