



2017 Epidemiology Seminar Series

Quality of End of Life Care in Nursing Homes – A Randomized Control Trial

Dana B. Mukamel Ph.D.

Professor of Medicine, Public Health and Nursing
Director, iTEQC Research Program
University of California, Irvine

Friday, April 21, 2017
1:00pm to 2:00pm

Irvine Hall Conference Center, Room 207
UCI main campus

Abstract:

Deficits in end-of-life (EOL) care in nursing homes (NHs) have been reported, but the impact of NH-based palliative care teams (PCTeam) on resident outcomes has been largely unstudied and untested. We conducted a randomized controlled trial (RCT), funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), to examine the efficacy of NH PCTeams on EOL outcomes.

We recruited 31 facilities in New York State (NYS). Intervention components included: adaptation of community based EOL care guidelines to the nursing home setting by the intervention nursing homes using the Delphi method, team development (using TeamSTEPPS), staff training in EOL care (ELNEC geriatric curriculum), and PCTeam activation and rounding with a nurse interventionist. The intervention period was 10 months, occurring between October 2013-April 2016. Based on NYS Minimum Data Set (MDS) data for 609 nursing homes patient level assessment data, we developed four risk-adjusted quality measures (QMs) to evaluate the impact of the PCTeams: place of death (NH vs. hospital); number of hospitalizations; self-reported pain, and depressive symptoms, all within 90 days of death. To understand barriers and challenges staff may have experienced during the intervention, we conducted rapid ethnographic assessments (REAs) in the treatment NHs.

To assess the impact of the intervention we estimated four difference-in-difference (DID) models, one for each QM. We found no effect of the intervention, but sensitivity analysis identified a subgroup which achieved better outcomes following the intervention.

The seminar is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Maira Moctezuma: mmoctezu@uci.edu
Sponsored by the Department of Epidemiology, School of Medicine
and the Genetic Epidemiology Research Institute

Funding from Dr. Hazem and Salma Chehabi Distinguished Speaker Grant