



# Function QUERI

Optimizing Function and Independence  
Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

April 2017 Edition

## Function QUERI Newsletter

Introduction to Function QUERI!

Function QUERI (Optimizing Function and Independence QUERI) is a newly funded HSR&D QUERI program project at the Durham VA. Our newsletter updates will be sent out quarterly to keep you updated on our progress. Some topics in future editions will include project updates; meetings, conferences, panels, or other events; as well as any other news related to our QUERI. Please feel free to let us know if you would like more information on any of our topics.

If you do not wish to receive our newsletter, or if you or someone you know would like to receive the newsletter, please contact us at: [Caitlin.Sullivan2@va.gov](mailto:Caitlin.Sullivan2@va.gov).

## Function QUERI TEAM

Please join us in welcoming our newest team member, Rebecca Bruening! Rebecca will be doing qualitative work on the QUERI, including interviews, and analysis as part of implementation of our projects.

Rebecca previously worked at CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) doing public health workforce training and development. She obtained her Master's in Public Health from UNC Chapel Hill, and her Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Richmond.

Welcome to the team!

## Function QUERI Program Spotlight

### Group Physical Therapy for Knee OA (GroupPT):

#### 1st Quarterly Report Submitted

The Group PT team finalized the 1st quarterly report, and sent it to Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) staff. The report included patients who had consults for Group PT from August 1- October 31, 2016 and included data on program initiation, appointment completion, patient-reported outcomes, and results of functional tests. Results showed improvement in function among patients who completed the program. The QUERI team is working with the PM&R staff to determine processes for disseminating results more widely in the VA.

#### GroupPT Team Surveys

We achieved a 100% response rate of surveys completed by GroupPT team members, which were fielded before and after the CONNECT training session, held in December 2016. Thanks to all our participants!

## A big THANK YOU to Amy Howard, the Durham VA's Clinical Application Coordinator!

Amy has been diligently working with the STRIDE team on the development of templates for CPRS. Thank you, Amy!

## VISN 6 STRIDE- VA Mid-Atlantic Healthcare Network

**STRIDE:** a supervised inpatient walking program to prevent disability related to immobility during hospitalization.

As a part of the VA Leaders Developing Leaders (LDL) program, VISN 6 Leadership selected the STRIDE program in Durham as a 100 day project to be rolled out in all VISN 6 VA sites located in North Carolina and Virginia.

Phase 1 of the VISN 6 STRIDE rollout was from October 2016-January 2017. The goal of Phase 1 was for STRIDE to be delivered to at least 1 patient per site.

Phase 2 will focus on the maintenance and sustainability of STRIDE, and will include a site visit to Durham for the VISN 6 site participants.

Updates from VISN 6 STRIDE:

- Each of the 6 sites completed the necessary process measures (e.g. integration of progress note template into CPRS), and 5 out of 6 sites walked one patient with the STRIDE program in 100 days
- 17 STRIDE champions participated in 6 interviews (one interview with each site)
- STRIDE champions will visit the STRIDE program in Durham in June 2017
- A conference call was completed with sites to end Phase 1, troubleshoot challenges, and begin Phase 2
- Amy Howard developed new STRIDE templates with health factor data. The notes are live in Durham and will be disseminated to the other VISN 6 sites in April

## Acknowledgements

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Please contact us at: [Caitlin.Sullivan2@va.gov](mailto:Caitlin.Sullivan2@va.gov) for questions.