

Optimal Prevention & Treatment in Medically Complex Alzheimer Patients (OPTIMAL)

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Project Period: 08/01/08 – 07/31/11

Description

Dementia is a leading cause of death among older adults. However, less is known about the mortality risk associated with milder forms of cognitive impairment and the impact of additional comorbid conditions, such as depression and cardiovascular disease, on cognitive impairment and mortality risk. This study aims to determine the associations between cognitive impairment and increased mortality and examine the provision of cancer screening services and influenza vaccination among older adults with and without cognitive impairment.

Specific Aims

1. Describe the 15 year life expectancy for older adults with cognitive impairment, with and without depression and cardiovascular disease.
2. Determine the occurrence and outcome of cancer screenings (breast, colon, and prostate) and influenza vaccination among older adults with and without cognitive impairment, depression, and cardiovascular disease.
3. Analyze chronological trends in utilization of preventive health services among older adults with and without cognitive impairment, depression, and cardiovascular disease.

Main Objective

To determine the associations between cognitive impairment and increased mortality; and to examine the provision of cancer screening services among older adults with and without cognitive impairment.

Chronic Conditions Considered

Cognitive impairment
Depression
Cardiovascular disease
Cancer

Preventive Services Considered

Breast cancer screening
Colon cancer screening
Prostate cancer screening
Influenza vaccination

Study Design & Population

Analytic epidemiologic study

Cohort of 3,957 older adults, aged 60 to 102 years, cared for in the primary care clinics of an urban, public safety net hospital.

Strategies Addressed from the National MCC Strategic Framework

- 4.C. Increase clinical health research



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