Author's response to reviews

Title: Comparing the implementation of team approaches for improving diabetes care in community health centers

Authors:

Philip J Van der Wees (philip.vanderwees@radboudumc.nl)
Mark W Friedberg (mfriedbe@rand.org)
Elena Alcala (elena@chpscc.org)
John Z Ayanian (ayanian@med.umich.edu)
Hector P Rodriguez (hrod@berkeley.edu)

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Dr. Christopher Morrey, Executive Editor
BMC Health Services Research
BioMed Central
236 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8HB
United Kingdom

Dear Dr. Morrey,

We are pleased to submit our manuscript entitled “Comparing the implementation of team approaches for improving diabetes care in community health centers”. We conducted a mixed methods study with interviews and surveys of clinicians and staff participating in a study that assessed the implementation of health coaching strategies, via office-based medical assistant panel management vs. community-based care by community health workers. We examined the early experiences of integrating these two approaches in routine primary care, and sought to identify implementation facilitators and barriers.

Our results show that the implementation of interventions to improve diabetes care for vulnerable populations resulted in diverse implementations across clinics, with converging health coaching roles of community health workers and medical assistants. Our study suggests that a flexible approach in implementing health coaching is more important than fidelity to formal models. Clinicians have a key position in supporting health coaches to grow in their new role.

We think that our paper is of interest for readers of BMC Health Services Research and we hope that you will consider our manuscript for publication.

Sincerely,

Hector P. Rodriguez