

## Function QUERI Optimizing Function and Independence Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

The Optimizing Function and Independence QUERI, based in Durham, NC at The Durham Center for Health Services Research and Development in Primary Care (HSR&D) Center of Innovation, leverages scientifically-supported quality improvement methods to implement evidence-based practices rapidly into routine care and improve the timeliness, quality, and safety of care delivered to Veterans and caregivers. The three Function QUERI programs address gaps in current clinical care for Veterans at risk for functional decline and disability.

- STRIDE focuses on prevention of disability related to immobility during hospitalization through a supervised walking program. iHI-FIVES focuses on promoting functional ability and avoiding nursing home placement
- through caregiver training at the time of referral for home care services. Group Physical Therapy (PT) for Knee Osteoarthritis focuses on improving function in
- patients with symptomatic knee osteoarthritis through expanded access to PT in a groupbased model.

## • Atlanta STRIDE Rollout

January 2018 Edition:

• STRIDE Site Visit to Louisville VA

- Veteran and Family Input Initiative

- Sites Acknowledgements

• Presentations/Publications/Articles

STRIDE and iHI-FIVES at new VA

#### On December 12-14, 2017 the Function QUERI team conducted a site visit at the Robley Rex VA Medical Center in Louisville, Kentucky. The site visit goals were: 1) to present the evidence-based STRIDE mobility program to key stakeholders and conduct strategic

STRIDE Site Visit to Louisville VA

planning around the implementation process, and 2) to conduct CONNECT trainings for staff on teamwork and interaction strategies. A huge THANK YOU to our Louisville Points of Contact, Drs. Lisa Vuocolo and Belinda Setters, Gloria Jelf, and the entire team involved in the STRIDE program for hosting us.



frontline staff to ensure effective adaptation of STRIDE at the Robley Rex VAMC

• Present STRIDE in meet and greets and answer questions

• Directly observe clinic workflow and setting to inform STRIDE rollout and logistics

Conduct 15 CONNECT training sessions for around 55 staff trained

- Conduct critical data collection to ensure accurate accounting of STRIDE program impact and provider engagement
- The site visit was a great success, and we are excited about the upcoming rollout of

Hold active discussions with the Points of Contact, medical center leadership, and

- STRIDE in Louisville starting at the end of February!
- We are pleased to announce that the STRIDE team in Atlanta launched the mobility program on December 4, 2017.

Atlanta STRIDE Rollout

Excellent job to the entire Atlanta VA STRIDE team working to improve patient mobility!

Approximately 50 staff were trained to conduct STRIDE gait assessments and walks The Atlanta STRIDE team has a goal to increase consults to 15-20 per month.

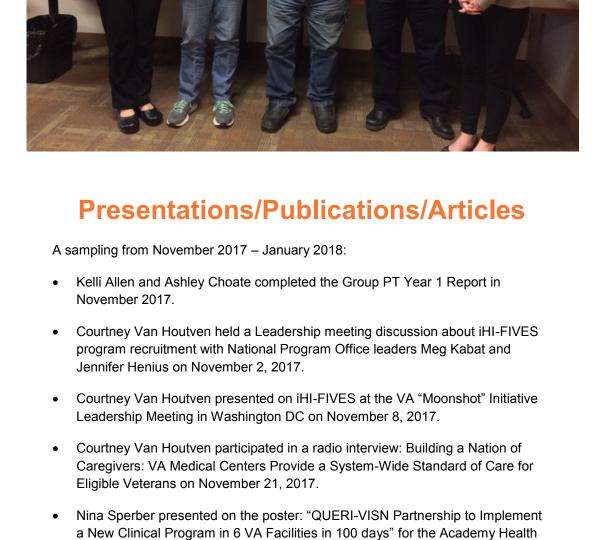
### We have incorporated feedback into the curriculum, and added the suggested content to the resource section of the participant workbook.

cognitive or functional limitations who are at risk of nursing home placement.

The next V.A.F.I.I. meeting will convene during the summer of 2018.

**Veteran And Family Input Initiative (V.A.F.I.I.)** 

Thanks to the Caregivers and Veterans who participated in the third bi-annual VAFII meeting on January 10, 2018. We appreciate the feedback on the iHI-FIVES curriculum for the 4th training class, and on the Caregiver Participant Workbook for Caregivers of Veterans with



Courtney Van Houtven gave a presentation on iHI-FIVES on the National Caregiver Support training call on January 11, 2018. Courtney Van Houtven presented on the annual call: Caregiver Support

Program State of the Program FY17 Accomplishments and FY18 Highlights

Dissemination and Implementation conference on December 4-6, 2017.

Implementation conference on December 4-6, 2017.

(including iHI-FIVES) on January 16, 2017.

Katina Morris and Virginia Wang presented the poster: "Adapting to CONNECT: Modifying a Nursing Home-based Intervention to Improve Interactions within Teams in Hospital-based Settings" at the Academy Health Dissemination and

Courtney Van Houtven gave a presentation on iHI-FIVES on the National VA Geriatrics and Extended Care Services call on January 16, 2018.

STRIDE and iHI-FIVES at new VA Sites

sites will begin implementing the STRIDE inpatient mobility program in early 2018.

Welcome Central Iowa and Minneapolis VAs to Function QUERI STRIDE! Both

We are currently recruiting sites for the Function QUERI Program-Do you know of any VAs that would like to participate in patient mobility or caregiver training programs?

S. Nicki Hastings: <u>Susan.Hastings@va.gov</u>

If interested in a caregiver training program contact: Courtney VanHoutven: <a href="mailto:Courtney.VanHoutven@va.gov">Courtney.VanHoutven@va.gov</a>

# **Acknowledgements**

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If so, please have all interested in patient mobility contact:

Please visit <u>www.queri.research.va.gov</u> for more information on the national QUERI program.

If you would like more information about Function QUERI, please contact the program coordinator: Elizabeth.Mahanna@va.gov