



Iowa City

Research Enhancement Award Program

Director: Eli N. Perencevich, MD, MS, BS

Executive Summary for Fiscal Year 2011

The primary goal of the Center for Comprehensive Access & Delivery Research and Evaluation (CADRE) is to design, test, and promote the adoption of innovative interventions that improve access to quality care and reduce costs, and that are developed and implemented in concert with VA program offices, local managers and clinicians. CADRE research focuses broadly on the design, testing, and adoption of innovations in the organization and delivery of care that have the potential for improving access to quality care and decreasing costs. Within this paradigm of investigation, CADRE will further develop areas of investigation that build on the strengths, expertise, and current research directions of our investigators. In addition, these areas will capitalize on resources available through the Veterans Rural Health Resource Center – Central Region (VRHRC-CR) and the Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) Demonstration Laboratory.

In FY11 our 20 core investigators collaborated on 55 projects and supported 2 Career Development Awardees, 2 HSR&D Advanced Fellows, and 3 VA Quality Scholars. Two new core investigators and 1 new affiliate investigators joined CADRE. Close collaborations continued with the VRRRC-CR, directed by Dr. Peter Kaboli, and the PACT, directed by Dr. Gary Rosenthal.

Major accomplishments this year included the initiation of 3 new HSR&D projects (1 IIR, 1 CDA, 1 PPO), the submission of 10 CDAs, 5 IIRs, 2 RFPs, and 1 CSR&D application (2 cycles), in addition to our CREATE LOI and concept paper submission. CADRE Investigators sustained non-VA collaborations and other VA funding to greatly offset our reduction in core HSR&D funding. New projects included funding to improve compliance with hand hygiene and contact precautions in VAMCs and improve effectiveness of VHAs MRSA screening initiative, examine treatment variation and effectiveness in Veterans with PTSD, and conduct a mixed methods evaluation of the early use of and satisfaction with the Blue Button feature of My HealtheVet. CADRE investigators published a number of publications noteworthy for their identification of areas in which to focus policy and operational initiatives in the areas of rural health, infection control, women's health, cost effectiveness, adverse drug events and geriatric issues; and they represent situations that implementation efforts can begin to address.

In December 2010 our center was re-branded from the Center for Implementation of Innovative Strategies in Practice (CRIISP) to CADRE. In April 2011, Dr. Eli Perencevich was approved as PI for CADRE as Dr. Gary Rosenthal stepped down to lead the Clinical and Translational Sciences Award at the University of Iowa and continue to direct the VISN 23 PACT Demonstration Lab. In addition, CADRE took possession of our new research building and now enjoys 10,800 square feet of highly functional space. A grand opening was held to celebrate the completed 3 building research complex.