

### **Funding Available for Long-Term Care Health Services Research**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) continues to support research on many aspects of long-term care, including studies relevant to both residential and community-based settings of care. Long-term care issues cut across several of the Agency's priority research areas. For example:

- Improving Quality and Patient Safety—e.g., evaluating strategies for integrating patient safety and quality measurement and improvement into various care settings, including long-term care.
- Improving Access, Fostering Appropriate Use, and Reducing Cost—e.g., studying effects of new relationships among acute, subacute, and long-term care facilities; and the impact of transitions between ambulatory and other settings, such as formal and informal long-term care.
- Improving Care for Priority Populations—e.g., developing cost-effective long-term care delivery models that improve the health and functioning of the elderly, the chronically ill, and persons with disabilities; and examining how to integrate varied levels of care (preventive, acute, chronic, long-term) and coordinate across multiple sites and settings.

Current AHRQ Program Announcements (PAs) which may be relevant to long-term care research include:

- “Impact of Payment and Organization on Cost, Quality and Equity” (PA-01-125), which invites studies, including methodological studies, relating to how financial and organizational structures and processes affect health care services.
- “Patient-Centered Care: Customizing Care To Meet Patients’ Needs” (PA-01-124), which seeks proposals to redesign and evaluate new care models that increase patient and family decisionmaking and involvement in the care process, especially for chronic disease management.
- “Translating Research Into Practice” (PA-02-066), which invites researchers to address how research translation and dissemination strategies vary from one type of organization (e.g., hospitals, home health agencies, long-term care facilities, etc.) to another. This is a joint PA with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

AHRQ also supports long-term care projects within its Integrated Delivery System Research Network (see [www.ahrq.gov/research/idsrn.htm](http://www.ahrq.gov/research/idsrn.htm)). In addition, AHRQ has funding opportunities for both large and small research grants and conferences, as well as educational and career development awards. These include:

- “AHRQ Health Services Research” (PA-00-111) and “AHRQ Small Research Grant Program” (PAR-01-040), which express AHRQ priority interests for ongoing extramural grants for research, demonstration, dissemination, and evaluation projects.
- “AHRQ Grant Program for Large Conference Support” (PA-03-117) and “Small Grant Program for Conference Support” (PAR-00-141), which invite applications for conferences to develop research agendas, examine methodological issues, and disseminate health services research findings.
- “Grants for Health Services Dissertation Research” (PAR-00-076), “Predoctoral Fellowship Awards for Minority Students” (PA-00-069), “National Research Service Award Individual Postdoctoral Fellowships” (PA-99-005), “Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award” (PA-00-010), and “Independent Scientist Award” (PAR-99-164), which provide an array of research training and career development opportunities for pre- and postdoctoral students and newly independent investigators to address critical health care delivery issues, including long-term care.

These announcements and other information on AHRQ funding opportunities are available at: [www.ahrq.gov/fund](http://www.ahrq.gov/fund)



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