



# Center for Clinical Management Research Quarterly Accomplishments Newsletter

Accomplishments and Impacts

January-March 2016

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## Awards and Honors



## Congratulations to Sanjay Saint

Recipient of the Mark Wolcott Award for  
Excellence in Clinical Care Delivery –  
the highest honor for healthcare providers in the  
Department of Veterans Affairs for his continued  
contribution in enhancing clinical care





## Congratulations to Sarah Krein

Recipient of HSR&D Career Scientist award  
which is intended to support accomplished VA  
investigators who make exemplary  
contributions to the VA health services  
research enterprise



- **Awards and Honors**

- Ann-Marie Rosland is serving on the National Academy of Medicine's (formerly known as the IOM) Scientific Advisory Panel on the Evidence for Patient and Family-Centered Care.
- Helen Kales is one of 20 international dementia experts named to the Lancet Commission on Dementia Care.
- Amy Bohnert was on the Expert Panel for the CDC Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for Chronic Pain.
- Donovan Maust and Helen Kales' JAMA Psychiatry article *Antipsychotics, other psychotropics, and the risk of death in patients with dementia: number needed to harm* has ranked 4th on the Most Talked About Articles from the past year measured by Altmetric.



### In the News



**The dose makes the poison: opioid overdose study supports call for caution in prescription levels**

Amy Bohnert

UMHS Press Release and 13 other outlets

February 1, 2016



**Long-term marijuana use associated with worse verbal memory in middle age**

Deborah Levine

UMHS Press Release and 39 other outlets

February, 2016



**Education may cut dementia risk, study finds**

Kenneth Langa

New York Times

February 10, 2016





## Women often overestimate odds that early breast cancer will return, spread

Sarah Hawley

US News and other outlets

March 4, 2016



- **UMHS Press Release**

- Tanner Caverly. February, 2016. [What are the benefits and harms of cancer screening? Most guidelines don't tell you](#). Later cited in [Diagnostic Imaging](#), [MedPage](#), [Science Daily](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [ecancer](#), [Newswise](#), [EurekAlert!](#).
- Vineet Chopra. February, 2016. [Mining a deep vein of data, researchers make key findings on IV device use](#). Later cited in [Health Canal](#), [Medindia](#), [Technology.org](#), [Health Medicinet](#), [KAIT-TV](#), [Mississippi News Now](#), [WTVM](#), [KCENG12](#), [KUSI News](#), [WAND 17](#), [KPLC 7 News](#), [Bio-Medicine](#), [PR Newswire](#), [Minyanville](#), [Stock Nod](#), [Yahoo! News](#), [Bioportfolio](#), [EurekAlert!](#).
- Helen Kales. March, 2016. [Antipsychotic drugs linked to increased mortality among parkinson's disease patients](#). Later cited in [US News](#), [Alzforum](#), [Deutsches Ärzteblatt](#), [Uusi Suomi](#), [Medscape](#), [Science 2.0](#), [6 Minutes](#), [Doctors Lounge](#), [Physician's Briefing](#), [Foreign Affairs New Zealand](#), [UPI.com](#), [Philly.com](#), [MedlinePlus](#), [Health](#), [MedPage](#), [Drugs.com](#), [Medical News Today](#), [MPR](#), [The Medical News](#), [Newswise](#), [Science Daily](#), [MedicalXpress](#), [EurekAlert!](#).

- **Other Press Mentions**

- Mark Ilgen was quoted in [VA Research Currents](#) about using high opioid doses as a marker for suicide risk. February, 2016.



Grants Funded



## Unintended consequences: the impact of VA antipsychotic reduction efforts in dementia

This IIR funded by HSR&D will examine the impact of the first FDA black box warning about increased mortality for antipsychotic medications in patients with dementia. VA national health system administrative data will be collected starting in 2005 when the FDA black box warning was implemented and extend through 2014. The study will also analyze variables that may reflect both unintended and desired consequences in quality of care for residents in Community Living Centers (CLC) with behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD). After data collection and analysis, the study team will conduct a two-round modified Delphi panel of experts and stakeholders in dementia care and BPSD to validate additional, clinically-relevant quality indicators for VA patients with dementia in CLCs and community settings.

*Team Members: Helen Kales, Robert Hogikyan, Eve Kerr, Donovan Maust, Kara Zivin, Claire Chiang, Barbara Stanislawski, Myra Kim, Oma Intrator (Canandaigua, NY), Ilse Wiechers (West Haven, CT)*



## Cannabis use and health among VHA primary care patients

This IIR funded by HSR&D will examine the extent to which cannabis use is associated with psychoactive medication use (e.g., opiates and other psychotropics), substance use, substance use disorder symptoms, mental health symptoms (e.g., PTSD), pain, functioning, and treatment utilization among a cross-sectional sample of patients with regular cannabis use and those with no use in the last year. Screened participants will complete an in-depth cross-sectional baseline interview and will be re-assessed at 6-and 12-month follow-ups. Interviews will aim to identify cannabis use and cannabis use disorder symptom trajectories related to health, functioning, and service utilization outcomes.

*Team Members: Kipling Bohnert, Frederic Blow, Mark Ilgen, Paul Pfeiffer, Ann-Marie Rosland, William Bloem [Battle Creek VA]*





## Developing benefit-based performance measurement for VHA

Performance measures are how VA leadership evaluates the care provided to Veterans. They can be used to guide care – such as when a clinician realizes that he is not providing ideal care because a new performance measure recommends something he had not been doing – or grade it – such as when physician report cards inform a clinic director that one doctor is particularly skilled. Combining performance measures into composites is the most established way to summarize and guide care. In this IIR funded by HSR&D, we will develop new performance measures and new ways of creating composites that will be aimed directly at improving care in ways that are effective and less burdensome to providers.

*Team Members: Jeremy Sussman, Laura Damschroder, Rod Hayward, Tim Hofer, Eve Kerr, Deborah Levine, Brahmajee Nallamothu, Doug Bentley, Jenny Burns, Caitlin Kelley, Katherine Prenovost, Wyndy Wiitala*



## Provider, patient, and health system effects of commitments to choose wisely

With funding from the Donaghue Foundation, this 3-year project will evaluate the effects of clinician commitments to choose wisely (CCW) in UMHS and IHA (Integrated Healthcare Associates). Twelve general internal medicine and medical subspecialty clinics will receive the intervention using a phased rollout. In each study clinic, participating clinicians will be invited to commit to following a set of targeted Choosing Wisely recommendations. The recommendations will be chosen based on the interests of both clinical health system leadership and of front-line clinicians. The project team will collect electronic health record, survey, and interview data to evaluate the effects of the intervention on clinicians, patients, and health systems.

*Team Members: Jeff Kullgren, Eve Kerr, Jane Forman, Myra Kim, Angie Fagerlin (Salt Lake City VA)*



## Featured Publications

## Presentation of benefits and harms in US cancer screening and prevention guidelines: systematic review



“Improved presentation of benefits and harms in guidelines would better ensure that clinicians and patients have access to the information required for making informed decisions.”



Caverly, T. J., Hayward, R. A., Reamer, E., Zikmund-Fisher, B. J., Connochie, D., Heisler, M., & Fagerlin, A. (2016). Presentation of benefits and harms in US cancer screening and prevention guidelines: systematic review. *J Natl Cancer Inst*, 108(6). doi:10.1093/jnci/djv436



## New studies do not challenge the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association lipid guidelines

“This new clinical evidence, which is not based on treatment to low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol targets, reinforces the importance of cardiovascular risk and the secondary importance of LDL cholesterol levels. The controversy surrounding this new evidence provides an opportunity to review important principles in applying clinical trial results to real—world clinical care and shows why guidelines should move away from treatment targets based on a single measure of risk.”

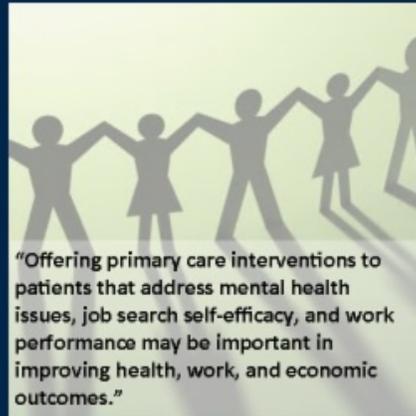


Hofer, T. P., Sussman, J. B., & Hayward, R. A. (2016). New studies do not challenge the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association lipid guidelines. *Ann Intern Med*. doi:10.7326/m15-2428





**Employment status,  
employment functioning,  
and barriers to employment  
among VA primary care  
patients**



Zivin, K., Yosef, M., Levine, D. S., Abraham, K. M., Miller, E. M., Henry, J., Nelson, C.B., Pfeiffer, P.N., Sripada, R.K., Harrod, M., Valenstein, M. (2016). Employment status, employment functioning, and barriers to employment among VA primary care patients. *J Affect Disord*, 193, 194-202. doi:10.1016/j.jad.2015.12.054



## CCMR Publications

A complete list of publications of January to March 2016 is [available](#).

Please contact [Soo Hwang](#) with feedback on this newsletter.

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