



Center for Advancing Population Science (CAPS)

The vision of CAPS is to become a global leader in healthcare transformation through innovative research by: 1) building a cohesive and dynamic research infrastructure able to respond to the changing healthcare environment; 2) recruiting and mentoring multidisciplinary investigators; 3) building healthier communities and eliminating inequalities in health at the local, national, and international level; 4) creating a pipeline of health services researchers and innovators; and 5) disseminating and implementing evidence-based strategies to transform healthcare. CAPS has five units to facilitate collaboration and networking, serve as a home for Center members to pursue competitive grant funding, and develop the next generation of health services researchers.

Health services research is a multidisciplinary field that incorporates research on social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, health technology, and health behaviors. It offers a unique position to understand how access to care, systems and cost of care, and the social determinants of health intersect to create disparities and influence health. For that reason, while the Center for Advancing Population Science (CAPS) is a multidisciplinary team of researchers covering a variety of disease areas, spanning influence from individuals to health systems to policy, the Center's vision fits into the broad focus of health services.

CAPS mission is to develop, test, and implement innovative strategies for transforming healthcare that optimizes quality, value, and cost. The Center aims to influence local neighborhoods, the health systems in Wisconsin and throughout the United States, and the global community through innovative and collaborative research designed to improve population health. As healthcare systems emphasize health of the populations that access their care, rather than the individual patient currently seeking care, CAPS provides the expertise and new knowledge to help providers and health systems to address social determinants of health, strategies to eliminate disparities by race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or geographic location common in healthcare, and to design systems that minimize cost and maximize quality.