

Implementation Evaluation of PACT Pharmacy Management of Heart Failure in VISN 21

The HEART PHARMD partners with VISN 21 to evaluate the implementation intervention of an evidence-based practice of heart failure management by pharmacists at Patient Care Aligned Teams. This project integrates primary and specialty care for heart failure, which is a high priority area for VISN 21. HEART PHARMD will enhance VA's quality of heart failure care while improving access at Medical Centers and Community-Based Outpatient Clinics.

Evaluation of Implementation Plan

Need for Systematic Evaluation

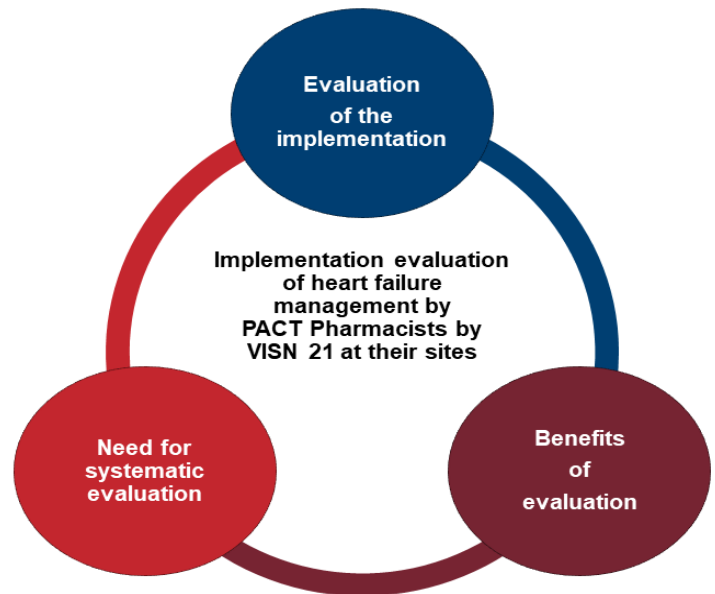
Little is known regarding effectiveness of implementation strategies to increase management of heart failure patients by pharmacists.

Evaluation of the Implementation







- Pragmatic randomized design.
- Outcomes of access, cost and quality, and satisfaction of patients, pharmacists, primary care physicians and cardiologists.

Benefits of Evaluation

Leadership will learn if this implementation strategy is cost-effective when considering expansion to other conditions.

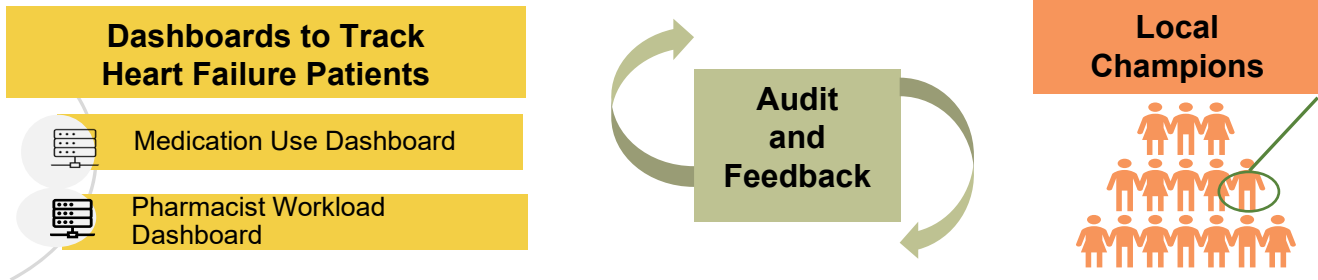


Mixed Methods

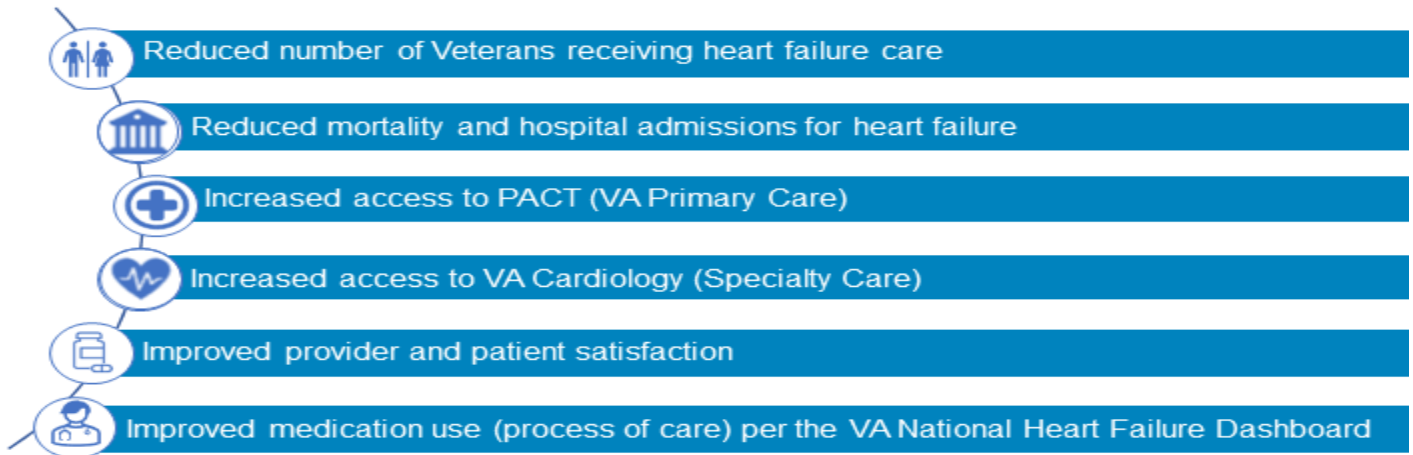
-  Surveys
-  Interviews
-  Site visits
-  VISN 21 Pharmacy Dashboard
-  VA National Heart Failure Dashboard
-  Administrative databases



Implementation Strategies



Metrics to Assess Impact of Implementation



Key Impacts and Future Directions

- Evaluate VISN 21 implementation of heart failure management by PACT pharmacists
- Improve guideline recommended care for heart failure which will reduce hospitalizations and mortality
- Reduce disparities and improve health equity in guideline recommended medication use for heart failure
- Integrate primary and specialty care for heart failure