



CAMBIA PALLIATIVE CARE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

Update on Research at the Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence

J. Randall Curtis, MD, MPH

Director, Cambia Palliative Care Center of Excellence

Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington



Focus of Research Programs

- **Primary palliative care**
 - Care provided by all clinicians caring for patients with serious illness
- **Specialty palliative care**
 - Care provided by palliative care specialists

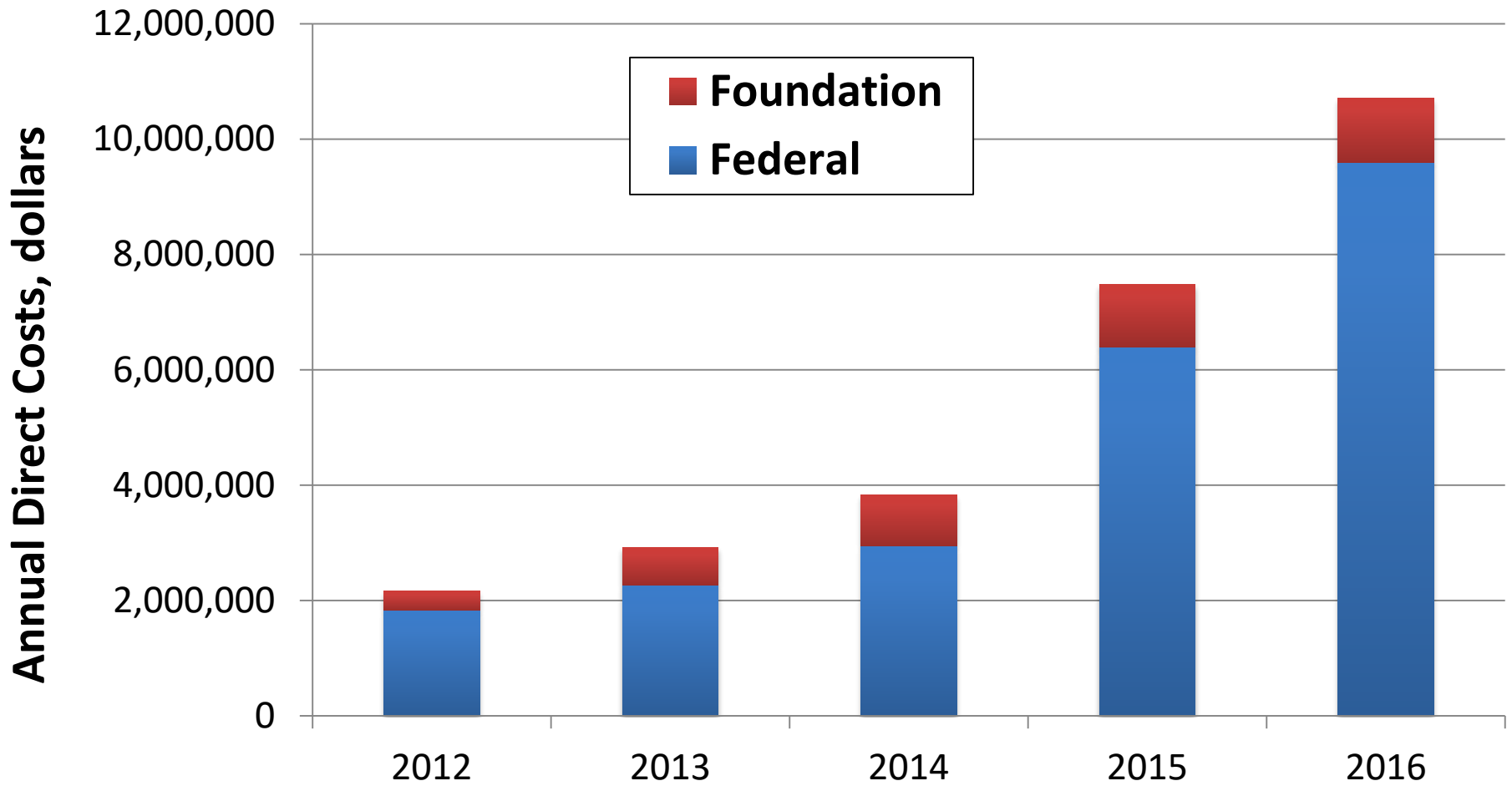


Research Achievements

- **Increasing research funding focused on making care better now**
- **T32: palliative care research training**
 - **Funded by NIH and started 3/15**
 - **Four post-doctoral slots per year**
- **High profile publications**
 - **N Eng J Med, JAMA, Lancet, others**
- **Key recruitments of researchers**



Cambria PCCE Research Funding with Cambria PCCE Investigators as PI or Site PI



Recruitments in Past Two Years: Exciting Time of Program Building



Tony Back, MD

- National leader in communication research and training
- Moved to HMC to co-Direct Cambia PCCE



Joan Teno, MD, MS

- National leader in health services
- Recruited from Brown to grow quality measurement programs at UW Medicine



Rashmi Sharma, MD, MHS

- Emerging scientist with new award from American Cancer Society
- Focused on improving disparities in communication



Developing Researchers of the Future: T32 Palliative Care Research Fellows



Crystal Brown, MD, MA

- Pulmonary and critical care physician
- Racial/ethnic disparities in palliative care



Heather Coats, PhD, ARNP

- Nurse practitioner
- Improving palliative care communication for African-American elders



Bob Lee, MD

- Pulmonary and critical care physician
- Patient and family outcomes after critical illness



Nancy Lau, PhD

- Clinical psychologist
- Patient and family outcomes of hematologic cancer in children



Jill Steiner, MD

- Cardiologist
- Palliative care for patients with adult congenital heart disease



Cara McDermott, PhD, PharmD

- Pharmacist and health economist
- Impact of palliative care in patients with cancer



Strategic Visioning and Planning for “Phase 2” of the Center

- **One phrase: Goal concordant care**
- **Enable our healthcare system to**
 - **Help patients and their family formulate and articulate their goals of care**
 - **Ensure these goals are communicated across the continuum of care**
 - **Ensure the care patients receive is informed by their individual goals**



Next Phase: Palliative Care Strategic Objectives

- 1. Education in ACP reaching all clinicians**
 - I. Conversation priorities based on severity of illness
 - II. Documentation of conversations so that future care can be informed
 - III. Communication skills required based on severity of illness
- 2. Screening for palliative care needs & building capacity to meet those needs**
- 3. Enhancing integrated community-based palliative care**



Research Goals

- **Increasing collaboration among palliative care researchers**
- **Continue training the next generation of researchers**
- **Increase integration of research, education, and clinical practice**
 - **Enhance the relevance of our research**
 - **Making care and education better now**



Funding Sources



UW Medicine

The Frazier Family Foundation



The John A. Hartford Foundation



PATIENT-CENTERED OUTCOMES RESEARCH INSTITUTE



National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health



CAMBIA PALLIATIVE CARE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON