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**

• **Study Examines Effectiveness of Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Therapy for Veterans with PTSD**

• **Study Shows Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Treatment Retention for Veterans with PTSD**

• **VA Primary Care Intervention Decreases High-Dose Prescription of Opioids for Veterans with Non-Cancer Pain**

• **Study Suggests Food Insecurity among OEF/OIF Veterans is Dramatically Higher than among General Population**

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