Geriatrics and Extended Care Data Analysis Center (GECDAC)

The Geriatrics and Extended Care Data Analysis Center (GECDAC) was created to support Geriatrics and Extended Care (GEC) programs and services through developing a data and analytical infrastructure and analyzing population-based data to provide evidence-based information to decision makers. GECDAC also facilitates and supports the work of affiliated clinical researchers, scientists, and staff. In this way, GECDAC supports GEC's mission to advance quality care for aging and chronically ill Veterans and advances it as a High Reliability Organization.

One of GECDAC's main duties is to conduct Program Evaluation through providing accurate and timely analyses of program effectiveness and costs. GECDAC also facilitates Veterans' access to appropriate care by identifying Veterans who would likely qualify and benefit from various GEC programs and providing that information to program outreach efforts. Additional services include developing and validating measures and risk scores; analysis planning and protocol development; leadership data support; and data support to VA field offices.

As a resource center, GECDAC creates and shares data products to operations and research groups within the VA. Among the shared products are the GECDAC Core Files (GCF), a dataset that includes information on all Veterans who used the Veterans Health Administration in a fiscal year, and the Residential History File (RHF), which uses data from VA Medicare and Medicaid and nursing home resident assessments to provide a daily history identifying services used and location of care. The JEN Frailty Index (JFI), Independence at Home Qualification (IAH-Q), Predicted Long-term Institutionalization (PLI) score and tier, GEC Cohort Report, Staffing Data, and High-Need High-Risk (HNHR) Score are additional GECDAC data products. GECDAC creates and maintains documentation to support the sharing of its products and knowledge.

The Director of GECDAC is Orna Intrator, PhD who is based at the VA Finger Lakes Health Care System in Canandaigua New-York. Associate Directors are Bruce Kinosian, MD (Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) and Ciaran Phibbs, PhD (VA Palo Alto Health Care System, Menlo Park Division, California). GECDAC is supported by a team of investigators, statistical analysts, programmers, and project coordinators who all work remotely.

Additional information regarding GECDAC is available at https://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/Geriatrics_and_Extended_Care_Data_Analysis_Center.asp.

Questions and data requests may be directed to GECDAC@va.gov.

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