

PACT Functional Status Screening Partnered Evaluation Initiative

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

Improving identification and management of functional impairment and frailty for older Veterans

More than 450,000 older Veterans have difficulty or need help performing one of more daily activities like bathing, dressing, and preparing meals (“functional impairment”). This partnered evaluation aims to improve how we identify and manage functional impairment for older Veterans in primary care.

Evidence-based care for Veterans with functional impairment

- Proactively identifying functional impairment is necessary to deliver evidence-based interventions, such as physical and occupational therapy, to delay or prevent nursing home admission.
- Understanding function is also essential to deliver patient-centered care, including individualizing cancer screening and treatment and determining the need for long-term services and supports.
- However, the current tools available are often time consuming and only completed approximately 50% of the time, leading to late identification of functional decline.

The **Offices of Geriatrics & Extended Care, Primary Care, and Nursing Services** are partnering to implement and evaluate the PACT Functional Status Screening Initiative to test its effectiveness for improving outcomes among older Veterans while reducing PACT screening burden.

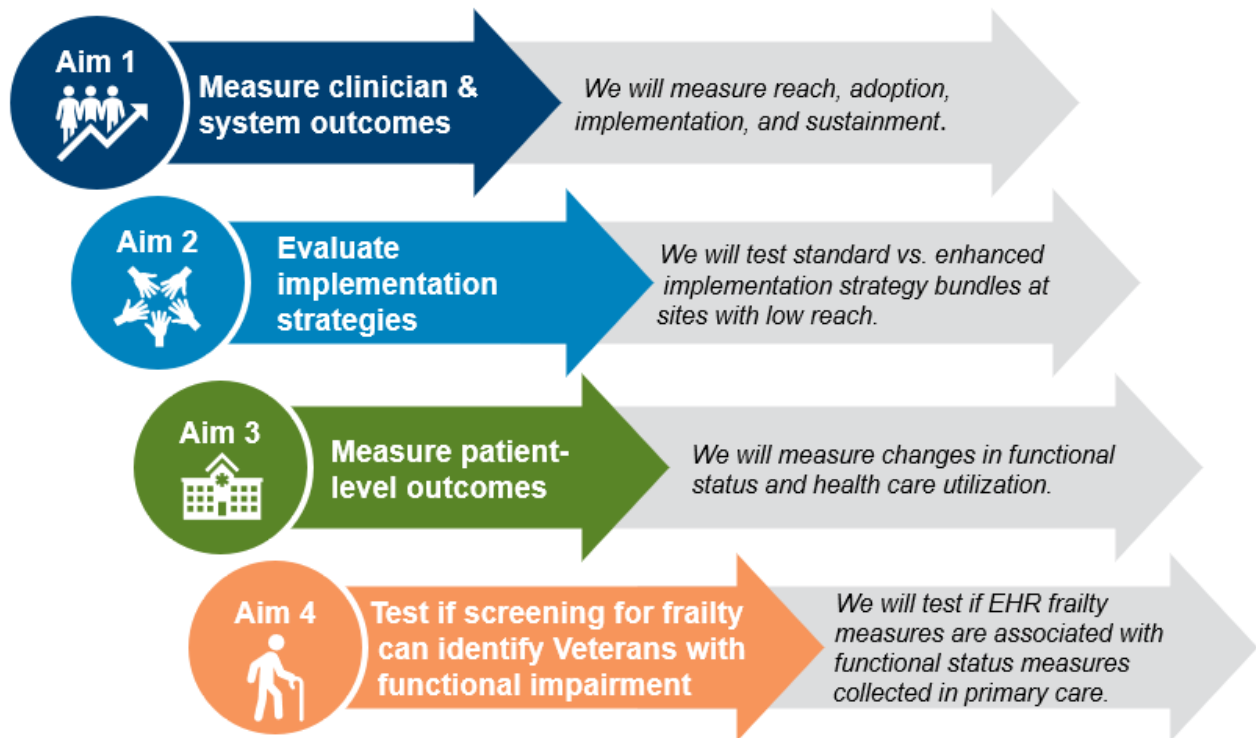
A streamlined approach to help PACTs identify and manage functional impairment

In pilot testing, the intervention led to screening of 100% of 959 eligible Veterans and **high rates of satisfaction** among patients and clinicians, with **lower perceived burden**.



Functional Status Screening Partnered Evaluation Initiative

Study design: **hybrid type 2 cluster-randomized adaptive trial**



Standard or Enhanced implementation strategy bundles

Participating VAMCs with <80% adoption will be randomized to receive either:



Anticipated outcomes and future directions

- **Implement** a screening and assessment intervention to help PACTs in 4 VISNs better identify and manage functional impairment for older Veterans
- **Improve** outcomes for older Veterans with functional impairment
- **Adapt** the intervention to address new implementation challenges (e.g., Cerner roll-out)
- **Disseminate** the screening initiative to other VAMCs

For more information, check out:

<https://www.queri.research.va.gov/>

If you would like to learn more or partner with us, please contact rebecca.brown@va.gov, francesca.nicosia@va.gov, or gregory.krautner@va.gov.

Principal Investigators:

Rebecca Brown, MD, MPH & Francesca Nicosia, PhD

Geriatrics & Extended Care Lead:

Gregory Krautner, PT, DPT