

### Disseminating a Dashboard for VA Purchased Community Nursing Homes

Providence, RI

#### Overview

The VA Geriatrics and Extended Care Data and Analysis Center (GEC DAC) has recently assembled a dashboard for Community Nursing Home (CNH) quality, based on nationally published metrics of nursing home performance. The dashboard provides important information for facility GEC leaders and contracting officials, as well as for VISN and national GEC leaders. The CNH Dashboard identifies the quality of CNH facilities where VA is purchasing CNH care using the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Nursing Home Compare 5-star quality rating system. The CNH Dashboard also identifies the quality of other CNHs within the VA healthcare system. For facility GEC leaders and contracting officials, the CNH Dashboard has a 'drill down' feature which links to the quality of specific CNH facilities, both contracted and non-contracted, within a medical center market. Facility GEC leaders and contracting officials can utilize the dashboard to assess VA purchased CNH facilities and identify high-quality CNH facilities.

Thus, the overarching goal of this project is to improve the quality of care Veterans receive in purchased CNH facilities. To accomplish this, investigators will:

- Examine the process for purchased CNH selection and oversight,
- Introduce the CNH dashboard as a tool to inform decision-makers about quality of purchased CNH care, and
- Enhance Veteran-specific CNH quality measures on the CNH Dashboard.

The overarching goal of the **Disseminating a Dashboard for VA Purchased Community Nursing Homes Partnered Evaluation Initiative** is to improve the quality of care Veterans receive in purchased CNH facilities, which includes three overall aims:

1. Understand the role of quality measurement by examining the purchased CNH selection process;
2. Evaluate the impact of the CNH Dashboard implementation on the quality of VA Purchased CNH care relative to other CNH facilities; and
3. Evaluate the quality of Veteran-specific care in purchased CNH facilities by transition and safety outcome measures derived from Veteran-specific CMS data.

(over)

## Implementation Strategy

We propose a stepped wedge implementation of the CNH Dashboard, randomized at the VISN level (n=5 per period). The stepped wedge allows for maximization of GEC resources with a systematic roll out to provide sufficient education to every randomized VISN (see education program below). Every four months, we will bring a new randomized group of VISNs 'online' with the CNH Dashboard (see below). We selected the VISN level as a unit of randomization, because there is integration between VAMCs within a VISN. With approximately 5 VAMCs in each VISN, this release schedule is robust, but manageable with support from this award.

Stepped wedge plan for CNH Dashboard roll out

Randomized VISN Group	Months -6 to 0	Months 1-3	Months 4-6	Months 7-9	Months 10-12
1	Usual CNH Quality	CNH Dashboard	CNH Dashboard	CNH Dashboard	CNH Dashboard
2	Usual CNH Quality	Usual CNH Quality	CNH Dashboard	CNH Dashboard	CNH Dashboard
3	Usual CNH Quality	Usual CNH Quality	Usual CNH Quality	CNH Dashboard	CNH Dashboard
4	Usual CNH Quality	Usual CNH Quality	Usual CNH Quality	Usual CNH Quality	CNH Dashboard

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### Operational Partner

The Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care (GEC) works to "honor Veterans' preferences for health, independence, and well-being in the face of aging, disability, or illness by advancing expertise, programs, and partnerships." The GEC also is responsible for the oversight and planning of purchased Community-based Nursing Home care for eligible Veterans at an annual cost of \$810 Million.