

# In This Issue: A Diversified Portfolio

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The diversity of articles in this issue reflects the variety of family medicine and its interactions with patients, communities, and health care systems.

Three empirical studies<sup>1-3</sup> and a thoughtful editorial<sup>4</sup> bring to light the prevalence, mediators, mutability, and meaning of shared decision making around prostate cancer screening.

A rigorous study by Ornstein and colleagues helps us to understand chronic illness, not as a competing demand for preventive service delivery, but as an accompaniment and opportunity for integrated care.<sup>5</sup>

A pragmatic clinical trial led by Pace and colleagues assessed the effect of the Americans In Motion—Healthy Intervention (AIM-HI) project to promote physical activity, healthy eating, and emotional well-being. Among program completers in 24 family practices, there are impressive improvements, but no differences between 2 different implementation approaches.<sup>6</sup>

In another group-randomized trial, Dietrich et al successfully transport a research-based intervention to a health care plan setting. They examine both the reach and outcomes of a telephone outreach intervention designed to increase colorectal cancer screening among publicly insured urban women, delivered by Medicaid Managed Care Organization staff.<sup>7</sup>

Safety is an important and underevaluated outcome in primary care practices. Hoffmann et al evaluate the impact of multiple factors on perceptions of a safety climate in primary care practices.<sup>8</sup>

Avoidance of unnecessary hospitalization is an outcome of high-quality primary care, but the mechanisms by which primary care clinicians understand how to avoid hospitalizations for ambulatory care-sensitive conditions has not been elucidated. Freund and colleagues show us the strategies identified by German primary care physicians.<sup>9</sup> This article is featured in this issue's *Annals Journal Club*.<sup>10</sup>

Kozhimannil and Fontaine illuminate a nationally representative sample of pregnant women to describe the diversity of their care sources and trends in family physician care.<sup>11</sup>

Finally, an essay by two female physicians provides a different perspective on childbearing. Miura and Boxer share their personal stories of postponing motherhood in the pursuit of successful medical careers and reflect on the consequences of their decisions.<sup>12</sup>

We welcome your reflections at <http://www.annfammed.org>.

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