THE STARFIELD AWARD

Established in honor of Dr. Barbara Starfield, Johns Hopkins University Distinguished Professor and co-developer of the Johns Hopkins ACG® System, the Starfield Award acknowledges her legacy by recognizing the best use of the ACG System in three areas that were key themes of Prof. Starfield’s body of work:

1) Addressing multi-morbidity in patients and populations
2) Reducing disparities in the delivery of primary health care
3) Improving population health

Background
Barbara Starfield, M.D., M.P.H., dedicated her career to defining primary care and promulgating its pivotal importance to health services worldwide. One of her profound insights was that systems of care organized around individual diseases were not optimally beneficial to patients, especially those who are chronically ill. Research by Prof. Starfield and her colleagues in the early 1980s showed that children using the most health care resources were not those affected by single chronic illnesses, but rather they had multiple, seemingly unrelated conditions. Prof. Starfield was able to extend these findings to all ages of patients and ultimately demonstrate that the clustering of morbidity is a better predictor of health services resource use than the presence of specific diseases. Focusing on the patterns of morbidity forms the basis of the current ACG System and remains the fundamental concept that differentiates the ACG System from other case-mix adjustment methodologies. Although Prof. Starfield passed away in 2011, her worldwide public health legacy lives on.

The Award and Timeline

- The Starfield Award is given biannually at the ACG System International Conferences. The next User Conference, and Award Ceremony, will be in April 2016.
- All applicants must submit a completed application via email by October 31, 2015.
- Award recipient will be notified prior to the 2016 ACG System International Conference.

The recipient of the Starfield Award will receive an expense-paid trip\(^1\) to the 2016 ACG System International Conference for its representative, and a donation to honor the recipient will be made to the Barbara Starfield Scholarship Fund at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. In addition to the formal award presentation at the Conference, the recipient will be given an opportunity to present their project.

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\(^1\) Up to a maximum of $2,000
Award Criteria

Objective: The award is for research or actual application of the ACG System targeting one or more of three topic areas:

(1) Addressing multi-morbidity in patients and populations
(2) Reducing disparities in the delivery of primary health care
(3) Improving population health

The project described in the application must have:
- (a) a specified objective
- (b) a well-documented study design or protocol that could potentially be replicated
- (c) aspects that are innovative and not merely the extension of proven ACG System methodologies to new populations (unless those populations represent unique challenges)
- (d) clearly-presented results
- (e) measures of success achieved using the ACG System, and
- (f) a discussion of the implications of the project relevant to the applicant’s targeted objective.

While the project may be ongoing, the applicant should only report on work completed within the 24 months prior to the date of application.

Eligibility
Applicants may be an organization, a group, or an individual. They must possess a valid ACG® System license covering the period of their reported work. Applicants must not be employees of The Johns Hopkins University, Johns Hopkins HealthCare or any entity sponsoring the Starfield Award and/or Scholarship Fund. Applicants may submit multiple entries reflecting different projects, and may apply in successive award cycles. Prior Starfield Award winners are ineligible to apply.

Judging Process
There will be a panel of three judges as follows: (1) one applied ACG System user from the United States, (2) one applied ACG System user from countries other than the United States, and (3) one academic ACG System user. Employees of The Johns Hopkins University, Johns Hopkins HealthCare or sponsors of the Starfield Award and Scholarship Fund are ineligible to be judges. All judges will have been using the ACG System for three or more years and have successfully applied it in more than one project. Judges will have terms of two years. Alternate judges will be appointed when conflicts of interest occur. Judges may not be involved in an application process during their term, and must recuse themselves.

Sponsorship
Any individual or organization who wishes to honor Prof. Starfield’s memory through the Award and Scholarship Fund is invited to contact the Johns Hopkins ACG System Team for details.
**Additional Information**
For more information on the Starfield Award, please e-mail: JHSPH.askacg@jhu.edu

**Application Submission Deadline**
All applications must be received by October 31, 2015, to be eligible for consideration.

Completed applications can be submitted:
• via email to nbarton1@jhu.edu or JHSPH.askacg@jhu.edu

• or by mail to:
  *Normalie Barton*
  *Johns Hopkins HealthCare Solutions/ACG System*
  *1300 Thames Street, Suite 200*
  *Baltimore, MD 21231*
2016 Barbara Starfield Award Application

Date________________________

Name________________________________________

Title________________________________________

Organization________________________________

Street address________________________________

City and state_________________________

Country______________________________________

Postal / Zip code_______________________________

Email________________________________________

Phone number_________________________________

Alternate phone number________________________

Fax__________________________________________

I. Title of Project

II. Statement of Purpose

III. Detailed Project Description (not to exceed 2500 words)
   A. Thematic Areas Addressed by the Project
      1. Addressing multi-morbidity in patients and populations
      2. Reducing disparities in the delivery of primary health care
      3. Improving population health

   B. Project Description (including innovative aspects and target population)

   C. Assessment Design/Protocol, Including Use of the ACG System

IV. Project Goals and Objectives

V. Results and Measures of Project Success

VI. Limitations

VII. Implications and Applicability

VIII. Project Start and Completion Dates
IX. Supporting Documentation (including any publications) and Attachments

X. Should my application not be awarded the Starfield Award, I would still like my abstract to be considered for presentation at the 2016 ACG System International Conference.

Yes ________  No__________