



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Advancing Excellence in Health Care www.ahrq.gov

Evidence-Based Care: The New Imperative in Quality

Carolyn M. Clancy, MD

Director

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

NCSL Legislative Summit 2011

San Antonio, TX – August 9, 2011



All Health Care is Local

“Until a community confronts what goes on in its own population — to the point of actually seeking the data and engaging those who can solve the problem — nothing will change.”

Atul Gawande



10 Steps to Better Health Care, A Gawande, D Berwick, E Fisher, M McClellan. New York Times, 08/13/2009



Putting the Patient at the Center of Care

Patient-centeredness: The final frontier?

- Patient-centeredness may be the most challenging of all six domains of quality, because it is so difficult to define and measure
- But, it is also likely the most important, because it includes elements of all other domains



Evidence-Based Care: The New Imperative in Quality



- AHRQ Resources and Priorities
- Quality and Disparities Overview
- 21st Century Health Care
- Q & A



HHS Organizational Focus



NIH

Biomedical research to prevent, diagnose & treat diseases



CDC

Population health & the role of community-based interventions to improve health



AHRQ

Long-term & system-wide improvement of health care quality & effectiveness



AHRQ's Focus and Strategic Goals

- **Quality:** Deliver the right care at the right time to the right patient
- **Safety:** Reduce the risk of harm by promoting delivery of the best possible health care
- **Efficiency:** Enhance access to effective health care services and reduce unnecessary costs
- **Effectiveness:** Improve health care outcomes by encouraging the use of evidence to make more informed health care decisions



Medicaid Medical Directors Learning Network (MMDLN)

- Senior clinical leaders from 42 states whose primary responsibility is quality and cost effectiveness of their Medicaid programs
- Embraces a mission that focuses on:
 - Development and use of evidence-based medicine
 - Measurement and improvement of health care quality
 - Redesign of health care delivery systems
- Now developing and conducting multi-state projects comparing data and policy interventions

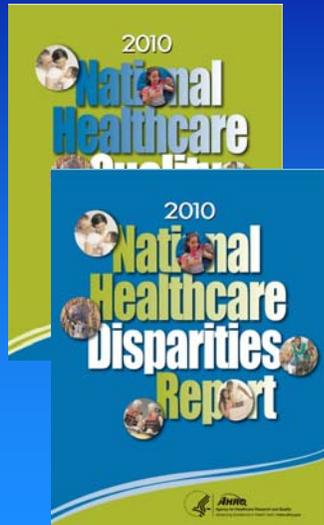


MMDLN Projects

- Antipsychotic Medication Use in Medicaid Children and Adolescents
 - Documented state variation in Medication use, produced a data dictionary and highlighted state efforts to modify utilization
- Readmissions
 - 17-State project to collect state-level readmission data for children, pregnant women and Medicaid-only covered adults
 - Initial results showed state readmission rates ranged from 7.5% to 22.9%



AHRQ 2010 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report

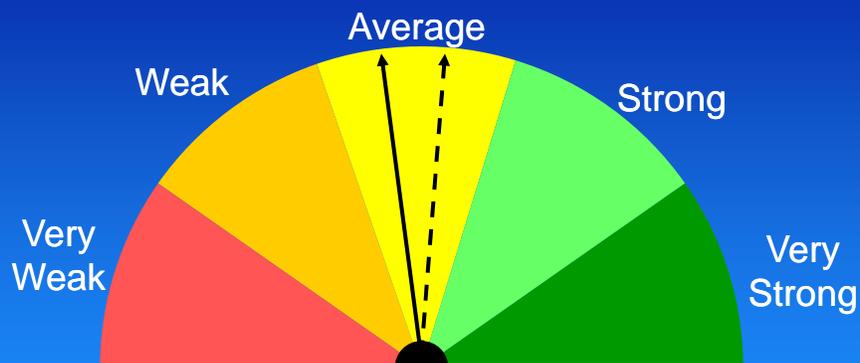


- Health care quality, access are suboptimal, especially for minority and low-income Americans
- Quality is improving by 2.3% per year; access and disparities are not
- Urgent attention is needed to improve quality and reduce disparities for:
 - Cancer screening, diabetes management
 - States in central U.S.
 - Inner-city, rural areas
 - Disparities in preventive service and access to care

www.ahrq.gov/qual/qdr10.htm



Washington: Overall Care Quality vs. All States



Performance Meter: All Measures

- = Most Recent Year
- > = Baseline Year

2010 National Healthcare Quality Report, State Snapshots



Washington Snapshot: Overall Health Care Quality Measures

Measure	Performance
% adults who needed care right away for an illness, injury, or condition in the last 12 months and got it as soon as wanted, Medicare managed care	Better than average
All cancer deaths per 100,000 population	Average
% of hospital patients with heart failure who were given complete written discharge instructions	Worse than average

National Healthcare Quality Report, State Snapshots



Patient Stories

People who improved their care by asking questions and exploring their treatment options



- Annie Randolph lived with high blood pressure for years, but she only got the upper hand on it when she found good information about the so-called “silent killer” and her treatment options
 - The Decatur, GA, resident was diagnosed with the condition by her doctor during a checkup in 1991
 - She didn’t pay much attention to her condition until about five years ago, after she was hospitalized for a second time
 - “We didn’t really have much information in the past,” she says. “Today, information is really easy for consumers to find”

www.effectivehealthcare.gov/options/stories/



EHC Summary Guides

Policymakers

Effective Health Care

Particle Beam Radiation Therapies for Cancer

A SUMMARY FOR POLICYMAKERS

Particle beam radiation therapy (PBRT) is an alternative to other types of radiation therapy for treating cancer. This summary reviews the different types of PBRT, their potential advantages and disadvantages, and their current uses. At present, there is very limited evidence comparing the safety and effectiveness of PBRT with other types of radiation therapies for specific cancer types. Therefore, it is not possible to draw conclusions about the comparative safety and effectiveness of PBRT at this time.

POLICY ISSUE

PBRT has the potential to be a more effective and less toxic treatment for certain types of cancer. However, it is not clear if PBRT is more effective or less toxic than other types of radiation therapy. More research is needed to determine if PBRT is a better option for certain types of cancer.

BOTTOM LINE

More studies of PBRT are needed to see if it is a better treatment option for certain types of cancer. If it is, it could be a better option for certain types of cancer.

DISCLAIMER

This summary is based on the best available evidence. It is not a substitute for professional medical advice. For more information, visit www.ehccancer.gov.

Clinicians

Effective Health Care Program

Utilization and Clinical Data on In-Hospital, Off-Label Uses of Recombinant Factor VIIa

Checklist table

Key Clinical Issue

Utilization and clinical data on in-hospital, off-label uses of recombinant factor VIIa (rFVIIa) for the treatment of bleeding in patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and other conditions.

Background Information

rFVIIa is a blood clotting factor that is used to treat bleeding in patients with TBI and other conditions. It is used off-label for the treatment of bleeding in patients with TBI and other conditions.

Key Clinical Issue

Utilization and clinical data on in-hospital, off-label uses of recombinant factor VIIa (rFVIIa) for the treatment of bleeding in patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and other conditions.

Background Information

rFVIIa is a blood clotting factor that is used to treat bleeding in patients with TBI and other conditions. It is used off-label for the treatment of bleeding in patients with TBI and other conditions.

Key Clinical Issue

Utilization and clinical data on in-hospital, off-label uses of recombinant factor VIIa (rFVIIa) for the treatment of bleeding in patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and other conditions.

Background Information

rFVIIa is a blood clotting factor that is used to treat bleeding in patients with TBI and other conditions. It is used off-label for the treatment of bleeding in patients with TBI and other conditions.

Consumers

Effective Health Care Program

Cuando se tiene una biopsia del seno

Guía para las mujeres y sus familias

AHRQ

Summarize research review findings on the benefits and harms of different treatment options. Provide useful background on health conditions. Medication guides contain basic wholesale price information. Consumer Guides available in Spanish.



21st Century Health Care

- Unprecedented national investment in health care
- Funding for data infrastructure, new evidence, spread of best practices
- Expanded opportunities for patient-centered outcomes research and quality improvement





Recovery Act Grant: Washington

- Comparative Effectiveness of Lipid-Lowering and Antihypertensive Medications Among HIV-Infected Individuals – Washington State University
 - Decrease in mortality through improvements in antiretroviral therapy has been accompanied by increases in complications such as hypertension
 - Project will analyze cardiovascular disease risk factors associated with treating HIV patients
 - The Centers for AIDS Research Network of Integrated Clinical Systems (CNICS) database will be the primary source of clinical data

Project Start: September 30, 2010

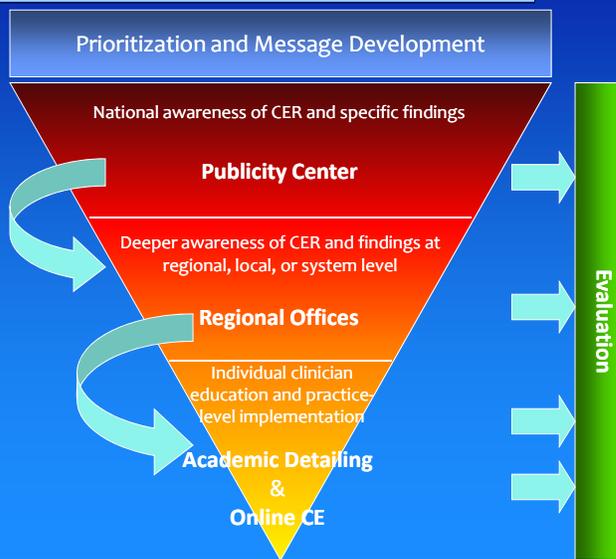
Project End: September 29, 2012



Patient Centered Outcomes Research Dissemination Framework

Example: New Diabetes CER

- Media campaign
- Outreach to national orgs (i.e. ADA, AADE, Endocrine Society, AACE)
- Outreach to consumers
- Integrate message into Diabetes package
- Promote via regional/State chapters of national orgs, local advocacy orgs, and regional health systems
- Integrate clinical message into Diabetes AD package
- Promote/discuss in individual practice settings
- Create and promote CE modules based on individual findings





Partnership for Patients: Better Care Lower Costs

Up to \$1 billion in funding provided from the Affordable Care Act

- New opportunity to improve the safety of health care through public-private collaboration
- Open to hospitals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals, employers, unions, patient advocates, health plans and others
- More than 1,500 have already signed the pledge



www.healthcare.gov/center/programs/partnership



National Quality Strategy: Three Broad Aims

Created Under the Affordable Care Act

Better Care

Improve the overall quality, by making health care more patient-centered, reliable, accessible and safe

Healthy People/ Healthy Communities

Improve the health of the U.S. population by supporting proven interventions to address behavioral, social and environmental determinants of health, in addition to delivering higher-quality care

Affordable Care

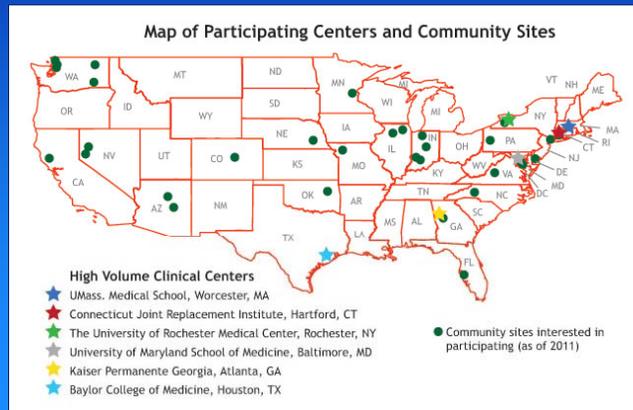
Reduce the cost of quality health care for individuals, families, employers and government

www.healthcare.gov/center/reports/quality03212011a.html



FORCE-TJR: Centers and Sites

Function and Outcomes Research for Comparative Effectiveness in total Joint Replacement (FORCE-TJR)



- Collecting data on 30,000 patients on functions including
- Developing tools for patient-centered outcomes research



Ad Campaign Encourages Patients To Explore Treatment Options

- AHRQ, Ad Council launch multimedia ad campaign: "Explore Your Treatment Options"
 - Encourages patients to ask about all options before choosing a treatment
 - Features patient stories that demonstrate how research leads to better treatment
 - Encourages patients to Effective Health Care Program summary guides



www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/options



Preguntas Campaign: AHRQ and the Ad Council



- Conoce las Preguntas (Know the Questions), a new, multimedia Spanish-language campaign
- National public service campaign featuring television, radio, print and Web ads
- Supports HHS plan to reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities

www.ahrq.gov/preguntas



Future Directions

- Promote value by seizing opportunities emerging with the increasing attention being paid to transforming the nation's health care system
 - Form alliances, partnerships and other strategies that promote collaboration
 - Further promote the use of comparative research into the broader health care transformation effort
 - Address the gaps that exist between our ability to generate data and having the capacity for it to be used “right now”



For AHRQ Funding Opportunities: <http://www.ahrq.gov/fund>



Globalize the Evidence Localize the Decision



Thank You



AHRQ Mission

To improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans

AHRQ Vision

As a result of AHRQ's efforts, American health care will provide services of the highest quality, with the best possible outcomes, at the lowest cost

www.ahrq.gov