Lessons Learned about Embedding Complex Pragmatic Trials in Delivery Systems: Collaborative Care for Chronic Pain

Lynn DeBar, PhD, MPH

Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute

Seattle, Washington

Supported by NIH Common Fund and by NINDS through cooperative agreement (with NIDA scientific advisory support) (UH3NW0088731)

PPACT Study Design & Rationale

The "ask" from clinical and health plan leadership...

How do we keep our primary care providers from burning out and leaving the health care system?

What do we do with the patients with complex pain who "belong to everyone and no one?"

Policies/guidelines

NCQA, State Medical Boards, DEA opioid prescription mandates

Changes in **•** expectations

Shifting marijuana I laws & policies



◆ Brief visits

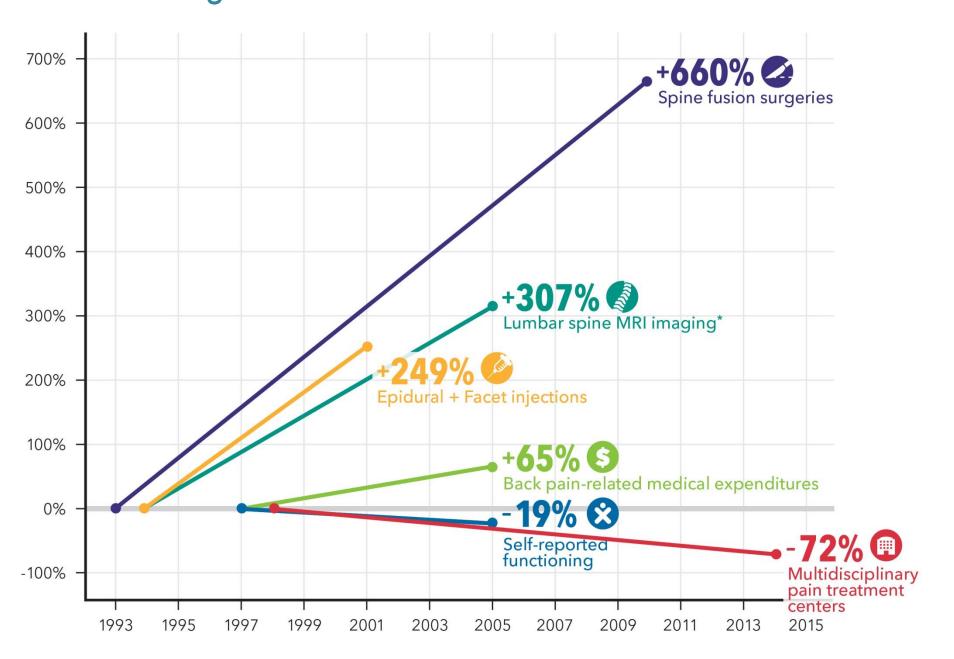
Complicated patients

◆ Gaps in coordination with specialty care

Measurement and alert fatigue

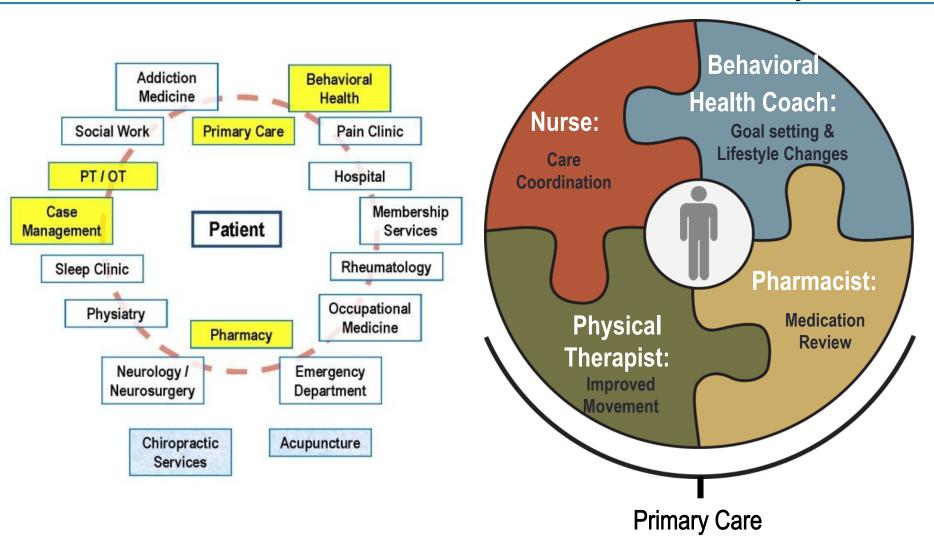
↓ Limited pain treatment options

Are We Using an Acute Care Model for A Chronic Condition?



Pain Management in Usual Care

Interdisciplinary Pain Management Embedded in Primary Care



DeBar et al, Contemporary Clinical Trials, 2018; DeBar et al, Translational Behavioral Medicine, 2012

PPACT Overview

AIM: Integrate interdisciplinary services into primary care to help patients adopt self-management skills to:

- Manage chronic pain (decrease pain severity / improve functioning)
 - Limit use of opioid medication
 - Identify exacerbating factors amenable to treatment

Focus on feasibility and sustainability

DESIGN: Cluster (PCP)-randomized PCT (106 clusters, 273 PCPs, 851 patients)

ELIGIBILITY: Chronic pain, long-term opioid tx (prioritizing ≥ 120 MED, benzodiazepine co-use, high utilizers [≥ 12 visits in 3 months])

INTERVENTION: Behavioral specialist, nurse case manager, PT, and pharmacist team; 12 week core CBT + adapted movement groups

OUTCOMES: Pain (3-item PEG), opioid MED, pain-related health services, and cost

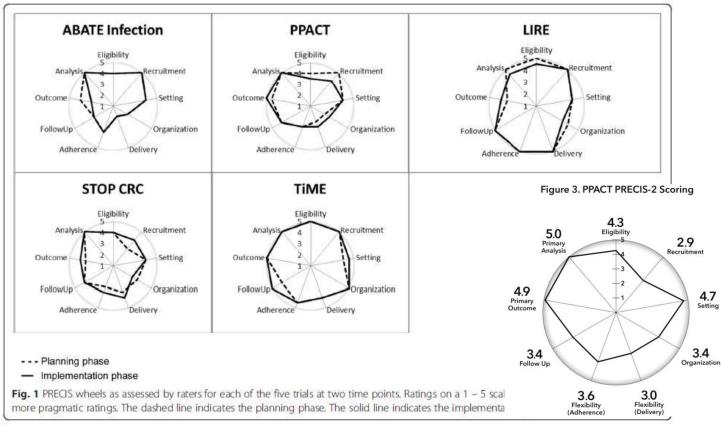
RESEARCH Open Access

Use of PRECIS ratings in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Health Care Systems Research Collaboratory



Trials

Karin E. Johnson^{1†}, Gila Neta^{2*†}, Laura M. Dember³, Gloria D. Coronado⁴, Jerry Suls², David A. Chambers², Sean Rundell⁵, David H. Smith⁴, Benmei Liu², Stephen Taplin², Catherine M. Stoney⁶, Margaret M. Farrell² and Russell E. Glasgow⁷



Barriers Scorecard

Barrier	Level of Difficulty				
	1	2	3	4	5
Data collection and merging datasets					
Regulatory issues (IRBs and consent)	X				
Stability of control intervention	^				
•					
Implementing/Delivering Intervention Across Healthcare Organizations					

1 = little difficulty

5 = extreme difficulty

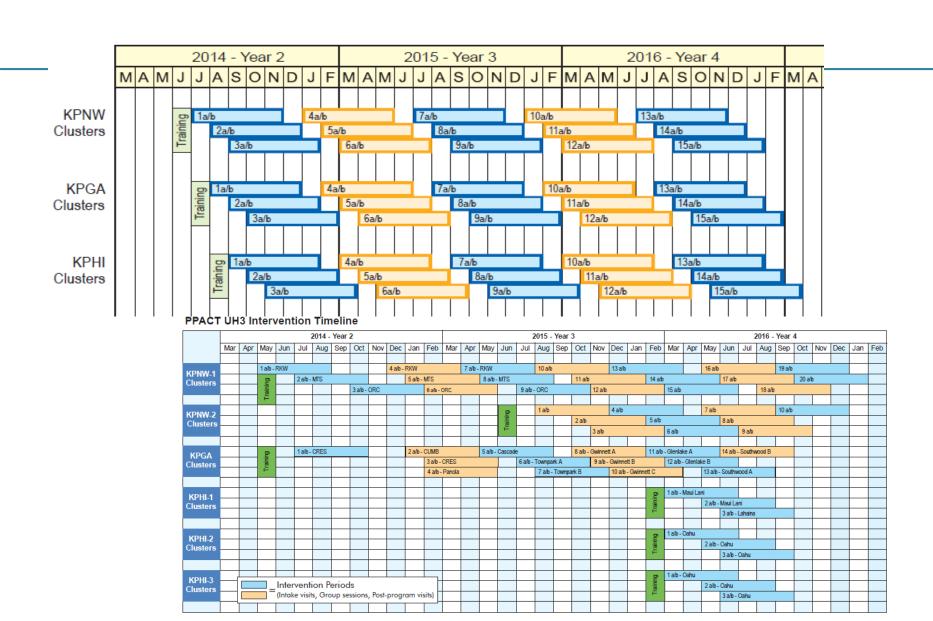
"Opioids are what I would consider an adjunctive treatment. Everything we know about pain is that this is a complex biopsychosocial phenomenon, and that we need to address the psychosocial contributors to pain."

- Roger Chou (interviewed for Medscape, 5/1/2017)

#1 Barrier.... Tackling the Mind-Body Divide

PSYCHOSOCIAL BIO MEDICAL

The plan, the reality, & generalizable lesson learned



If we knew then what we know now...the one predictable constant is change

- A sense of clinical urgency can lead to quick and sometimes unstable program shifts to which you may need to adapt
- Difference between "good" and "bad" contextual features can be a matter of timing (e.g., PCMH, behavioral health integration)
- Stakeholder engagement is a continuous and intensive activity, requires two-way communication, and needs to be both top down and bottom up

Advice?... know what you are stepping into

Local champions / surveillance invaluable

 Challenging the status quo requires persistent and vertical health care system partnership

Rethink your process evaluation toolkit



Unique Benefits of the Collaboratory

- Very supportive group of investigators, CoC, and NIH personnel candid about challenges
- Great sounding board for helping one to construct most rigorous and interpretable trial possible
- Unique learnings from building partnerships with those in very different science domains