Overall Goal: High-Risk VETerans (RIVET) QUERI Program aims to advance VHA primary care ability to provide comprehensive, evidence-based care for complex, high-risk patients. RIVET will support VHA as a learning organization through data-driven priority-setting, leveraging virtual care to enhance mental and whole health, and standardizing care to reduce inefficiency and variations in care quality for high-risk patients.

Approaches to Improving Health Outcomes for High-Risk Veterans

Problem: The top 5% of Veterans at the highest risk for hospitalizations account for almost 50% of VHA healthcare costs, have significant multimorbidity, and are at high risk for poor health outcomes. Evidence-based practices (EBPs) are available to address the most common needs among high-risk Veterans, such as assessing for functional, behavioral, and social needs and developing a cohesive treatment plan. Increasing use of these practices in primary care can greatly impact health and quality of care for these high-risk Veterans.
Implementation Strategies

Evidence-Based Quality Improvement (EBQI) is a bundle of implementation strategies that engages national-, VISN-, and facility-level leadership and front-line clinical staff to identify challenges and develop agendas based on data.

EBQI-Individual Consultation (EBQI-IC), which includes tailored individual consultation with each participating site

VS

EBQI-Learning Collaborative (EBQI-LC), which includes a learning collaborative with multiple sites

Mentoring Core

The RIVET Mentoring Core will develop future leaders in the implementation of evidence-based practices for high-risk veterans

• Four VA early career investigators with proven track records at Greater Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, and Puget Sound have been identified for the first mentee cohort

• Mentors will collaborate to develop mentees’ knowledge and experience around implementation and evaluation of quality improvement initiatives for complex, high-risk Veterans

• Skills will include: continuous quality improvement, stakeholder engagement, implementation study design and evaluation, and advanced qualitative and quantitative evaluation techniques

Program Overview

Goals
To advance VHA primary care ability to provide comprehensive, reliable, high-quality care for complex high-risk patients

• Office of Primary Care
• Office of Patient-Centered Care
• Geriatric & Extended Care
• VISN 9, VISN 10, VISN 12

Stakeholder Alignment

Implementation Evaluation Core, Outcomes Core & Rapid Response Team

• Assess implementation and outcomes of 2 EBPs for high-risk patients
• Compare effectiveness of 2 EBQI implementation strategies
• Conduct rapid-cycle evaluations based on stakeholder input

Products

• Implementation playbooks
• Return on investment analyses
• Regular briefings to National Partners and VISN partners

If you would like to learn more or partner with us, please contact Elvira Jimenez, PhD at Elvira.Jimenez@va.gov

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