

### **Multi-disciplinary healthcare research/publications**

William T Ayoub, Eric D Newman, **Mary Ann Blosky**, Walter F Stewart, G. Craig Wood. (In press.).

Improving Detection and Treatment of Osteoporosis: Redesigning Care Using the Electronic Medical Record and Shared Medical Appointments, *Osteoporosis International*.

**Introduction & Objectives:** To determine if redesigning care through proactive contact with women 65+ at-risk of osteoporosis increased BMD testing and to determine if a Shared Medical Appointment (SMA) improved treatment for high-risk women.

**Methods:** Two primary care sites received the redesign intervention and two other sites served as the usual care controls. At the intervention sites, all women 65+ who had not had a DXA scan performed in the prior 2 years were contacted by mail and phone calls. High-risk patients were invited to attend a SMA or follow-up visit with their primary physician.

**Results:** A significantly higher proportion of women at the intervention sites had a DXA (39.6% vs. 13.2%,  $p < 0.0001$ ). Patients who attended the SMA were more likely to have calcium and vitamin D recommended, a vitamin D level checked, and receive a prescription medicine than those patients who had follow-up with their primary care physician.

**Conclusions:** The redesigned process was highly effective in improving BMD testing for women 65+. The SMA was shown to be a more effective method to make calcium and vitamin D recommendations, to evaluate secondary causes of low bone density, and to prescribe prescription medications, compared to usual care with the PCP.