Overview

The Geriatric Patient Aligned Care Team (GeriPACT) model offers an alternative to standard Patient-Aligned Care Teams (PACTs) by providing frail, elderly Veterans and their caregivers with access to the most appropriate care for their healthcare needs with a single point-of-contact for multidisciplinary Geriatric Care. To date, at least 74 VA medical centers (VAMCs) have implemented the GeriPACT model with at least 20 VAMCs coming on-board in FY16. Preliminary data provided by the Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care (GEC) suggest that the cost of managing patients in GeriPACTs is lower compared to traditional PACTs. However, GeriPACT has not been thoroughly studied and little is known about how GeriPACTs are structured, how variations in programs across VAMCs influence the care that Veterans receive, or whether GeriPACTs improve the patient and provider experience.

The primary objective of this partnered evaluation initiative is to conduct an observational mixed-methods assessment of GeriPACT implementation to support rapid translation of the findings into practice. Specific aims include:

- Assess GeriPACT implementation adherence and service outcomes;
- Examine the relationship of implementation adherence, service outcomes, and patient utilization and GeriPACT costs;
- Compare utilization and cost outcomes for similar GeriPACT and PACT patients over time; and
- Identify important organizational contextual factors associated with GeriPACT performance by conducting an in-depth evaluation at eight VAMCs with high GeriPACT adherence, but that vary on other service outcomes directly related to GeriPACT performance.

(over)
Implementation Strategy

This observational evaluation assesses ongoing implementation of the GeriPACT program. Investigators are not actively testing an implementation strategy, but are guided by Proctor's model of implementation outcomes.

They also will apply the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR) model, which provides a broad view of the full range of factors that should be considered in analyzing implementation.

Principal Investigator
Jennifer Sullivan, PhD
Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research
Jennifer.Sullivan@va.gov

Operational Partner
The Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care (GEC) is the partner for this project, and the evaluation of GeriPACT implementation involves substantial support from the GEC Data and Analyses Center (GEC DAC), led by GEC DAC co-Principal Investigator, Orna Intrator, PhD.

For More Information
For general QUERI information, contact QUERI Program Manager Melissa Braganza, MPH, via email at Melissa.Braganza@va.gov.