HEALTH SERVICES CORE

Harvey Cohen, MD
Core Chair

Melisa Wong, MD
Junior Faculty Lead

HEALTH SERVICES CORE MEMBERS

- **Harvey Cohen, MD**
  Core Chair

- **Melisa Wong, MD, MAS**
  Junior Investigator Lead

- **Supriya Mohile, MD, MS**
  PI Liaison

- **Stuart Lichtman, MD, FACP**
  Organizational Liaisons Chair

- **Tomma Hargraves**
  Patient Advocate Board: SCOREboard Member

- **Meghan Karuturi, MD**
  Junior Investigator Board Member

- **Lisa Lowenstein, PhD**

- **Jennifer Lund, PhD**

- **Cara McDermott, PharmD, PhD**

- **Manvi Sharma, RPh, PhD**
  Junior Investigator Board Member

- **John Simmons, MD**
  Patient Advocate Board: SCOREboard Member

HEALTH SERVICES CORE

CORE MISSION

- Foster and advance Health Services Research (HSR) in geriatric oncology

- Support researchers to design and conduct high-quality HSR focused on older adults with cancer and caregivers including patterns of care, comparative effectiveness, care delivery, and implementation science

- Partner with **Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design (Analytics) Core** to understand strengths and limitations of specific data elements

- Provide consultations for HSR projects

  - Aims and study design

  - Grant planning

  - Data collection tools for health care utilization

  - Data access procedures for administrative databases

- Expand evidence base for personalized tailored care for older adults with cancer

CORE FUNCTION

- Consultation service for junior geriatric oncology investigators and senior investigators new to cancer and aging

- Advance quality of real-world data for older adults by advocating inclusion of standardized geriatric-specific doma

CARG
CANCER & AGING RESEARCH GROUP
Infrastructure Grant
Funded by NIH/NIA
Grant No. 1R21AG059206

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- R21 phase/R33 Year 1 accomplishments/deliverables
  - 6 Core meetings to review 4 inquiries
    - PCORI implementation grant to implement GA in clinical practice (Lowenstein)
    - Career development grant to improve GA delivery and documentation in diverse populations (Schiaffino)
    - Form development for healthcare utilization for survivorship R01 (Mohile, 2 calls)
  - Collaborated with Analytics Core to develop database of available gerionc datasets

WHAT'S WORKING/WHAT'S NOT?

- What's working
  - Diverse Core membership with diverse expertise
  - Engaged Core members ready to provide input
  - High Core meeting attendance by members
- Areas for Improvement
  - Need to increase number of HSR inquiries from broader CARG membership (only one inquiry from non-Core members)
  - Clarify potential areas of overlap with Analytics Core
  - Ongoing identification of expertise gaps we need to fill

HEALTH SERVICES CORE: EXAMPLE INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- **Administrative claims database research:**

  - How do I access datasets and create novel database linkages?

  - How do I identify relevant study populations, define treatments, covariates, and outcomes?

- **Implementation science:**

  - Which implementation science theory/framework/model should I use for my research question?

  - What implementation outcomes should be measured and how?

  - How should I design my study to capture relevant outcomes to inform a follow-up study to foster dissemination and implementation?

  - How do I adapt an evidence-based intervention for local settings and evaluate the adapted intervention?

- **Descriptive and causal inference studies:**

  - How do I address confounding, immortal time bias, and enhance external validity?

HEALTH SERVICES CORE: EXAMPLE INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- **Mixed methods:**
  - How can I incorporate mixed methods to enhance my study?
  - How do I best integrate my quantitative and qualitative data in a rigorous fashion?

- **Cancer care delivery research:**
  - How do I design an intervention that is feasible from a patient perspective and sustainable long-term?
  - How to design data collection tools that are low burden for patient and project staff to capture important health care utilization measures?

- **Shared decision making:**
  - How do I adapt this decision aid for older adults? How do I best measure shared decision making to test my decision aid?

- **Palliative care and end-of-life HSR:**
  - How do I address distinct challenges in data collection, follow-up response, and work with caregivers vulnerable populations

HEALTH SERVICES CORE: FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Core membership: Goal of inclusion
  - Expand to new members based on expertise (let us know if you're interested!)
  - Annual recommitment based on individual availability

- Outreach
  - Each Core member to bring at least one inquiry to CARG this year (e.g., self, mentees, colleagues)

- Collaboration with other Cores
  - Potential collaborative input from multiple Cores with select members based on expertise

- Career development
  - Option to open some HSR Core calls to CARG members if the specific inquiry allows