

HSR&D and QUERI Centers, projects, Career Development Awards, and highlighted publications in Bedford/Boston include:

COIN (Center of Innovation):

Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research (CHOIR)

Directors: Allen Gifford, MD (Boston) and Barbara Bokhour, PhD (Acting, Bedford)

CHOIR's mission is to improve Veterans' health outcomes by developing, studying, and applying evidence-based practices that will be widely implemented and sustained.

CREATE (Collaborative Research to Enhance and Advance Transformation and Excellence):

Long-Term Care (housed in Providence)

A project funded under this CREATE is housed in Bedford/Boston:

- Developing and Implementing a Toolkit for Measuring CLC Cultural Transformation – *Christine Hartmann, PhD*

QUERI (Quality Enhancement Research Initiative):

Bridging the Care Continuum QUERI

Principal Investigator: Allen Gifford, MD

The goal of Bridge-QUERI is to improve vulnerable Veterans' use of services across the Care Continuum, "bridging" the Continuum by improving outreach and diagnosis, as well as linkage and engagement with specialty care, which will lead to better health outcomes.

QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiative:

Lean Enterprise Transformation Evaluation Center

Principal Investigator: Martin Charns, DBA

This partnered initiative will assess improvement initiatives, measure organization-level transformation, and identify factors that both facilitate and hinder program success in the Veterans Engineering Resource Centers' national program of Lean Enterprise Transformation.

Capitalizing on Quantitative Metrics to Advance the Implementation and Evaluation of the Clinic Management Training Program

Principal Investigator: Julia Prentice, PhD

Investigators in this Partnered Evaluation Initiative will rigorously evaluate the implementation of the group practice manager model (GPM) to identify the causal effect of this intervention on VA patient outcomes.

eHealth Partnered Evaluation Initiative

Principal Investigator: Tim Hogan, PhD

eHealth is a model for the delivery and receipt of healthcare services with an expanding evidence base and great potential to increase access and support the transition from episodic to continuous care. This Partnered Initiative will support the further implementation of eHealth technologies and measure their impacts on dimensions of access and other outcomes.

Evaluating VA Patient-Centered Care: Patient, Provider, and Organizational Views

Principal Investigator: Barbara Bokhour, PhD

This partnered evaluation initiative, Evaluating Patient-Centered Care at VA (EPCC-VA), evaluates the experience and practice of patient-centered care at VA hospitals throughout the United States.

Advancing Healthcare Innovation: A Partnered-Evaluation of Geriatric Patient-Aligned Care Team (GeriPACT) Implementation

Principal Investigator: Jennifer Sullivan, PhD

The Geriatric Patient Aligned Care Team (GeriPACT) model offers an alternative to standard Patient-Aligned Care Teams (PACTs) by providing frail, elderly Veterans and their caregivers with access to the most appropriate care for their healthcare needs with a single point-of-contact for multidisciplinary Geriatric Care. This Partnered Initiative will examine how GeriPACTs are structured, how variations in programs across VAMCs influence the care that Veterans receive, and whether GeriPACTs improve the patient and provider experience.

Partnered Evidence-Based Policy Resource Center

Principal Investigator: Austin Frakt, PhD

The core mission of this Partnered Initiative includes refining VA measurements of access to care, productivity, demand, and capacity, as well as investigating relationships among them to improve policy and planning.

Complementary and Integrative Health Evaluation Center

Co-Principal Investigator: Rani Elwy, PhD

The overarching goal of this partnered evaluation initiative is to improve Veterans' health and experiences of care, through increased availability and use of evidence-based complementary and integrative health approaches.

Spreading Healthcare Access, Activities, Research and Knowledge (SHAARK) Partnered Evaluation Initiative

Co-Principal Investigator: Thomas Houston, MD, MPH

This evaluation will rely on quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods to evaluate the VA's Diffusion of Excellence Initiative.

Resource Center:

Center for Information Dissemination and Education Resources (CIDER)

Acting Director: Karen Bossi, MA

CIDER provides a critical conduit for the national dissemination of health services research and provides HSR&D with dissemination support through a variety of channels. By distributing important HSR&D findings to policy makers, clinicians, researchers, managers, and the general public, CIDER plays a pivotal role in supporting implementation of evidence-based research throughout VA.

Currently Funded Projects

- Implementing a Home Safety Toolkit for Veterans with Dementia – *Lauren Moo, MD*
- Patient-Experienced Integrated Care for Veterans with Multiple Chronic Conditions – *Martin Charns, DBA*
- Leveraging Front-Line Expertise in Quality and Safety – *Michael Shwartz, MBA*

- Relational Agent to Improve Alcohol Screening and Treatment in Primary Care: RCT – *Steven Simon, MD, MPH*
- Integrating HIV Care in VA: Extending PACT Principles to Specialty Care – *Barbara Bokhour, PhD*
- The Secure Messaging for Medication Reconciliation Tool (SMMRT) Trial – *Steven Simon, MD, MPH*
- Developing a Roadmap for Best Practices in CLC Resident-Centered Care – *Christine Hartmann, PhD*
- Spatiotemporal Analysis to Evaluate Opioid Safety Initiative Spread – *James Burgess, PhD*
- An Instrument Assessing Recovery-Promoting Structures, Practices, and Values of Services Settings for Veterans with SMI – *Martin Charns, DBA*
- Validation of the PTSD Primary Care Screen – *Michelle Bovin, PhD*
- Systems for Helping Veterans Comprehend Electronic Health Record Notes – *Hong Yu, PhD*
- Safety Climate in CLCs: Variation, Predictors, and Impact on Resident Outcomes – *Christine Hartmann, PhD*
- Quality of Care for Hepatitis C in Veterans Who Are Homeless – *Keith McInnes, ScD*
- Cost-Effectiveness of Dabigatran and Warfarin for Veterans with Afib – *Julia Prentice, PhD*
- Hemoglobin A1c Variability and Adverse Health Outcomes – *Paul Conlin, MD*
- Improving Diabetes Care through Effective Personalized Patient Portal Interactions – *Stephanie Shimada, PhD*
- A Technology-Assisted Care Transition Intervention for Veterans with Chronic Heart Failure or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease – *Timothy Hogan, PhD*
- Factors and Outcomes Associated with Inappropriate Prescribing of Phosphodiesterase-5-Inhibitors for Pulmonary Hypertension – *Renda Wiener, MD, MPH*

Current Career Development Awardees

- *Justin Benzer, PhD* – Multi-Specialty Intervention for Antipsychotic-Related Metabolic Risk Management
- *Gemmae Fix, PhD* – A Patient-centered Approach to Comorbidity Management in Aging Veterans with HIV
- *Guneet Jasuja, PhD* – Optimizing Testosterone Prescribing in the VA
- *Amy Linsky, MD, MSc* – Patient and Provider Perceptions of Intentional Medication Discontinuation
- *Hillary Mull, PhD, MPP* – Development of an Adverse Event Surveillance System for Outpatient Surgery

Research Career Scientists

- *Nancy Kressin, PhD*
- *Amy Rosen, PhD*

Highlighted Publications

- ***Study Identifies which VA Mental Health Program Characteristics are Associated with Patient Satisfaction***

Frakt A, Trafton J, and Pizer S. The Association of Mental Health Program Characteristics and Patient Satisfaction. The American Journal of Managed Care. May 19, 2017; Epub ahead of print.

- ***Study Identifies Racial Disparities in HIV Quality of Care that Extend to Common Comorbid Conditions***

Richardson K, Bokhour B, McInnes D, et al. Racial Disparities in HIV Care Extend to Common Comorbidities: Implications for Implementation of Interventions to Reduce Disparities in HIV Care. Journal of the National Medical Association. Winter 2016;108(4):201-210.

- ***Study Examines Disclosure of Clinical Adverse Events between VA Surgeons and their Patients***
 Elwy AR, Itani KMF, Bokhour B, et al. A Prospective, Observational Study of Surgeons' Disclosures of Clinical Adverse Events. JAMA Surgery. November 1, 2016;151(11):1015-21.
- ***Use of Clozapine for Veterans with Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenia Could Result in Significant Cost Savings***
 Gören J, Rose A, Smith E, and Ney J. The Business Case for Expanded Clozapine Utilization. Psychiatric Services. November 1, 2016;67(11):1197-1205.
- ***Study Identifies Barriers and Facilitators to Use of Clozapine for Treatment-Resistant Veterans with Schizophrenia***
 Gören J, Rose A, Engle R, et al. Organizational Characteristics of High- and Low-Clozapine-Utilization Clinics in the Veterans Health Administration. Psychiatric Services. November 1, 2016;67(11):1189-96.
- ***Lithium or Valproate Associated with Better Outcomes Compared to Second-Generation Antipsychotics for Bipolar Disorder***
 Bauer M, Miller C, Li M, Bajor L, and Lee A. A Population-based Study of the Comparative Effectiveness of Second-Generation Antipsychotics vs. Older Antimanic Agents in Bipolar Disorder. Bipolar Disorders. September 2016;18(6):481-89.
- ***Organizational Factors Associated with Successful Campaign to Increase Influenza Vaccination among VA Healthcare Providers***
 Razouki Z, Knighton T, Martinello R, Hirsch P, McPhaul K, Rose A, and McCullough M. Organizational Factors Associated with Health Care Provider (HCP) Influenza Campaigns in the Veterans Health Care System: A Qualitative Study. BMC Health Services Research. July 4, 2016;16(1):211.