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NURSE

Administrative Changes to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality – What's the future for Multiple Chronic Conditions?



AHRQ has been instrumental in shaping federal attention and initiatives focused on patients who are living with two or more chronic conditions, or multiple chronic conditions (MCC). Currently, 1 in 3 American adults and 4 of 5 Medicare beneficiaries are living with MCC and represent the nation's largest, fastest growing and costliest patient population.

AHRQ recently spearheaded and funded the Person-Centered Care Planning for People with or at risk for MCCs from January 2024 – July 2025. This initiative included a 6-session learning collaborative that culminated to a summit attended by 84 participants in Rockville, MD March 3, 2025, with 31 virtual attendees. This summit generated strategies and findings that came from rich and diverse conversations. The project report is currently underway.

Yet, during these remarkable opportunities to address important changes in the lives of the nation's massive patient population, AHRQ was hit hard by the current administration. On March 28, 2025, the administration announced that AHRQ would merge with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

On April 1, 2025, the Trump administration slashed AHRQ, who historically has supported extensive programs focused on patient safety. Almost half of its remaining employees were let go as part of the HHS reorganization. Despite these dramatic changes to the agency – the person-centered care planning for persons with MCC will continue. Leaders from John A Hartford Foundation, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, Oregon Health and Science University among others will continue to push this work forward.

The June 9, 2025, meeting *Person-Centered Care Planning for Persons with MCC Current State and Future Directions* provided an overview of the agencies work and identified future plans. The Multiple Chronic Conditions Resource Center provides an archive of all federal initiatives and products developed by HHS and AHRQ on MCC since 2010.

View the [recent podcast](#) with Drs Arlene Bierman, Brittany Watson and Jane Pederson as they discuss the PCCP initiatives with AHRQ and the [recent publication](#) published in Online JAMA.



PODCAST: Person Centered Care Planning for Persons with Multiple Chronic Conditions

Arlene Bierman MD, MS, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, **Brittany Watson MD, MPH**, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, **Jane Pederson MD, MS**, Stratis Health – discuss the recent JAMA Online publication *Person-Centered Care Planning for People Living with or at Risk for Multiple Chronic Conditions*. Discussion includes federal initiatives focused on person-centered care planning and how clinicians, organizations and policy can empower the largest US patient population

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MORE PODCASTS



PODCAST: A Paradigm Shift: Integrating Palliative Symptom Management in Multiple Chronic Conditions

Eduardo Bruera MD, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center describes the integration of palliative care into the primary care setting. Palliative care used in the management of multiple chronic conditions, improves physical functioning, quality of life and reduces acute exacerbations and hospitalization.



PODCAST: Integrating Behavioral Health in the Primary Care Setting

Paul Ciechanowski MD, University of Washington discusses how to integrate behavioral health in the primary care setting for persons living with multiple chronic conditions. He discusses clinical inertia and how this can influence health outcomes



PODCAST: Patient Perspective on Living with Chronic Kidney Disease and Multiple Chronic Conditions.

Richard Knight, Bowie State University describes his patient journey and kidney transplant. He describes the need for patient education and self-advocacy.



PODCAST: Chronic Care Management: Do's, Don't's and Everything in Between

Irina Koyfman DNP discusses the Chronic Care Management, Medicare incentive for primary care providers. She promotes the use of this billing incentive through specialist providers.



PODCAST: The Effects of the Immune System in Multiple Chronic Conditions

Matthew Sorenson PhD, Texas A&M School of Nursing discusses how the immune system is affected by multiple chronic conditions.



PODCAST: Helping Overloaded People Remaining in the Workforce

Gienna Crooks PhD describes her research on helping overly committed people to remain in the workforce. She highlights her recent book *The NetworkSage: Realize Your Network Superpower*.



PODCAST: Understanding the Link Between Diabetes and Low Testosterone in Men

Julian Gallegos PhD, Purdue University School of Nursing describes the importance of men's health and the link between obesity, diabetes and low testosterone.

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Person Centered Care Planning for the Oncology Patient



Course Objectives/Takeaways

- Review pathophysiology, diagnosis, management and incidence of prevalent malignancy.
- Describe how the nurse, pharmacist collaboration can ensure patient-centered care planning within the oncology setting.
- Examine the patient's oncology experience and how the nurse-pharmacist team can help to navigate the patient and family journey.

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The Multiple Chronic Conditions Resource Center offers FREE access to current clinical guidelines and resources to support the comprehensive care for the nation's largest patient population – those living with two or more chronic conditions.

[Resource Center](#)



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