Through a nationwide consensus process completed in 2009, the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences developed a framework for assessing the public health impact and return on investment of health research. The framework recommends metrics within five areas to weigh the impact of research: 1) advancing knowledge, 2) building capacity, 3) informing decision-making, 4) health impacts, and 5) broad socio-economic impacts. The framework presents these five areas as sequential steps that eventually lead to improvements in health, economic, and social prosperity at the level of populations. Earlier steps in this sequence are easier to achieve, measure and report while the later steps, particularly demonstrating broad socio-economic impact is more difficult.

In this Annual Report, we present convincing evidence of the impact of IU-CAR research on advancing knowledge (e.g. publications), building capacity (e.g. research funding), and informing decision-making (e.g. applying our research to develop real-world geriatric medicine clinical venues in local health care systems). We are also clearly important partners in improving the health for the many patients our research touches. We have contributed directly to job growth in Indianapolis through the highly skilled workforce we employ.

We now face the challenge of demonstrating our impact at the level of populations of older adults. This will require new infrastructure to reach an ever greater number of patients through efforts at local, national, and international dissemination. We are well on our way in this journey toward the ultimate impact.

September, 2012

Christopher M. Callahan, MD
Cornelius and Yvonne Pettinga Professor
Founding Director, IU Center for Aging Research
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FUNDING BY THE NUMBERS

Life sciences funding to IU-CAR facilitates our ability to partner with local health care systems, test innovative geriatrics care management strategies, and develop real-world geriatric medicine venues that touch older adults in Central Indiana and beyond. The next step is building the infrastructure to demonstrate our impact at the level of populations of older adults.

HealthyMe

HealthyMe is a healthy lifestyle program free to all Wishard patients. Personal wellness coaches give participants the tools and support to become healthier.

On behalf of Wishard, HealthyMe currently participates with local government, hospitals, universities, and advocacy groups united to improve the health of Indianapolis residents.


GRACE Team Care™

The Geriatric Resources for Assessment and Care of Elders "GRACE Team Care™" model of primary care for low-income seniors and their primary care physicians seeks to improve the quality of geriatric care, optimize health and functional status, decrease excess health-care use, and prevent long-term nursing home placement.

• Geriatric care management for low-income seniors: a randomized controlled trial. JAMA, 2007;298:2623-33.

Aging Brain Care Program

Operational for 4 years at the Healthy Aging Brain Center, the Aging Brain Care collaborative model of dementia care includes resources now available to clinicians, caregivers and institutions around the globe.


ACE Consult Service

The Acute Care for Elders or "ACE" consult service provides an inter-professional team including a geriatrician, pharmacist, nurse, social worker, dietitian and therapist, working together to prevent functional decline and improve care for older adults during their hospitalization.


TOUCHEES BY THE NUMBERS

82,457
Contacts by HealthyMe coaches to participants

17,166
ACE consults at Wishard, IU Health Methodist, and Indianapolis VAMC

16,590
Pounds lost by HealthyMe participants

3,000
Seniors touched by GRACE in primary care practices

1,095
New patients receiving care in the Healthy Aging Brain Center

1,052
Caregivers receiving information and support at the Healthy Aging Brain Center

180
Primary care providers touching seniors in GRACE Team Care™
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR AGING RESEARCH

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