



Formation of Evaluation Standards Committee To Support PHI Institute Projects

LOVELAND, Ohio, August 26, 2005--The Population Health Impact (PHI) Institute has announced the formation of a new "Evaluation Standards Committee." This committee will guide the Institute's Delphi panel of evaluation experts as they score the "strength of the evidence" in articles on two grant funded projects.

One project, funded by the Health Industry Forum housed at Brandeis University, involves the review and scoring of published disease management program results reported by health plans. The other involves the review and scoring of published articles addressing the impact of worksite employee health programs. The latter is funded by an unrestricted educational grant from the Institute for Health and Productivity Management.

"The mission of this committee," according to Dr. Thomas Wilson, CEO and Founder of the non-profit PHI Institute, "is to develop standardized and scientifically credible evaluation criteria for the independent Delphi panel. These will help the panel 'score' the attribution methodologies used in defined population health management programs. The framework of these scoring standards will be the Five Evaluation Principles of the PHI Institute -- data quality, equivalence, statistical quality, causality, and generalizability."

PHI Institute is recruiting members to serve on this new committee from four stakeholder categories: Employers/Purchasers, Public Sector Programs (e.g. Medicare & Medicaid), Providers & Vendors, and Clinical & Evaluation Experts. The goal is a balanced panel representing public and private sector "buyers" and "sellers" that will work with panels of expert evaluators toward consensus on evaluation scoring standards.

The evaluation standards developed for these projects, will be used in future projects as well.

About the Population Health Impact Institute:

The nonprofit Population Health Impact (PHI) Institute provides and promotes independent evaluations of defined population health management programs through impact studies, education, research, and benchmarking services for both public and private sector organizations.

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