

# Family Medicine Updates



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## AHRQ UPDATES ON PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH: UPCOMING WEBINAR ON MULTIPLE CHRONIC CONDITIONS

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is pleased to announce an upcoming webinar on February 25, 2014 that will highlight selected research findings from AHRQ's Multiple Chronic Conditions Research Network (MCCRN). MCCRN comprises 45 research teams and represents one of the largest investments in multiple chronic conditions research by the federal government, with grants focusing on clinical preventive services, comparative effectiveness, and infrastructure development. This work contributes to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Strategic Framework on Multiple Chronic Conditions, which calls for research to address the needs of the almost one-third of Americans with MCC.

The body of research emerging from the MCC Research Network addresses a variety of topics on management of patients with MCC, cost effectiveness, and innovative research methods.

Join AHRQ and MCCRN investigators for a dialogue exploring the importance of MCC research and discussing selected research findings such as:

### Approaches to Comparative Effectiveness Research in Multimorbid Populations

*Matthew Maciejewski and Elizabeth Bayliss*

Comparative effectiveness research (CER) methodologies (experimental and quasi experimental study designs, outcomes measures, morbidity measurements, etc) have been utilized primarily to study single diseases. The investigators discuss how these methods can be successfully extrapolated to study and guide care for patients with multiple chronic conditions.

### Out of Context: Clinical Practice Guidelines and Patients With Multiple Chronic Conditions: A Systematic Review.

*Kirk Wyatt, Louise Stuart, Juan Brito, Barbara Carranza Leon, Juan Pablo Domecq Garces, Gabriela Prutsky Lopez, Jason Egginton, Andrew Calvin, Nilay Shah, M. Hassan Murad, and Victor Montori*

The investigators conducted a systematic review of clinical practice guidelines published between 2006 and 2012 for patients with diabetes mellitus. They assessed whether or not guidelines accounted for the impact of multiple chronic conditions on treatment, and in cases in which they did, how comprehensively they addressed the MCC issues.

### Geographic Variation in Statin Use for Complex Acute Myocardial Infarction Patients: Evidence of Effective Care?

*John Brooks, Elizabeth Cook, Cole Chapman, Puttarin Kulchaitanaoraj, Elizabeth Chrischilles, Stephen Welch, and Jennifer Robinson*

The investigators evaluated local area variation in statin prescribing patterns for subsets of complex patients after acute myocardial infarction to assess whether current statin prescribing patterns fit profiles of either "effective care" or "preference-sensitive care."

### Effect of Beta Blockers on Cardiac and Pulmonary Events and Death in Older Adults With Cardiovascular Disease and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

*David Lee, Sheila Markwardt, Gail McAvay, Cary Gross, Leah Goeres, Peter Peduzzi, Ling Han, Haiqun Lin, John Dodson, and Mary Tinetti, et al.*

Lee and colleagues studied whether the use of beta blockers in Medicare patients with a recent heart attack and coexisting cardiopulmonary disease and cardiovascular disease affected the occurrence of cardiac or pulmonary events or death.

These and other MCCRN studies will also be published in a special issue of *Medical Care* which will be open access and available on February 24, 2014 at: <http://journals.lww.com/lww-medicalcare/pages/default.aspx>.

For those interested in attending the webinar, please visit the AHRQ MCC website: <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/mccrn.htm>. Webinar registration and instructions will be posted in early February 2014.

Additional information about this research and other products developed by the MCC Research Network are located on the AHRQ MCC website.