

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

## **COIN (Center of Innovation):**

### **Center for Chronic Disease Outcomes Research (CCDOR)**

*Director:* Steven Fu, MD, MSCE

CCDOR's mission is to enhance (through research, education, dissemination and implementation activities) patient engagement in and provider use of evidence-based practices for chronic disease.

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

### **Evidence-Based Therapies for PTSD**

*Director:* Nina Sayer, PhD

The overall goal of the CREATE is to improve Veterans' access to and engagement in evidence-based PTSD treatments. Currently funded CREATE projects include:

- Helping Families Help Veterans with PTSD and Alcohol Abuse: An RCT of VA Community Reinforcement and Family Training – *Christopher Erbes, PhD*
- Promoting Evidence-Based Pharmacotherapy for PTSD in CBOCs – *Michele Spoont, PhD*
- Web and Shared Decision Making for Reserve/National Guard Women's PTSD Care – *Anne Sadler PhD, RN* (housed in Iowa City)
- Promoting Effective, Routine, and Sustained Implementation of Stress Treatment (PERSIST) – *Nina Sayer, PhD*

## **Evidence-Based Synthesis Center**

*Director:* Timothy Wilt, MD, MPH

ESP Centers generate evidence syntheses on important clinical practice topics. These reports help: develop clinical policies informed by evidence; the implementation of effective services to improve patient outcomes and to support VA clinical practice guidelines and performance measures; and set the direction for future research to address gaps in clinical knowledge.

## **Currently Funded Projects**

- Program to Improve Adherence to Colonoscopy: Interviews with Veterans – *Shahnaz Sultan, MD, MHSc*
- Strategies for Prescribing Analgesics Comparative Effectiveness (SPACE) Trial – *Erin Krebs, MD, MPH*
- A Multi-Faceted Intervention to Improve Alcohol Dependence Pharmacotherapy Access – *Hildi Hagedorn, PhD*
- Motivating Providers to Reduce Racial Disparities in their Own Practice – *Diana Burgess, PhD*
- Dropout from Evidence-Based Therapy for PTSD: Reasons and Potential Interventions – *Shannon Kehle-Forbes, PhD*
- Biased Survey-Based Recruiting in Longitudinal Studies: Extent and Remedies – *Maureen Murdoch, MD, MPH*
- A Proactive Walking Trial to Reduce Pain in Black Veterans – *Diana Burgess, PhD*

- Effects of VHA Opioid Policy on Prescribing and Patient-Centered Outcomes – *Erin Krebs, MD, MPH*

## Current Career Development Awardees

- *Laura Meis, PhD* – Forming Partner-Assisted Strategies to Optimize PTSD Treatment Adherence
- *Shahnaz Sultan, MD, MHSc* – Developing a Peer Coach Program to Improve Adherence Rates for Colonoscopy

## Research Career Scientist

- *Melissa Partin, PhD*

## Highlighted Publications

- ***Systematic Review of PTSD Screening Instruments***  
Spoont M, Williams J, Kehle-Forbes S, et al. Does This Patient have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder? Rational Clinical Examination Systematic Review. JAMA. August 4, 2015;314(5):501-510.
- ***Study Examines Effectiveness of Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Therapy for Veterans with PTSD***  
Polusny M, Erbes C, Thuraz P, et al. Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder among Veterans. JAMA. August 4, 2015;314(5):456-65.
- ***Study Shows Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Treatment Retention for Veterans with PTSD***  
Spoont M, Nelson D, Murdoch M, et al. Are There Racial/Ethnic Disparities in VA PTSD Treatment Retention? Depression and Anxiety. June 2015;32(6):415-25.
- ***VA Primary Care Intervention Decreases High-Dose Prescription of Opioids for Veterans with Non-Cancer Pain***  
Westanmo A, Marshall P, Jones E, Burns K, and Krebs E. Opioid Dose Reduction in a VA Health Care System – Implementation of a Primary Care Population-Level Initiative. Pain Medicine. May 2015;(16)5:1019-26.
- ***Study Suggests Food Insecurity among OEF/OIF Veterans is Dramatically Higher than among General Population***  
Widome R, Jensen A, Bangerter A, and Fu SS. Food Insecurity among Veterans of the U.S. Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Public Health Nutrition April 2015;18(5):844-49.

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