Awards and Honors

Congratulations to Eve Kerr

Recipient of the 2016 VA Under Secretary’s Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Services Research. Eve is recognized for her substantive contribution to the future of VA health services and insight into factors that affect the health of America’s Veterans, as well as her demonstrated excellence in training and mentoring young investigators.
The University of Michigan Board of Regents approved the following promotions this spring:

- **Vineet Chopra**; Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure
- **Mark Ilgen**; Professor of Psychiatry, with tenure
- **Deborah Levine**; Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure, and Associate Professor of Neurology, without tenure
- **Edd Post**; Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine
- **Ann-Marie Rosland**; Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure
- **Sameer Saini**; Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure
- **Ted Skolarus**; Associate Professor of Urology, with tenure
- **Akbar Waljee**; Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure

**In the News**
Implementation science breaking down barriers for infection prevention success

Authors: Anne Sales, Sarah Krein.

The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
April 11, 2017

8 things that excellent hospital doctors do

Author: Sanjay Saint, Molly Harrod

UMHS Press Release
May 4, 2017
Additional News Items


- Joel Rubenstein. May 2017. A new study suggests some Americans are more susceptible to esophageal cancer, and it's linked to where they live. More research is needed to pinpoint the relationship. Also featured on M Health Lab.


- Sameer Saini. May 2017. DDW 12 research wrap-up: prescribing PPIs, underwater colonoscopy, and diet and colic.

- Valerie Vaughn, Dmitry Shuster, Mary Rogers, Jason Mann, Marisa Conte, Sanjay Saint, Vineet Chopra. May 2017. Faster feeding may mean faster recovery in pancreatitis, U-M researchers find. Later cited in 16 news outlets.


- Jeffrey Kullgren, Ann-Marie Rosland. June 2017. Medicaid expansion helped enrollees do better at work or in job searches.

- Vineet Chopra. June 2017. How to pick the right PICC for a patient? There's an app for that.

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**Recently Initiated VA HSR&D Grants**

**Developing benefit-based performance measurement for VHA**

Performance measures can be used to guide care – such as when a clinician realizes that he or she is not providing ideal care because a new performance measure recommends something he or she had not been doing or when physician report cards inform a clinic director that one doctor is particularly skilled. Combining performance measures into composites is the most established way to summarize and guide care. In this project, we will develop new performance measures and new ways of creating composites that will be aimed directly at improving care in ways that are effective and less burdensome to providers.

Team Members: Jeremy Sussman (PI), Laura Damschroder, Rod Hayward, Tim Hofer, Eve Kerr, Deb Levine, Brahmajeet Nallamothu, Doug Bentley, Jenny Burns, Caitlin Kelley, Wyndy Wiitala, Brad Youles, Janelle Keusch, Jane Forman
**Optimizing treatment response in VA specialized intensive/inpatient PTSD programs**

Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a large and ever-increasing problem for our nation's Veterans. Though evidence-based PTSD treatment is generally effective, up to a third or more of individuals with PTSD respond poorly to treatment. Many poor responders are treated in residential VA PTSD programs. This study will address the needs of poor responders in residential care by identifying factors associated with good and poor PTSD treatment response, then developing and piloting a modified intervention for individuals who are at risk of poor response.

*Team Members: Rebecca Sripada (PI), Marcia Valenstein, Fred Blow, Jane Forman, Dara Ganoczy, Lauren Emerson, Shiela Rauch (Atlanta)*

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**Advanced prediction models to optimize treatment and access for veterans with Hepatitis C**

Despite highly effective treatment for chronic hepatitis C (CHC), we cannot treat all infected patients immediately. This study will develop a risk-based, systematic approach that will maximize treatment benefit while limiting clinical and economic harms. This research will produce a strategy to systemically identify high-risk patients and lay the groundwork for future implementation by engaging the Veteran voice. In addition, we will examine the impact of targeted CHC treatment on clinical outcomes and healthcare utilization.

*Team Members: Akbar Waljee (PI), Sameer Saini, Pia Roman, Maria Hughes, Amanda Ellis, Jennifer Burns, Wyndy Wiltia, Tony Var, Rachel Lipson, Grace Su (UM), Ji Zhu (UM), Raymond De Vries (UM), Kerry Ryan (UM), Chris Krenz (UM), George Ioannou (Seattle, WA), Lauren Beste (Seattle, WA)*

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**Additional Funded Grants**


Optimizing Veteran-centered prostate cancer survivorship care: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial


“I’ve never been able to stay in a job”: a qualitative study of Veterans’ experiences of maintaining employment

Development and application of the RE-AIM QuEST mixed methods framework for program evaluation


Forging New paths in Diabetes prevenTion (FINDIT): study protocol for a randomized controlled trial