

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

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

#### **Center for Health Services Research in Primary Care**

*Director:* Nikki Hastings, MD, MHS

This Center's mission is to conduct high-quality research on strategies that enhance the delivery, access, quality, and cost-effectiveness of primary care for Veterans and the VA healthcare system.

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

#### **Transforming Prevention into Action**

*Director:* Gene Oddone, MD, MHSc

This CREATE will use rigorous health services research methods to evaluate novel prevention strategies. Projects in this CREATE include:

- Will Veterans Engage in Prevention after HRA-guided Shared Decision Making? – *Gene Oddone, MD, MHSc*
- Randomized Controlled Trial of Group Prevention Coaching – *David Edelman, MD, MHS*
- Stay Strong: A Physical Activity Program for Afghanistan and Iraq Veterans – *Laura Damschroder, MS, MPH* (housed in Ann Arbor)
- Risk Stratification and Tailoring of Prevention Programs – *Matthew Maciejewski, PhD*

### **QUERI (Quality Enhancement Research Initiative):**

#### **Optimizing Function and Independence QUERI**

*Principal Investigator:* Nikki Hastings, MD, MHS

The overall goals of the Optimizing Function and Independence QUERI (Function QUERI) are to implement and evaluate evidence-based clinical programs focused on maximizing function and independence in vulnerable Veterans, and promote the rapid translation of research findings into practice through implementation strategies promoting flexibility of clinical programs and a focus on teams.

### **QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiative:**

#### **Caregiver Support (VA-CARES) Evaluation Initiative**

*Principal Investigator:* Courtney Van Houtven, PhD

The Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law:111-163) enacted legislation to ensure training, services, and assistance for Veteran caregivers in need through two landmark programs: Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, and Caregiver Support Services. The VA-CARES Evaluation Initiative will evaluate the impacts of these programs on Veterans and caregivers.

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

*Principal Investigator:* George Jackson, PhD, MHA

This Partnered Evaluation Initiative is designed to provide rapid and frequent feedback to Diffusion of Excellence Initiative (DEI) partners by addressing factors aimed at increasing participation in the DEI; helping increase organizational readiness for change within VA facilities to successfully implement "gold status best practices;" and addressing key contextual factors that are associated with successful implementation of gold status practices at medical facilities across the VA.

## Evidence-Based Synthesis Center

*Director:* John Williams, Jr., MD, MHSc

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 at Durham

- Video-Enhanced Care Management for Medically Complex Veterans – *Nikki Hastings, MD, MHS*
- Jump Starting Shared Medical Appointments for Diabetes with Weight Management – *William Yancy, MD, MHS*
- STEpped Exercise Program for Knee Osteoarthritis (STEP-KOA) – *Kelli Allen, PhD*
- Adjunctive Mood Management for Telephone-based Smoking Cessation in Primary Care – *Jennifer Gierisch, PhD*
- Healthcare Utilization Patterns and Associated Costs for Gulf War I Era Veterans – *Nathan Kimbrel, PhD*
- Developing and Validating a Spiritual Assessment Tool for Seriously-ill Veterans – *Karen Steinhauer, PhD*
- Improving Glaucoma Medication Adherence – *Kelly Muir, MD*
- Quality of Care and Patient Experience in GeriPACT: A Comparative Effectiveness Study – *Nikki Hastings, MD, MHS*

## Current Career Development Awardees

- *Matthew Crowley, MD, MHS* – Tailored, eHealth-based Management for Persistent Poorly-Controlled Diabetes
- *Ziad Gellad, MD, MPH* – Simulation-Guided Systems Redesign in GI Endoscopy
- *Karen Goldstein, MD* – Peer Support for Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in Female Veterans
- *Leah Zullig, PhD* – Colorectal Cancer Survivorship Care in the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System

## Research Career Scientists

- *Hayden Bosworth, PhD*
- *Matthew Maciejewski, PhD*

## Highlighted Publications

- ***Initiative Decreases Inappropriate Prescribing to Older Veterans Discharged from VA Emergency Department Care***  
Stevens M, Hastings S, Markland A, et al. Enhancing Quality of Provider Practices for Older Adults in the Emergency Department (EQUIPPED). *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. July 2017;65(7):1609-14.
- ***JGIM Supplement Features Articles by VA Researchers on Weight Management in the VA Healthcare System***  
*Journal of General Internal Medicine*. April 2017;32(1 Supplement):1-82.

- ***Study Shows Impact of Comprehensive Caregiver Support Program on VA Healthcare Utilization and Cost***  
Van Houtven C, Smith V, Stechuchak K, et al. Comprehensive Support for Family Caregivers: Impact on Veteran Health Care Utilization and Costs. Medical Care Research and Review. April 1, 2017;e-pub ahead of print.
- ***Study Suggests Gender and Smoking Impact Severity of Musculoskeletal Pain among OEF/OIF Veterans***  
Green K, Wilson S, Dennis P, Runnals J, Williams R, Bastian L, Beckham J, Dedert W, Kudler H, Straits-Tröster K, Gierisch J, and Calhoun P. Cigarette Smoking and Musculoskeletal Pain Severity among Male and Female Afghanistan/Iraq Era Veterans. Pain Medicine. March 14, 2017; Epub ahead of print.
- ***Study Examines Patient and Provider Experiences with Comprehensive Lung Cancer Screening Program***  
Kinsinger L, Anderson C, Kim J, et al., and Jackson G. Implementation of Lung Cancer Screening: The Experience of the Veterans Health Administration. JAMA Internal Medicine. March 1, 2017;177(3):399-406.
- ***Study Shows Sustained Weight Loss Advantage among Obese Veterans Receiving Specific Bariatric Surgery***  
Maciejewski M, Arterburn D, et al. Bariatric Surgery and Long-Term Durability of Weight Loss. JAMA Surgery. November 1, 2016;151(11):1046-55.

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