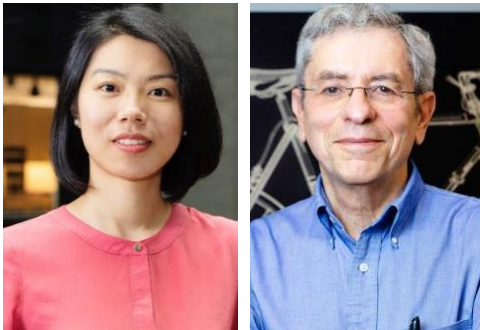


Collaborative Care Coordination Program for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (Co-CARE-AD)



Principal Investigators

Xiaojuan Li, PhD
Richard Platt, MD, MSc

Department of Population Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute

Health Care System

Tufts Health Plan

“An effective collaborative dementia care program embedded in the clinical flow of a large health plan that can be implemented efficiently at scale has the potential to lead to better health outcomes for this vulnerable population.”

RATIONALE: Collaborative care programs that use multidisciplinary teams to provide multicomponent care coordination and support can benefit individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) and their caregivers across all disease stages. The effectiveness of these programs when embedded in health insurers or their Medicare Advantage plans has not been rigorously evaluated.

OBJECTIVE: To conduct a randomized, pragmatic clinical trial to evaluate the effectiveness of a collaborative care-coordination program embedded in a health plan for people living with ADRD and their care partners versus usual care.

SETTING: Tufts Health Plan in New England.

POPULATION: Community-dwelling Medicare Advantage members living with ADRD and their care partners.

INTERVENTION: The Dementia Care Consultation (DCC) program, delivered by a care consultant over a 6-month period, provides an in-depth, personalized service for individuals and families facing ADRD. The program consists of comprehensive needs assessments, creation and implementation of personalized care plans, monitoring and revising care plans, disease education and support coaching, referrals to community-based organizations for service and support, and access to assistance.

OUTCOMES: We will assess healthcare utilization outcomes of people with ADRD over 6 and 12 months of follow-up. The primary outcome is emergency department visits. Secondary outcomes include outpatient visits, avoidable emergency department visits, and admission to long-term care facilities. We will also evaluate the implementation and program costs.

IMPACT: This Demonstration Project will generate evidence on the effectiveness of a comprehensive dementia care-coordination program that can be efficiently implemented at scale in health insurers and their Medicare Advantage plans, which will open a new avenue for providing support to large segments of the individuals and families affected by ADRD.