

# IU GERIATRICS e-news August 2012

A newsletter from [IU Geriatrics](#) and the [IU Center for Aging Research](#)

## CHOICE Aims to Fill Gap on Benefit and Harm of Dementia Screening

Various influential organizations have advocated routine screening for dementia as a proactive process to decrease the societal burden of Alzheimer disease and other dementing disorders. However, dementia screening remains controversial. The 2003 US Preventive Services Task Force report found insufficient evidence to estimate the potential harms of dementia screening and thus determining whether the benefits of dementia screening outweigh its potential harms.

To fill this gap in the literature, principal investigator **Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, has received funding from the National Institute on Aging for an R01 that will capture the benefit and harms of dementia screening

in a diverse population of older adults attending primary care clinics.

The study is known as CHOICE - Cognitive Health Outcomes Investigation of the Comparative Effectiveness of Dementia Screening. It is a randomized controlled dementia screening trial among 4000 subjects aged 65 and older attending primary care clinics within Wishard Health Services and IU Health Physicians.

The results of CHOICE will help guide the United States Preventive Services Task Force in the decision to recommend for or against routine screening for dementia in primary care. In addition, the data generated by the study could be used to model the impact of future pharmacological therapeutics targeting dementia but



requiring early recognition of the syndrome as can occur if screening is done routinely among elders.

Dr. Boustani's co-investigators are **Chris Callahan, MD, Greg Sachs, MD, Su Gao, PhD**, and Paul Dexter, MD.

## Meet the IU Geriatrics Faculty

Even though you read about them in the enews, you don't always get to see their faces. So meet our faculty members as they posed for the cover photo that appeared in the [IU Geriatrics 15th Anniversary newsletter](#).



Row 1: Monica Tegeler, Ella Bowman, Cathy Schubert, Kathleen Unroe, Todd James, Kristi Lieb. Row 2: Glenda Westmoreland, Chris Callahan, Arif Nazir, Doug Miller. Row 3: Noll Campbell, Kofi Quist, Felipe Perez, Malaz Boustani, Greg Arling. Row 4: Mike Weiner, Steve Counsell, Babar Khan, Mike LaMantia. For additional faculty photos, visit <http://medicine.iupui.edu/Geriatrics/Faculty/>.

## From the IUSM NEWSROOM

### Let's Talk: The nature of the health care surrogate-clinician relationship

August 8, 2012

INDIANAPOLIS -- A new study from the Regenstrief Institute and Indiana University School of Medicine examines the relationship between family members who make decisions for hospitalized older adults with impaired cognition and the doctors, nurses and other clinicians who care for these patients.



Lead author  
**Alexia Torke, MD, MS**

[Read more...](#)

**Torke AM**, Petronio S, Purnell CE, **Sachs GA**, Helft PR, **Callahan CM**. [Communicating with clinicians: the experiences of surrogate decision-makers for hospitalized older adults](#). J Am Geriatr Soc. 2012 Aug;60(8):1401-7. PubMed PMID: 22881864.

### IOM Report Cites Models of Care Tested by IU Center for Aging Research

In July of 2012, the Institute of Medicine published a consensus report, *The Mental Health and Substance Use Workforce for Older Adults: In Whose Hands?* The report states that nearly one in five older adults in America have one or more mental health and substance use conditions, which present unique challenges for their care. The number of adults age 65 and older is projected to soar to 72.1 million by 2030, a situation that will potentially overwhelm many aspects of the nation's health care system.



Chapter 4 of the report, "Workforce Implications of Models of Care for Older Adults with Mental Health and Substance Use Conditions," reviews nine models of care delivery for older adults who have depression, substance abuse conditions, serious mental illness or psychiatric and behavioral symptoms related to dementia.

Among the nine are two models tested in Indianapolis in clinical randomized trials by the IU Center for Aging Research. They are IMPACT (Improving Mood-Promoting Access to Collaborative Treatment) targeting older adult pop-

ulation with major depression, dysthymic disorder, or both; and PREVENT (Providing Resources Early to Vulnerable Elders Needing Treatment) treating older adults with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.

**Chris Callahan, MD**, was a member of the Institute of Medicine's Mental Health Workforce for Geriatric Populations Committee expert panel that created the report.

Download the report for free, read the brief version of the report and the press release at:

<http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2012/The-Mental-Health-and-Substance-Use-Workforce-for-Older-Adults/Press-Release.aspx>

### Presentations and Professional Activities

**Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, spoke about his work on the [Aging Brain Care model](#) on August 31 during the fourth annual meeting of the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute. The Indiana CTSI provided early funding to develop the ABC model—a new paradigm for providing comprehensive care to Alzheimer's patients.

Dr. Boustani described how the model made the jump from a small clinical trial to a highly effective program that has provided care to more than 1,000 patients in just a few years. Wishard Hospital and the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#) currently support Aging Brain Care activities.

**Douglas K. Miller, MD** attended the 5th Annual Clinical and Translational Science Award National Conference held in August in Bethesda, MD. The theme was Methods, Metrics and Outcomes: Evaluating the Success of Community Engaged Research.

Dr. Miller presented a poster, "Sharing tools for evaluating the success of community engaged research: CORUS." He is co-director CHEP, Indiana CTSI's [Community Health Engagement Program](#).

### Publications

**Torke AM**, Petronio S, Purnell CE, **Sachs GA**, Helft PR, **Callahan CM**. [Communicating with clinicians: the experiences of surrogate decision-makers for hospitalized older adults](#). J Am Geriatr Soc. 2012 Aug;60(8):1401-7. doi: 10.1111/j.1532-5415.2012.04086.x. PubMed PMID: 22881864.



Morley JE, Malmstrom TK, **Miller DK**. [A Simple Frailty Questionnaire \(FRAIL\) Predicts Outcomes in Middle Aged African Americans](#). J Nutr Health Aging. 2012 July;16(7):601-8. PubMed PMID: 22836700.

Schootman M, Andresen EM, Wolinsky FD, Malmstrom TK, Miller JP, **Miller DK**. [Effect of street connectivity on incidence of lower-body functional limitations among middle-aged African Americans](#). Ann Epidemiol. 2012 Aug;22(8):568-74. PubMed PMID: 22658823; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3396770.

Kroenke K, Theobald D, Wu J, **Tu W**, Krebs EE. [Comparative Responsiveness of Pain Measures in Cancer Patients](#). J Pain. 2012 Aug;13(8):764-72. PMID: 22800982 [PubMed - in process]

Wang HL, Kroenke K, Wu J, **Tu W**, Theobald D, Rawl SM. [Predictors of cancer-related pain improvement over time](#). Psychosom Med. 2012 Jul-Aug;74(6):642-7. PMID: 22753637 [PubMed - in process]

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