HSR&D/QUERI centers, projects, Career Development Awards, and highlighted publications in Palo Alto include:

**COIN (Center of Innovation):**

**Center for Innovation to Implementation (Ci2I): Fostering High Value Health Care**
*Director: Steven Asch, MD, MPH*

Ci2I’s mission is to produce health services research that informs how VHA operational partners pursue healthcare through better access, higher quality, and wiser use of resources.

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

**Promoting Value and Access in VA's Substance Use Disorder Services**
*Director: Keith Humphreys, PhD*

The mission of this CREATE is to increase value and accessibility across the continuum of substance use disorder care, through the validation and refinement of access and process quality metrics; the evaluation and dissemination of low-cost, high-impact service innovations; and the promotion of patient and provider knowledge about evidence-based treatment for substance use disorders. Projects in this CREATE include:

- SUD Treatment and Staffing Handbook Implementation: Impact on Patient Outcome – *Austin Frakt, PhD* (housed in Boston)
- Web-based Intervention to Reduce Alcohol Use in Veterans with Hepatitis C – *Keith Humphreys, PhD*
- Improving Quality of Addiction Treatment Quality Measures – *Alex Harris, PhD*
- Telemonitoring to Improve Substance Use Disorder Treatment after Detoxification – *Christine Timko, PhD*

**Women Veterans Healthcare**
*Director: Elizabeth Yano, PhD (Los Angeles)*

A project under this CREATE that is housed in Palo Alto is:
- Lost to Care: Attrition of Women Veterans New to VHA – *Susan Frayne, MD, MPH*

**Pain Management and Patient Aligned Care**
*Director: Joseph Goulet, PhD (West Haven)*

A project under this CREATE that is housed in Palo Alto is:
- Effective Screening for Pain – *Karl Lorenz, MD*

**Resource Center:**

**Health Economics Resource Center (HERC)**
*Director: Todd Wagner, PhD*

HERC assists VA researchers in assessing the cost-effectiveness of medical care, evaluating the efficiency of VA programs and providers, and conducting high-quality health economics research.
QUERI (Quality Enhancement Research Initiative):
Improving Pain-Related Outcomes for Veterans (IMPROVE)

Principal Investigator: Amanda Midboe, PhD
The primary goal of this Program is to improve safe and effective pain management through partnered implementation of personalized, proactive, patient-centered interventions that optimize access to care.

QUERI Partnered Evaluation Center:
Lean Enterprise Transformation Evaluation Initiative

Co-Principal Investigator: Anita Vashi, MD, MPH
Key Partner: Veterans Engineering Resource Centers
This initiative is evaluating Lean Enterprise Transformation implementation and will assess improvement initiatives, measure organization-level transformation, and identify factors that both facilitate and hinder program success.

Currently Funded Projects at Palo Alto

- Pregnancy Outcomes of Veterans (PROVE) – Ciaran Phibbs, PhD
- Understanding the Initiation of Maintenance Dialysis among Older Veterans – Manjula Tamura, MD, MPH
- Implementing Tobacco Treatment in Substance Use Disorder Residential Programs – Elizabeth Gifford, PhD
- Access to Specialty Care for Veterans with Complex Conditions – Todd Wagner, PhD
- Development and Validation of a Risk Calculator for Total Joint Replacement – Alex Sox-Harris, PhD
- Development of a Brief Measure of Patient Activation for Veterans – Rachel Kimerling, PhD
- The Opioid Consent: Helping Optimize Information for Cancer and Effective (CHOICE) Pain Management – Karl Lorenz, MD
- Value of End-of-Life Cancer Care – Risha Gidwani, DrPH
- Improving Treatment Engagement and Outcomes among Justice-involved Veterans – Daniel Blonigen, PhD
- An RCT of a Primary Care-Based PTSD Intervention: Clinician-Supported PTSD Coach – Eric Kuhn, PhD

Current Career Development Awardees

- Andrea Finlay, PhD – Justice-Involved Veterans: Mental Health and Substance Use Care of Young Adults
- Patricia Nguyen, MD, MBA – The Impact and Value of Non-invasive Testing in the Management of Obstructive CAD
- Ranak Trivedi, PhD – Developing a Couples Coping Intervention for Veterans with Heart Failure
- Donna Zulman, MD, MS – Optimizing eHealth Applications for Multimorbid Patients

Research Career Scientists

- Keith Humphreys, PhD
- Alex Sox-Harris, PhD
- Christine Timko, PhD
Highlighted Publications

- **High Prevalence of Intimate Partner Violence among Women Veterans – Up to Age 55 – Using VA Primary Care**

- **New Guidelines May Significantly Decrease Cost for Testing Immune Function in Veterans with HIV**

- **Sexual Trauma during Military Service Increases Risk of Subsequent Suicide among Veterans**

- **Study Evaluates Timing and Duration of Hospice and Palliative Care across VA, Medicare, and VA-Purchased Care**

- **Study Shows Impact of Evidence-based Quality Improvement Strategy on VA Patient-Aligned Care Team Implementation**

- **Veterans Exiting Prison Have Extensive Treatment Needs, Particularly for Mental Health and Substance Use Issues**

- **VA Maintains Access to Care as Need for SUD Treatment Grows**

- **Individual- and Facility-Level Factors Associated with Higher Risk of Suicide Attempt among Veterans Receiving Opioid Therapy**

- **Patient Outcomes for Multi-faceted Intervention for Veterans with Heart Failure Comparable to Usual Care**

Search the full list of citations from the Palo Alto Center at