

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

To a Special Supplement to *Medical Care*

Topic: Expanding VA Care through VA-Purchased Care in the Community

The goal of this supplement is to disseminate research on multiple facets of VA's expansion of its Community Care programs, from the inception of the Veterans Choice Program through implementation of the MISSION Act. We are seeking methods papers and research findings to support and accelerate ongoing research in this area. Submissions may focus on, but are limited to, data systems, preliminary analyses, policy, and program evaluation. Examples of topic domains include access to care, care quality, care coordination, cost analyses, Veteran preferences, special populations such as rural or homeless Veterans, and comparisons between VA and Community Care. Submissions to *Medical Care's* VA Community Care supplement should provide insights for clinicians, educators, researchers, administrators, and policymakers regarding issues related to care for men and women Veterans or other important subgroups. We encourage submissions from health services researchers, clinician investigators, and/or policymakers. The supplement is being sponsored by the VA Health Services Research & Development Service in the Office of Research and Development.

All manuscripts must be submitted by Monday **June 1st, 2020 at 5:00 pm Eastern time.**

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

- Access
- Care Quality
- Care Coordination
- Cost Analyses
- Data Sources: Purpose, Access, and Quality
- Veteran preferences
- Comparisons between VA and Community Care
- Special populations that may be particularly affected by the expansion, including rural Veterans, homeless Veterans, minority Veterans
- Specific components of the MISSION Act, such as access to urgent/emergency care in the community, or factors determining what is in the "best interest" of the Veteran in choosing setting of care.

We are also interested in manuscripts that describe methods, data systems, and/or quality improvement initiatives that are cross-cutting (i.e., span multiple care types), identify factors or considerations specific to regions of the country, specific VISNs, or facility-level variation in utilization or outcomes, or factors that identify and address health equity/disparities among Veterans.

Manuscripts must be submitted online to *Medical Care* at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/mdc/default.aspx>. Please choose the article type "VA Community Care Supplement" and indicate in your cover letter that you are submitting a manuscript for consideration in this supplement. All submissions will be peer-reviewed to assess for scientific rigor and alignment with the scope and aims of this supplement.

THREE TYPES OF SUBMISSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED

(See instructions for authors on the *Medical Care* website, <http://journals.lww.com/lww-medicalcare/layouts/1033/oaks.journals/informationforauthors.aspx>, for further details about article types.

1. Manuscripts: No longer than 3,500 words describing original research including secondary data analyses, with frugal use of tables/figures and a structured abstract (≤ 250 words). Qualitative papers may be up to 4,000 words in length.

2. Brief Reports: No longer than 2,000 words with an unstructured abstract of up to 250 words.

3. Applied Methodology Papers: No longer than 4,000 words describing methods for health services and outcomes research.

Please direct questions about manuscript suitability to Drs. Mattocks and Rosen.

Medical Care Deputy Editor

Amy Rosen, PhD
VA Boston Healthcare System
Boston University
Amy.Rosen2@va.gov

Guest Co-Editors

Denise M. Hynes, PhD, MPH, BSN
VA Portland Healthcare System
Oregon State University College of Public Health and Human Sciences
Denise.Hynes@va.gov

Kristin M. Mattocks, PhD
VA Central Western Massachusetts Healthcare System
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Kristin.Mattocks@va.gov

Michelle A. Mengeling, PhD
Iowa City VA Health Care System
University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine
Michelle.Mengeling@va.gov

Megan E. Vanneman, PhD, MPH
VA Salt Lake City Health Care System
University of Utah School of Medicine
Megan.Vanneman@va.gov