



PRIMARY CARE  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION



Excellent Healthcare in Every Neighborhood

## **PCDC receives \$1.1 million from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to study how health information technology can improve health outcomes for patients with high blood pressure.**

Specifically, the study will analyze how office-based electronic decision support systems can improve the management of hypertension in the community health center setting. Hypertension affects an estimated 50-62 million US adults and though evidence has made it clear that controlling blood pressure significantly lowers risk for heart disease, guidelines for keeping hypertension in check aren't always followed. This study will test specific health IT strategies and their effect on improving health outcomes for low-income and immigrant patients with high blood pressure. PCDC will partner with Open Door Family Health Center and Donna Shelley, Clinical Associate Professor at New York University College of Dentistry to complete this study.

"Health information technology is the wave of the future for quality care in all healthcare settings," **said Ronda Kotelchuck, Executive Director of the Primary Care Development Corporation.** "This important grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality will enable us to better understand how health information technology can improve management of hypertension in our community health centers. With more than 50 million US adults affected by hypertension, it unfortunately often goes overlooked, misunderstood or mismanaged, leading to more serious conditions like heart disease. Improving the use of health information technology is essential to our mission to improve the quality of New York's and our Nation's primary care providers in order to better treat chronic and serious conditions like hypertension."