

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

To a Special Supplement to JGIM

Topic: Patient Aligned Care Teams in the Department of Veterans Affairs: Advancing Implementation of Patient Centered Medical Homes

Submission Deadline: April 1, 2013

In 2010, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) launched the implementation of patient-centered medical homes through Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT), an initiative that aims to promote patient-centered, team-based care. The purpose of JGIM's VA PACT Special Supplement is to highlight the results of qualitative and quantitative evaluations of the PACT approach during its early years.

The Supplement will consider articles with a national, regional or local evaluation focus. Articles may be formative (i.e., directed at providing a basis for PACT improvement) or may assess the impacts of a particular aspect of PACT or of a PACT-related innovation. We do not expect summative evaluations of the overall impacts of PACT at this early point in its implementation. Submissions to the Supplement should provide useful insights for clinicians, educators, researchers, administrators, and/or policymakers. We encourage submissions from diverse perspectives, including clinician investigators, clinician educators, social scientists, and policymakers. The supplement is being sponsored by the VA Office of Patient Care Services.

Topics of special interest include, but are not limited to:

- Research or evaluation of PACT and/or PACT-related innovations to improve quality of care, reduce costs or enhance efficiency
- Assessments of patient perspectives on patient-centeredness and PACT
- Assessments of staff or leadership perspectives on PACT
- Implementation research on PACT progress and features
- Organizational research on systems of care and context in relationship to PACT
- Assessments of PACT care for special populations, including chronically ill, mentally ill, homeless, minority, women or other vulnerable veterans
- Education and training in VA primary care settings in the context of PACT
- Quality improvement, patient safety and/or outcomes research in the VA primary care setting in the context of PACT

THREE TYPES OF SUBMISSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED

1. **Original Research:** No longer than 3,000 words describing original research including secondary data analyses, with frugal use of tables and figures and a structured abstract of no more than 300 words. Qualitative research articles may be as long as 4,000 words.
2. **Perspectives:** No longer than 2,000 words with an unstructured abstract of up to 200 words. Perspectives provide the authors' views and ideas on issues related to primary care services for Veterans, or present considerations that have not been well-addressed in the current literature.
3. **Reviews:** No longer than 3,500 words, with a structured abstract of up to 300 words. These should be systematic reviews or meta-analyses of important topics related to primary care for Veterans. Systematic reviews are expected to adhere to the PRISMA guidelines (<http://www.prisma-statement.org/>).

All manuscripts must be submitted by **Monday, April 1, 2013**. Papers should be submitted following *JGIM's* Instructions for Authors and online procedures (see the *JGIM* website, <http://www.jgimed.org>, for further details about submission guidelines and article types). Select "PACT" from the drop-down menu. All articles will undergo *JGIM's* editorial and peer review process.

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