

Upcoming Events

AGING Initiative Webinar: “Meeting the Healthcare Needs of Older Adults: Translating Evidence into Policy” – July 15, 1-2:30pm ET

The AGING Initiative is hosting an upcoming webinar on Wednesday, July 15th entitled “Meeting the Healthcare Needs of Older Adults: Translating Evidence into Policy.” The webinar will be presented by Dr. Shari Ling, Chief Medical Officer of CMS. Use the following link to [register now](#), and [visit our website](#) to learn more!

Co-Sponsored Webinar: "Succeeding in Aging Research During the Pandemic" – July 10, 2pm ET

The US Deprescribing Research Network (USDeN), Clinician-Scientists Transdisciplinary Aging Research (Clin-STAR), Pepper Center (OAIC) Network, and AGS Research Committee are co-sponsoring an upcoming webinar entitled "Succeeding in Aging Research During the Pandemic" on July 10th. Use the following link to [register now](#)!

Upcoming Webinar: “Resilience and Reserve: Biology of Aging and Translational Research” – Wednesday, July 1, 11am-12pm ET

The Research Centers Collaborative Network (RCCN) is hosting an upcoming webinar on Wednesday, July 1st entitled “Resilience and Reserve: Biology of Aging and Translational Research.” The webinar will discuss NIA resilience research opportunities and programs emphasizing translational research related to resilience and reserve. Use the following link to [register now](#) and learn more!



Do you follow @AgingInitiative on Twitter?
Find us for the latest news and updates on upcoming opportunities!

Highlights

Geriatrics Research Instrument Library (GRIL)

The Geriatrics Research Instrument Library (GRIL) is a newly established website that provides a user-friendly resource to guide researchers in selecting instruments to assess and measure clinical outcomes relevant to older adults across a full range of domains. Developed in collaboration with the AGING Initiative, Wake Forest University, and Yale Pepper Center, GRIL allows researchers to easily search, compare, and select instruments based on their description, copyright information, completion time, available translations, and more! [Visit the GRIL website now](#)!

AGING Initiative Pilot Awardees

The AGING Initiative is pleased to announce that three outstanding Pilot award applications have been funded for our second cycle! Congratulations to early stage investigators Drs. Clark DuMontier (Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School), Ilya Ivlev (Kaiser Permanente Northwest Center for Health Research), and Melissa Wei (University of Michigan) on their awards! Stay connected on the [AGING Initiative website](#) to apply to our next cycle of Pilot awards in Fall 2020!

NIA IMPACT Collaboratory Career Development Awards – Application deadline July 15, 2020

The NIA IMPACT Collaboratory is accepting applications for 2-3 career development awards, with a deadline of July 15, 2020. (CDAs) annually. These awards seek to support the development of early-stage researchers who seek careers conducting ePCTs for people living with AD/ABRD and their care partners. Visit the IMPACT Collaboratory website to [apply and learn more](#)!

Clin-STAR Transdisciplinary Aging Research Pilot Grants – LOI deadline July 15, 2020

The Clinician-Scientists Transdisciplinary Aging Research (Clin-STAR) Coordinating Center is seeking to fund at least 3 pilot or planning grants that aim to stimulate new collaborations focused on the development of clinical aging research projects. The letter of intent submission deadline is July 15th. Visit the Clin-STAR website to [apply and learn more](#)!

USDeN Collaboration Awards

The US Deprescribing Research Network (USDeN) is accepting applications for small grants to incubate topic- and site-specific collaborative efforts, such as a grant to convene a mini-summit for investigators. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Visit the USDeN website to [apply and learn more](#)!

Funding Opportunities

FOA (Activity Code)	Title	Expiration Date
<u>PAR-17-290</u>	NIA MSTEM: Advancing Diversity in Aging Research through Undergraduate Education	08/25/20
<u>PAR-18-519</u>	Sensory and motor system changes as predictors of preclinical Alzheimer's disease	11/07/20
<u>PAR-20-179</u>	Advancing Research to Develop Improved Measures and Methods for Understanding Multimorbidity	01/07/21
<u>PAR-20-180</u>	Identifying Innovative Mechanisms or Interventions that Target Multimorbidity and Its Consequences	01/07/21
<u>PAR-17-461/462</u>	Symptom Cluster Characterization in Chronic Conditions	01/08/21
<u>PAR-18-749</u>	Examining Diversity, Recruitment, and Retention in Aging Research	01/26/21
<u>PA-18-722</u>	Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens	05/08/21
<u>PA-18-570/571/572</u>	Underactive Bladder and Detrusor Activity in Aging	05/08/21
<u>PAR-18-877/878</u>	Clinical Trials for the Spectrum of Alzheimer's Disease and Age-related Cognitive Decline	09/08/21
<u>PAR-18-820</u>	Alzheimer's Drug-Development Program	09/08/21
<u>PAR-19-070/071</u>	Research on Current Topics in Alzheimer's Disease and Its Related Dementias	11/13/21
<u>PAR-19-057/058</u>	Strategies to Provide Culturally Tailored Palliative and End-of-Life Care for Seriously Ill American Indian and Alaska Native Individuals	01/08/22
<u>PAR-19-044/045</u>	End-of-Life and Palliative Care Approaches to Advanced Signs and Symptoms	01/08/22
<u>PAS-19-210</u>	Progression Markers for Cognitive Impairment in Parkinson's Disease Dementia	05/08/22
<u>PA-19-230</u>	Pragmatic clinical trial on efficacy of managing reduced iron stores on risk of clinically important events in older adults with heart failure and anemia	7/6/2022
<u>PAR-19-304/305</u>	Early-Stage T1 Translational Aging Research (Bench to Bedside) for the Development of Novel Therapeutics	7/17/2022
<u>PAR-19-316</u>	Advancing Research on Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and Alzheimer's-Disease-Related Dementias (ADRD)	9/7/2022
<u>PAR-19-374</u>	Complex Integrated Multi-Component Projects in Aging Research	9/26/2022
<u>PAR-20-070</u>	Research Infrastructure Development for Interdisciplinary Aging Studies	11/17/2022
<u>PAS-19-391/392/393</u>	Small Research Grant Program for the Next Generation of Researchers in AD/ADRD Research	11/17/2022
<u>PAR-20-071</u>	Advanced-Stage Development and Utilization of Research Infrastructure for Interdisciplinary Aging Studies	11/17/2022
<u>PAR-20-099</u>	Harmonization of Alzheimers Disease and Related Dementias (AD/ADRD) Genetic, Epidemiologic, and Clinical Data to Enhance Therapeutic Target Discovery	1/26/2023

Selected Relevant Publications

If you have a recent publication you would like us to highlight in a future newsletter, please contact [Christopher Delude](#).

Merten N*, Fischer ME, Tweed TS, Breteler MMB, Cruickshanks KJ. [Associations of Hearing Sensitivity, Higher-Order Auditory Processing, and Cognition Over Time in Middle-Aged Adults](#). *J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci*. 2020 Feb 14;75(3):545-551.

Key Results: While hearing sensitivity might affect higher-order auditory processing, associations between hearing and cognition appear bidirectional and weak in midlife. We need to be cautious before inferring causal effects of hearing on cognition.

Han BH*, Palamar JJ. [Trends in Cannabis Use Among Older Adults in the United States, 2015-2018](#). *JAMA Intern Med*. 2020 Feb 24;180(4):609-11.

Key Results: The prevalence of past-year cannabis use among adults 65 years and older increased significantly from 2.4% to 4.2% ($P = .001$), a 75% relative increase. A number of key subgroups experienced marked increases in cannabis use, including women, racial/ethnic minorities, those with higher family incomes, and those with mental health problems. While we also found an increase in cannabis use among older people with diabetes, in general, it appears that the increase in cannabis use is driven largely by those who do not have MCCs.

Parker ML, Thornton-Evans G, Wei L, Griffin SO. [Prevalence of and Changes in Tooth Loss Among Adults Aged \$\geq 50\$ Years with Selected Chronic Conditions — United States, 1999–2004 and 2011–2016](#). *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:641–646.

Key Results: Among adults aged ≥ 50 years who had a dental exam as part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, those reporting selected chronic conditions were significantly more likely to have severe tooth loss than were persons without chronic conditions. Health care professionals can educate patients with chronic diseases about their increased risk for tooth loss, screen for dental disease, and refer patients for needed dental care.

Ambrosy AP, Fitzpatrick JK, Tabada GH, Gurwitz JH*, Artz A, Schrier SL, Rao SV, Reynolds K*, Smith DH, Peterson PN, Fortmann SP*, Sung SH, Cohen HJ, Go AS*; RBC HEART Investigators/PACTTE Consortium. [A reduced transferrin saturation is independently associated with excess morbidity and mortality in older adults with heart failure and incident anemia](#). *Int J Cardiol*. 2020 Jun 15;309:95-99.

Key Results: Among older adults with heart failure and incident anemia who had iron studies tested, nearly half had a transferrin saturation $< 20\%$, which was independently associated with higher rates of morbidity and death.

Portz JD*, Lum HD, Bull S, Boxer RS*, Bekelman DB, Ford KL, Gleason K, Casillas A, Bayliss EA*. [Perceptions of Patient Portal Use for Advance Directive Documentation among Older Adults with Multiple Chronic Conditions](#). *J Soc Work End Life Palliat Care*. 2020 Jun 1:1-12.

Key Results: Patient portals can play an innovative role in facilitating advanced care planning and documenting advance directives (ADs) among older adults with MCCs. Although some older adults may be reluctant, participants reported they were likely to use a portal for ADs with proper design and support.

Naylor MD*, Hirschman KB, McCauley K. [Meeting the Transitional Care Needs of Older Adults with COVID-19](#). *J Aging Soc Policy*. 2020 May 31:1-9.

Key Results: Components of the evidence-based Transitional Care Model provide a framework for taking a more immediate, holistic response to caring for these individuals as they move back into the community. These components include: increasing screening, building trusting relationships, improving patient engagement, promoting collaboration across care teams, undertaking symptom management, increasing family caregiver care/education, coordinating health and social services, and improving care continuity.

Wei MY*, Luster JE, Chan CL, Min L. [Comprehensive review of ICD-9 code accuracies to measure multimorbidity in administrative data](#). *BMC Health Serv Res*. 2020 Jun 1;20(1):489

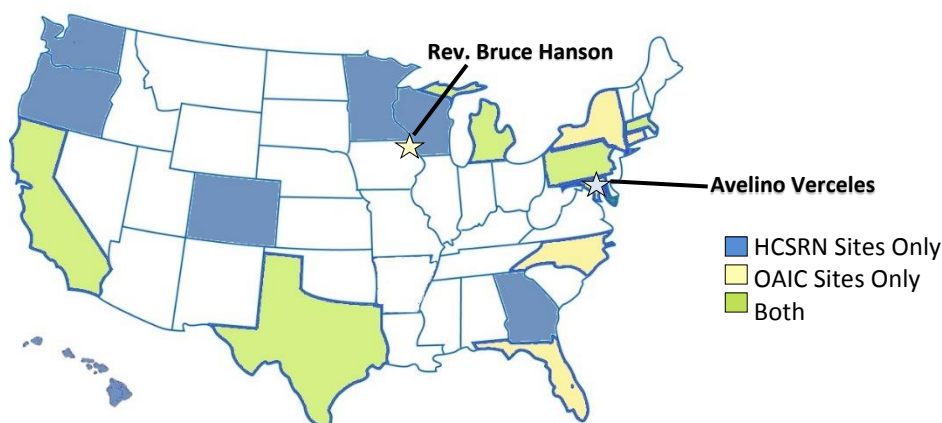
Key Results: This review provides the accuracy of ICD-9 codes for chronic conditions that impact a universally valued patient-centered outcome: health-related quality of life. These findings will assist health services studies that measure chronic disease burden and risk-adjust for comorbidity and multimorbidity using patient-centered outcomes in administrative data.

Garg T*, Young AJ, O'Keeffe-Rosetti M, McMullen CK, Nielsen ME, Murphy TE*, Kirchner HL. [Association between metabolic syndrome and recurrence of nonmuscle-invasive bladder cancer in older adults](#). *Urol Oncol*. 2020 May 11:S1078-1439(20)30150-2.

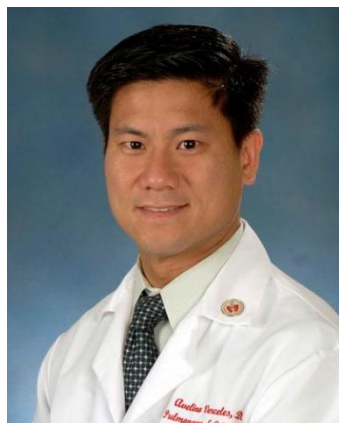
Key Results: We found no association between MetS and risk of NMIBC recurrence in this large, multisite cohort of older adults with NMIBC. In order to design personalized care for older NMIBC patients, future research is needed to evaluate associations between common chronic conditions and a variety of oncologic outcomes.

Featured Collaborators

Each quarterly newsletter, the AGING Initiative features two individuals who work in research related to older adults with multiple chronic conditions. **If you are interested in contacting either of these individuals, or would like to nominate yourself or another collaborator to be featured, please contact Christopher.Delude@MeyersPrimary.org.**



Avelino Verceles, MD – *University of Maryland School of Medicine (College Park, MD)*



Avelino C. Verceles, MD, MS is an associate professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary, Critical care and Sleep Medicine. Dr. Verceles' research focuses on developing rehabilitation and nutrition-based strategies to improve functional and clinical outcomes for older ICU survivors. Additionally, He has done work assessing the psychological stress and burden of family members and caregivers of patients admitted to ICUs. Dr. Verceles' interests related to multiple chronic conditions (MCC) research aims to assess the outcomes of redirecting the care provided to older patients in ICUs with MCCs to adopt a family centered approach, focusing not only the medical care and recovery of the older, critically ill patient, but also emphasizing the physical and psychological well-being of the family members and patient as a unit. Dr. Verceles is active in the University of Maryland Older Americans' Independence Center, Pilot and Exploratory Studies Core, having served as a Pepper Center Junior Faculty Scholar. When he is not caring for critically ill patients and their families he enjoys spending time with his wife, two sons and daughter jogging or bicycling the trails of Maryland State Parks.

Rev. Bruce Hanson – *AGING Initiative Patient/Caregiver Advisor (Garnaville, IO)*



Rev. Bruce L. Hanson is a retired rural parish pastor who was a caregiver for his wife (Connie) for more than 47 years. He has participated in numerous volunteer opportunities such as being an Emergency Medical Technician for almost thirty years as well as a Hospital, Police and Prison Chaplain. He has volunteered and been a representative for various patient centered organizations such as the National Patient Advocacy Foundation (NPAF) and served on the PCORI Advisory Panel. Most recently, he has become involved in several COVID-19-related projects as a patient advocate through the University of Kansas as well as on a research project through the Society of Critical Care Physicians. His areas of interest include rural healthcare, goal-setting and identification of patient and caregiver priorities, education of primary and specialty care clinicians toward working with patient priorities, and utilization of advancing medical technologies. In his free time Pastor Bruce is an avid fisherman, and for relaxation enjoys building clocks and incorporating stained glass in the cabinets.

Get Involved with the AGING Initiative!

Please email Christopher.Delude@MeyersPrimary.org or complete this survey, http://bit.ly/AGING_Interest_Survey.
For questions or suggestions regarding this newsletter, contact Chris Delude at: Christopher.Delude@MeyersPrimary.org.