Los Angeles, CA
Center of Innovation
Director: Elizabeth M. Yano, PhD, MSPH

Executive Summary for Fiscal Year 2014

The mission of the Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation and Policy (CSHIIP) is to develop and test innovative care models and health systems interventions which markedly improve the effectiveness and value of VA healthcare through effective implementation, spread and sustainable strategies. We worked with a total of 60 investigators located at the West LA and Sepulveda campuses, UCLA and RAND Health. We recruited three new MD investigators in hospital medicine in FY14 (Ong, Zingmond and Izquierda) and one PhD (Bergman). The Center’s portfolio totaled over $16 million, representing a stable funding level relative to 2013 in the HSR&D, QUERI and other VA funding categories. Almost all the 95 studies or projects conducted addressed one or more of our focused research areas of primary care/PACT, women’s health, and vulnerable Veteran groups (e.g., Veterans with serious mental illness, frail elderly Veterans, those needing palliative care, and homeless Veterans); or our four emerging research areas (genetic medicine, infectious diseases, complementary and alternative medicine, and disaster preparedness).

This year, Center investigators published 94 manuscripts and delivered 104 conference presentations, including several briefings to VA senior leaders and managers. They continued to contribute to policy and practice through numerous leadership roles. They made particularly strong contributions to VA Central Office, major health care quality agencies and organizations, and professional societies. Last year, we trained 22 fellows in five programs. We also continued to train and mentor VA researchers through weekly work-in-progress meetings, monthly career development calls and cyber seminars.