

Introduction to the network

A peer support and professional practice network for three groups: physicians and advanced practice providers who founded cash-pay practices; clinicians who care for complex or unusual patients; and providers who offer specialized services, listed as a shared reference. Colorado Front Range. Convened by Patrick Long, MD.

The problem

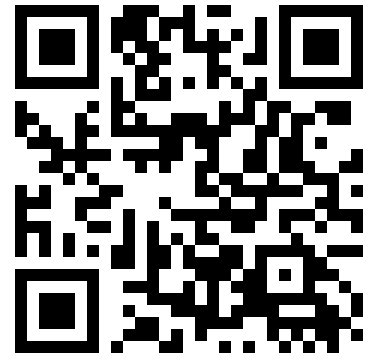
Patients with longstanding, complex disease are often turned away or cycle through referrals that resolve nothing. Genome sequencing found a molecular diagnosis in 54 of 353 undiagnosed families (15.3%), more than half in regions earlier testing had not assessed (Pitsava 2025, doi 10.1016/j.jim.2025.101574). Primary care sees these patients first.

What the network provides

- **Peer support.** Small case groups modeled on Balint groups, for medical complexity, long relationships and cash-pay care. Confidential and not recorded.
- **Professional practice.** Shared lessons on founding, running and growing an independent, cash-pay practice.
- **A reference.** Cited care maps for 15 patient cohorts, and rosters of specialists, labs and centers with published cash prices who write back.
- **A monthly journal club and a weekly podcast.** One hour on Teams: one paper or one de-identified case.

What membership asks

The monthly journal club is the core commitment: present once in rotation and serve once as scribe. Everything else is optional. No payment for referrals in either direction.



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Joining options

- **Express interest.** Name and email. Founding cohort of six to eight, by invitation; first session early 2027.
- **Sit in on a session.** Any clinician or trainee.
- **Get the monthly reading.** One email a month.
- **Lead a cohort.** A few hours a month: one care map or roster.

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