



Center for Clinical Management Research

Quarterly Accomplishments Newsletter

Accomplishments and Impacts

October-December 2017

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Awards and Honors

Congratulations to Donovan Maust

Recipient of the 2018 Barry Lebowitz Early Career Scientist Award from the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry.



Congratulations to Sameer Saini

Recipient of a 2017 National Quality Forum (NQF) Innovation Challenge Award in recognition of the patient-centered colon cancer screening performance measure developed in the HSR&D IIR, PROM-IS. You can register for the NQF webinar to hear Dr. Saini present his work by clicking on this image.



Congratulations to Sarah Krein and Sanjay Saint

Recipients of the 2017 HSR&D Health System Impact Award which honors HSR&D and QUERI funded research that has had a direct and important impact on clinical practice or clinical policy within the VA healthcare system. They have been awarded the Impact Award for their scientific and operational efforts to make Veterans' care safer by reducing the risks of unneeded and harmful urinary catheters.



Additional Awards and Honors

- **Jack Iwashyna** was elected as a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation (ASCI). The ASCI is an honor society of physician-scientists, those who translate findings in the laboratory to the advancement of clinical practice.
- **Sanjay Saint** was one of four IHPI members awarded the 2017 Distinguished Clinical and Translational Research Mentor Award for contributing enormously to the research environment at U-M.



In the News

FORUM

Translating research into quality health care for Veterans

VA Nursing: Effectiveness and entry

Authors: Anne Sales, Claire Robinson, Sonia Duffy, Sheila Cox Sullivan, Mary Pat Couig

HSR&D Forum

Fall 2017



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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Fighting Opioid Addiction in Primary Care: New study shows it's possible

Authors: Pooja Lagisetty, Katarzyna Klasa, Christopher Bush, Michele Heisler, Vineet Chopra, Amy Bohnert

UMHS Press Release and 8 other outlets

October 17, 2017



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Medicine's "Choosing Wisely" Movement: Off to a good start, but change needed for continued success, researchers say

Authors: Eve Kerr, Jeffrey Kullgren, Sameer Saini

UMHS Press Release and 8 other outlets

October 24, 2017





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Violence, Addiction, Suicide & Beyond: Mark Ilgen helps Capitol Hill audience understand current knowledge

Authors: **Mark Ilgen**

UMHS Press Release

October 26, 2017



Additional News Items

- **Sarah Krein.** Fall 2017. [Using Bundles to Enhance Care and Improve Patient Outcomes.](#)
- **Amy Bohnert.** October 5, 2017. [Watch IHPI Opioid Research Leaders Speak at U-M Wolverine Caucus.](#)
- **Kara Zivin.** October 9, 2017. [State of Michigan Announces Progress on Physical and Behavioral Health Coordination Initiative.](#)
- **Helen Kales.** October 12, 2017. [The Little Red Pill Being Pushed on the Elderly.](#) Originally cited on [CNN.com](#).
- Deena Kelly Costa, Thomas Valley, Melissa Miller, Milisa Manojlovich, Sam Watson, Phyllis McLellan, Corine Pope, Robert Hyzy, **Theodore Iwashyna**. October 27, 2017. [All Together Now: Interprofessionally diverse ICU team participation facilitates effective complex care delivery, study shows.](#)
- **Brahmajee Nallamothu.** November 2, 2017. ['Unbelievable': Heart stents fail to ease chest pain.](#) Later cited in [The New York Times](#), [USNews.com](#), [New York Post](#), [The Huffington Post](#), [CBC](#), [Vox.com](#), and [62 other outlets](#).
- **Marcia Valenstein.** November 8, 2017. [Should Exercise Be What the Doctor Orders for Depression?](#) Later cited in [Australian Men's Health](#), [USNews.com](#), and [16 other outlets](#).
- **Jeffrey Kullgren**, Elizabeth Cliff, Christopher Krenz, Brady West, Helen Levy, A. Mark Frendrick, **Angela Fagerlin**. November 27, 2017. [Study: People in high-deductible plans aren't acting like consumers, may need more help.](#) Later cited in [Reuters](#), [Forbes](#), and [9 other outlets](#).
- Pooja Lagisetty, Amy Bohnert. November 28, 2017. [Opioid Experts from Across IHPI Take Part in Free U-M "Teach Out" Course.](#)
- **Sarah Krein, Molly Harrod**, Sue Collier, Kristina Davis, Andrew Rolle, **Karen Fowler**, Lona Mody. December 5, 2017. [Nursing Homes Can Prevent Infections Through Performance Improvement Collaboratives.](#) Later cited in [6 other outlets](#).

- Virginia Chang, **Kenneth Langa**, David Weir, **Theodore Iwashyna**. December 8, 2017. 'Obesity Paradox' Not Found When Measuring New Cases of Cardiovascular Disease. Later cited in 6 other outlets.
- **Donovan Maust**. December 9, 2017. The Other Big Drug Problem: Older people taking too many pills. Originally cited in The Washington Post.



Recently Initiated VA HSR&D Grants



Improving Outcomes for Emergency Department Patients with Alcohol Problems (PI: Fred Blow)

Hazardous drinking is a large and growing problem for Veterans across age groups. Many Veterans with hazardous drinking and other mental health problems seek care in the Emergency Department (ED). This study is a randomized controlled trial of an alcohol intervention starting in the VHA ED with peer support personnel delivering brief alcohol advice, combined with a continuing 6-session program of post-ED strengths-based peer mentorship. The intervention is intended to facilitate reductions in alcohol use and to link Veterans to other services such as homeless outreach and case management where needed.

Co-Is: Amy Bohnert, Paul Pfeiffer, Rebecca Sripada, Maureen Walton (UM)



Integrated Preventive Cardiology Initiative (PI: Rod Hayward)

The goal of the Integrated Preventive Cardiology Initiative is to improve our ability to estimate an individual's chance of benefiting from cardiovascular disease (CVD) preventive treatments by better utilization of historical risk factor data. Integrating these data with alternative treatment options and their differential impact on CVD outcomes, such as heart disease and stroke, has the potential to target treatment based on the unique clinical characteristics of patients. As a result, we can identify patients who will likely benefit from treatment to reduce mortality, as well as identify patients who will not benefit, thus reducing unneeded polypharmacy.

Co-Is: Tim Hofer, Brahmajee Nallamothu, Jeremy Sussman, Wyndy Wiitala, Brian Denton (UM), Mariel Lavieri (UM),





Addressing Inappropriate Benzodiazepine Prescribing Among Older Veterans (PI: Donovan Maust)

Use of benzodiazepines (BZDs) is associated with health problems for older adults, including falls, fractures, automobile accidents, difficulty thinking, and even death. Despite this, over 82,000 Veterans 75 years of age or older were prescribed this class of medication in 2015. As a result of the VA's Psychotropic Drug Safety Initiative, 52 facilities have focused on reducing BZD prescribing, though success across these facilities has varied. While success is partially related to the specific strategy pursued, it is also related to the characteristics of that particular VA facility. The objective of this proposal is to understand those combinations of local facility strategies and context that generate successful outcomes. We will also explore the patient experience, as Veterans may experience some "successful" strategies as extremely distressful.

Co-Is: Fred Blow, Amy Bohnert, Helen Kales, Sarah Krein, Lillian Min, Ilse Wiechers (Connecticut)



Benchmarking Hospital Quality: Template Matching versus Conventional Regression Approaches (PI: Hallie Prescott)

While substantial resources are devoted to evaluating the quality of medical care both within and outside VA, the return on this investment is limited because clinicians view the current evaluation system as being unfair, unclear, and unhelpful. Template matching is a newer approach to performance measurement that may overcome many of the limitations of the current system. We propose to assess the feasibility, accuracy, and interpretability of this new methodological approach. With template matching, hospitals are compared directly by the outcomes of their patients who match a set of standard profiles. Compared to regression models, template matching could be fairer (hospitals are compared on similar patients), clearer (no further risk adjustment is required), and more helpful (hospitals can examine the specific hospitalizations to see where their outcomes lag).

Co-Is: Jane Forman, Tim Hofer, Jack Iwashyna, Sanjay Saint, Jeremy Sussman, Wyndy Wilitala, Amy Rosen (Boston), Michael Schwartz (Boston), Makoto Jones (Salt Lake City), Peter Kaboli (Iowa City)



Implementing Shared Decision-Making for Cancer Screening in Primary Care (Career Development Award, PI: Tanner Caverly)

To reliably deliver effective, Veteran-centered Lung Cancer Screening (LCS), PCPs and screening coordinators need to be accurately informed about the consequences of screening for each individual patient. Because PCPs will often have less than 5 minutes to discuss LCS during busy encounters, they also need practical approaches for quickly personalizing LCS. In the proposed research, Dr. Caverly will study how to deliver a personalized approach to LCS that ensures clinical decisions are Veteran-centered, more likely to help than harm, and easy to carry out in busy primary care settings.

Mentors: Rod Hayward (Primary), Laura Damschroder, Eve Kerr, Angie Fagerlin (Salt Lake City), Brian Zikmund-Fisher (UM)





Assessing Treatment Delay and Resource Use to Improve Value of Pre-Surgical Care (Career Development Award, PI: Erika Sears)

For Veterans receiving surgical care, quality improvement efforts need to focus not only on the period after surgery, but also must consider the care provided before surgery. This project will examine the differences in carpal tunnel syndrome-related care across VHA medical centers during the time between diagnosis and surgery, including differences in numbers of visits and length of time prior to surgery. These findings will guide the development of organizational changes and lay the groundwork to improve coordination, access, and quality of care prior to surgery for other surgical problems.

Mentors: Eve Kerr (Primary), Rod Hayward, Sarah Krein, Kevin Chung (UM)



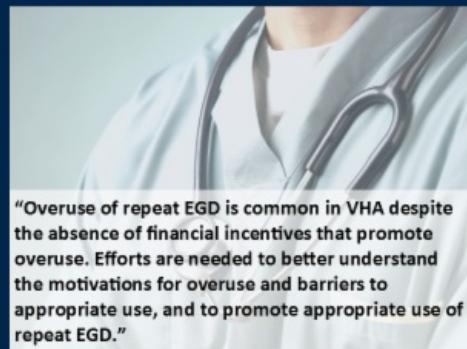
Other Funded Grants

- **Michele Heisler.** October 3, 2017. Create Sustainable Model for Community Health Workers in Detroit. Funded by: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.
- **Michele Heisler.** October 13, 2017. UPSTART: Using Peer Support to Aid pRevenTion of Diabetes. Funded by: NIH.
- **Brahmjee Nallamothu.** November 8, 2017. A Fully Automated Computer-Based Platform for Interpreting Coronary Angiograms. Funded by: The American Heart Association Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine and Amazon Web Services (AWS).
- **Michele Heisler.** December 1, 2017. Evaluation of a Comprehensive Neighborhood-Based Community Health Worker (CHW)-Led Program for Medicaid Enrollees in Detroit. Funded by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation.



Featured Publications

Overuse of Repeat Upper Endoscopy in the Veterans Health Administration: A retrospective analysis

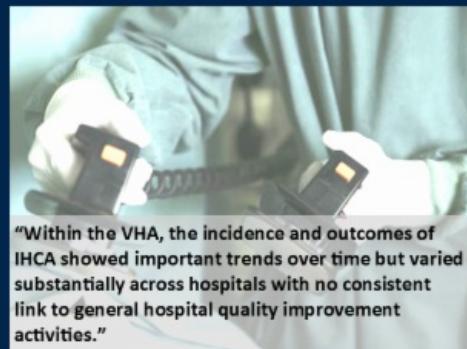


"Overuse of repeat EGD is common in VHA despite the absence of financial incentives that promote overuse. Efforts are needed to better understand the motivations for overuse and barriers to appropriate use, and to promote appropriate use of repeat EGD."

Rubenstein JH, Pohl H, Adams MA, Kerr E, Holleman R, Iwashyna T, Dominitz JA, Inadomi JM, Provenzale D, Francis J, Saini SD. (2017 Nov) Overuse of Repeat Upper Endoscopy in the Veterans Health Administration: A Retrospective Analysis. Am J Gastroenterol. 112(11):1678-1685. doi: 10.1038/ajg.2017.192.



Temporal Trends and Hospital-Level Variation of Inhospital Cardiac Arrest Incidence and Outcomes in the Veterans Health Administration

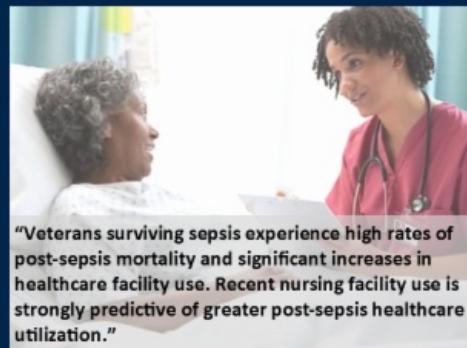


"Within the VHA, the incidence and outcomes of IHCA showed important trends over time but varied substantially across hospitals with no consistent link to general hospital quality improvement activities."

Bradley SM, Kaboli P, Kamphuis LA, Chan PS, Iwashyna TJ, Nallamothu BK. (2017 Nov) Temporal Trends and Hospital-Level Variation of Inhospital Cardiac Arrest Incidence and Outcomes in the Veterans Health Administration. Am Heart J. 193:117-123. doi: 10.1016/j.ahj.2017.05.018.



Increased Healthcare Facility Use in Veterans Surviving Sepsis Hospitalization

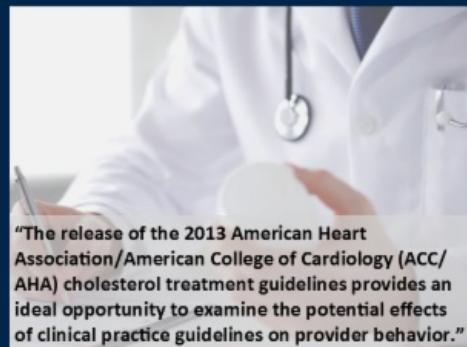


"Veterans surviving sepsis experience high rates of post-sepsis mortality and significant increases in healthcare facility use. Recent nursing facility use is strongly predictive of greater post-sepsis healthcare utilization."

DeMerle KM, Vincent BM, Iwashyna TJ, Prescott HC. (2017 Dec) Increased Healthcare Facility Use in Veterans Surviving Sepsis Hospitalization. J Crit Care. 42:59-64. doi: 10.1016/j.jcrc.2017.06.026.



Effects of Guideline and Formulary Changes on Statin Prescribing in the Veterans Affairs

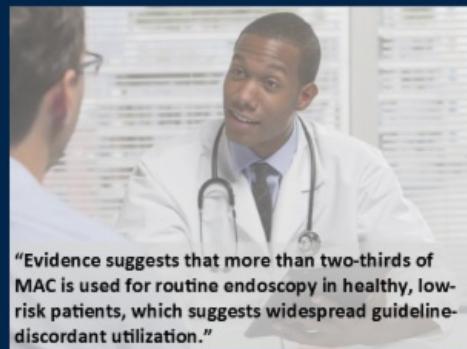


"The release of the 2013 American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology (ACC/AHA) cholesterol treatment guidelines provides an ideal opportunity to examine the potential effects of clinical practice guidelines on provider behavior."

Markovitz AA, Holleman RG, Hofer TP, Kerr EA, Klamerus ML, Sussman JB. (2017 Dec) Effects of Guideline and Formulary Changes on Statin Prescribing in the Veterans Affairs. *Health Serv Res.* 52(6):1996-2017. doi: 10.1111/1475-6773.12788.



Predictors of Use of Monitored Anesthesia Care for Outpatient Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in a Capitated Payment System

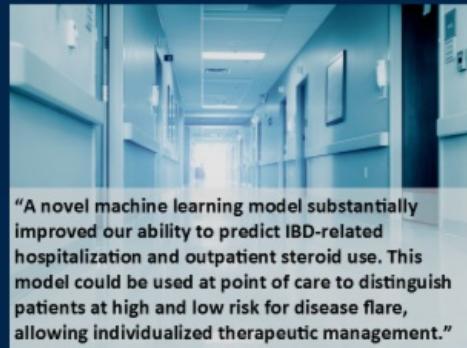


"Evidence suggests that more than two-thirds of MAC is used for routine endoscopy in healthy, low-risk patients, which suggests widespread guideline-discordant utilization."

Adams MA, Prenovost KM, Dominitz JA, Holleman RG, Kerr EA, Krein SL, Saini SD, Rubenstein JH. (2017 Dec) Predictors of Use of Monitored Anesthesia Care for Outpatient Gastrointestinal Endoscopy in a Capitated Payment System. *Gastroenterology.* 153(6):1496-1503. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2017.08.030.



Predicting Hospitalization and Outpatient Corticosteroid Use in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients Using Machine Learning



"A novel machine learning model substantially improved our ability to predict IBD-related hospitalization and outpatient steroid use. This model could be used at point of care to distinguish patients at high and low risk for disease flare, allowing individualized therapeutic management."

Waljee AK, Lipson R, Wiitala WL, Zhang Y, Liu B, Zhu J, Wallace B, Govani SM, Stidham RW, Hayward R, Higgins PDR. (2017 Dec) Predicting Hospitalization and Outpatient Corticosteroid Use in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients Using Machine Learning. *Inflamm Bowel Dis.* 24(1):45-53. doi: 10.1093/ibd/izx007.



See the complete list of publications from [October to December 2017](#).

Please contact [VHAANN HSRD Publicity](#) with feedback on this newsletter.