

Selected AHRQ-Funded Projects in Long-Term Care Research, 2003

During fiscal year 2003, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) continued its longstanding commitment to research in long-term care health services research through various mechanisms, including research and demonstration grants, dissertation and career development awards, and other extramural projects. Examples of some of these currently funded AHRQ studies include:

- **Antibiotic Use and Bacteriuria in the Rural Nursing Home.** Examines processes of care for tracking and managing bacteriuria and urinary tract infections in long-term catheterized patients in a rural nursing home setting. (*Principal Investigator: Michael Rubin, University of Utah, Grant K08 HS14017*).
- **Care for Suspected Pneumonia in Nursing Homes: the Evercare Model.** Identifies facility, provider, and resident characteristics that influence nurse practitioner adherence to treatment guidelines, mortality and hospitalization rates, and time to recovery for nursing home residents with suspected pneumonia. The project is being conducted within AHRQ's Integrated Delivery System Research Network (IDSRN). (*IDSRN: Center for Health Care Policy and Evaluation, Contract 290-00-0012-6*).
- **Long Term Care Quality Improvement Partnership.** Aims to develop a guideline implementation toolkit to enhance quality of nursing home care and evaluate its impact on process and outcome indicators in facilities in five States. (*Principal Investigator: David Polakoff, American Medical Directors Association, Grant U18 HS13710*).
- **Market and Provider Effects on Hospice in Nursing Homes.** Examines the process by which the Medicare hospice benefit becomes available to terminally ill nursing home residents in two States, including the effect of hospice revenue and referral sources. (*Principal Investigator: Pedro Gozalo, Brown University, Grant R01 HS13355*).
- **Nursing Practice Models in Long-Term Care Facilities.** Aims to develop a questionnaire to identify the components of a nursing practice model and pilot-test the instrument in 10 long-term care facilities. (*Principal Investigator: Christine Mueller, University of Minnesota, Grant R03 HS13773*).
- **OBRA87 and Quality in Nursing Homes.** Analyzes nursing home data from before and after the implementation of regulations resulting from the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (OBRA87) to determine the effect, if any, on staffing levels and various quality of care indicators. (*Principal Investigator: Xinzhi Zhang, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Dissertation Grant R03 HS13503*).
- **Organization Change To Improve Nursing Home Environment.** Evaluates the impact of a global organizational intervention aimed at enhancing the ability and motivation of the employees at two nursing home facilities in order to improve residents' care and safety. (*Principal Investigator: Jules Rosen, University of Pittsburgh, Grant R01 HS11976*).
- **Partnership for Achieving Quality Home Care.** Aims to create a model and establish an infrastructure through which collaborating partner organizations can gain access to methods, tools, and materials to implement quality improvement strategies in home care for the elderly. (*Principal Investigator: Penny Feldman, Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Grant U18 HS13694*).
- **Real-time Optimal Care Plans for Nursing Home QI.** Builds partnerships for implementing quality improvement (QI) activities in long-term care facilities, incorporating evidence-based best practices into everyday workflow, and facilitating clinical process redesign. (*Principal Investigator: Susan Horn, International Severity Information Systems, Grant U18 HS13696*).
- **Using Prospective MDS Data To Enhance Resident Safety.** Examines whether the Minimum Data Set (MDS) can be used prospectively to reduce preventable adverse outcomes—falls, pressure ulcers, and urinary tract infections—in frail elderly residents of long-term care facilities. (*Principal Investigator: Christie L. Tieglund, Foundation for Long Term Care, Grant R18 HS11869*).

Further information on AHRQ's long-term care research program may be found at:

www.ahrq.gov/research/ltcix.htm



AHRQ Pub. No. 04-M009
November 2003

