

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

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Center for the Study of  
Healthcare Provider Behavior

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Center for the  
Study of Healthcare  
Provider Behavior

POST-DOCTORAL  
FELLOWSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES

IN  
HEALTH SERVICES  
RESEARCH

Available through the  
VA Greater Los Angeles  
HSR&D Center of Excellence  
for the Study of Healthcare  
Provider Behavior

Sepulveda, CA

Tel: 818-895-9449

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Academic Affiliations, offers a two-year post-PhD fellowship in health services research through its VA Health Services Research & Development Service Centers of Excellence. The Fellowship program's mission is to train – and retain in VA careers – creative, independent, ethical and productive leaders in health services research and related fields.

Stipends for post-doctoral fellows are \$37,000 per year plus health and life insurance benefits. Fellows are provided office space, computer resources, and \$7,000 for research support over the two-year term of their fellowship.

## Health Services Research at the Center for the Study of Healthcare Provider Behavior

The VA HSR&D Center of Excellence at the Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (GLA) provides a program with sufficient structure and intellectual and technical resources to enable fellows to progress in areas of research inquiry relevant to the Center's mission. Much of the Center's ongoing research involves significant collaboration with other GLA clinical research centers. Chief among these are the centers for aging (GRECC), mental illness (MIRECC) and Parkinson's Disease (PADRECC). The Center, directed by Lisa V. Rubenstein, M.D., M.S.P.H., also maintains strong collaborative arrangements with health services researchers at UCLA and RAND.

### The Center's goals are to:

- Identify and evaluate models of healthcare provider behavior in order to improve quality and outcomes.
- Train VA health services researchers to develop, implement, and evaluate health systems interventions.
- Disseminate resource and intervention materials, research results and recommendations to the VA health system and the American public.
- Support development of the VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI).

### FY '02 RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

<b>Primary Care</b>	Evaluations of VA primary care structure in relationship to quality of care and adoption of managed care.
<b>Mental Health</b>	Studies focus on improving care for depression, schizophrenia, and narcotic (opioid) dependence.
<b>HIV</b>	Projects focus on improving care for veterans with HIV, especially in the area of anti-retroviral therapy.
<b>Smoking Cessation</b>	Multisite studies identify health effects and prevalence of smoking cessation among veterans and non-veterans and how to help them quit.
<b>Healthy Aging</b>	Projects identify and implement evidence-based interventions to improve function and reduce illness.
<b>Women's Health</b>	Projects focus on the structure and use of women veterans' health care services, patient preferences, and PTSD in women veterans.
<b>Evidence-Based Medicine</b>	Studies focus on assessing and synthesizing the literature (e.g., meta-analyses) regarding, for example, spinal cord injury, cancer screening, etc.
<b>Patient Safety</b>	Projects focus on drug interaction reminders, prescribing patterns, and cost-effectiveness.
<b>Frail Elderly</b>	Projects focus on quality of care and cost-effectiveness, Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease; patterns of mortality and end-of-life care.

During their two-year tenures, fellows will maintain ongoing relationships with a program mentor and one or more research mentors in order to achieve two core fellowship goals:

- Complete an educational program in health services research as needed, and
- Conduct a health services research project which focuses on an aspect of provider behavior relevant to the Center and which merits presentation at meetings and publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

### Qualifications

Applications are invited from individuals who:

- Have recently completed a doctoral degree in an associated health discipline such as public health (epidemiology, health services, biostatistics), psychology, sociology, health economics, health administration, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy or related discipline.
- Demonstrate significant promise for contributing to the field of health services research.
- Are citizens of the United States.

Physicians interested in an HSR&D fellowship are encouraged to inquire about the VA/UCLA Multicampus Primary Care and Health Services Research Post-MD Fellowship Program.

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