

# 2023 CARG CONFERENCE PREP

## ■ Day 1 Invited Session (February 14<sup>th</sup>)

- Objective:
  1. Provide an opportunity for Cores to convene and discuss future plans, leadership changes, work ahead in the coming year
- Presentation:
  - Approximately 5 mins
  - Brief overview of accomplishments
  - Top 3 goals/priorities for next year

## ■ Day 2 – Open Session (February 15<sup>th</sup>)

- Objective:
  1. Build excitement and esprit de corps among CARG membership about progress to date
  2. Provide an opportunity for the CARG members to provide input around important issues, notably sustainability and DEI
  3. Generate (virtual) connections among CARG membership
- Presentation:
  - Approximately 5 mins
  - Sustainability and DEI

# HEALTH SERVICES CORE



Melisa Wong, MD, MAS  
Core Co-Chair



Jennifer Lund, PhD, MSPH  
Core Co-Chair



Cara McDermott, PharmD, PhD, MSc  
Junior Investigator Lead

# HEALTH SERVICES CORE MEMBERS

- *Supriya Mohile, MD, MS*  
**PI Liaison**
  - *Jennifer Lund, PhD, MSPH*  
**Core Co-Chair**
  - *Melisa Wong, MD, MAS*  
**Core Co-Chair**
  - *Cara McDermott, PharmD, PhD*  
**Junior Investigator Lead**
  - *Shailesh Advani, MD, MPH*
  - *Evelyn Arana, MS, DrPH*
  - *Harvey Cohen, MD*
  - *Meghan Karuturi, MD, MS*
  - *Kelly Kenzik, PhD*
  - *Anita Kumar, MD, MSCE, PhD*
  - *Stuart Lichtman, MD, FACP*
  - *Lisa Lowenstein, PhD*
  - *Christina Minami, MD, MS*
  - *Ryan Nipp, MD, MPH*
  - *Sophie Pilleron, PhD*
  - *Manvi Sharma, PhD, RPh, MBA*
- Patient Advocate Board:  
SCOREboard Members**
- *Richard Gelb*
  - *John Simmons, MD*

# HEALTH SERVICES CORE

## CORE MISSION

- Foster and advance health services research (HSR) in geriatric oncology to expand the evidence base to support delivery of individualized care for older adults with cancer
- Support investigators to design, conduct, and disseminate high-quality HSR focused on older adults with cancer and caregivers (e.g., patterns of care, comparative effectiveness, care delivery, implementation science)

## CORE FUNCTION

- Provide consultations for HSR projects at any stage of development/execution: concept development, study design, grant development, measure selection, quantitative and qualitative analysis, manuscript preparation

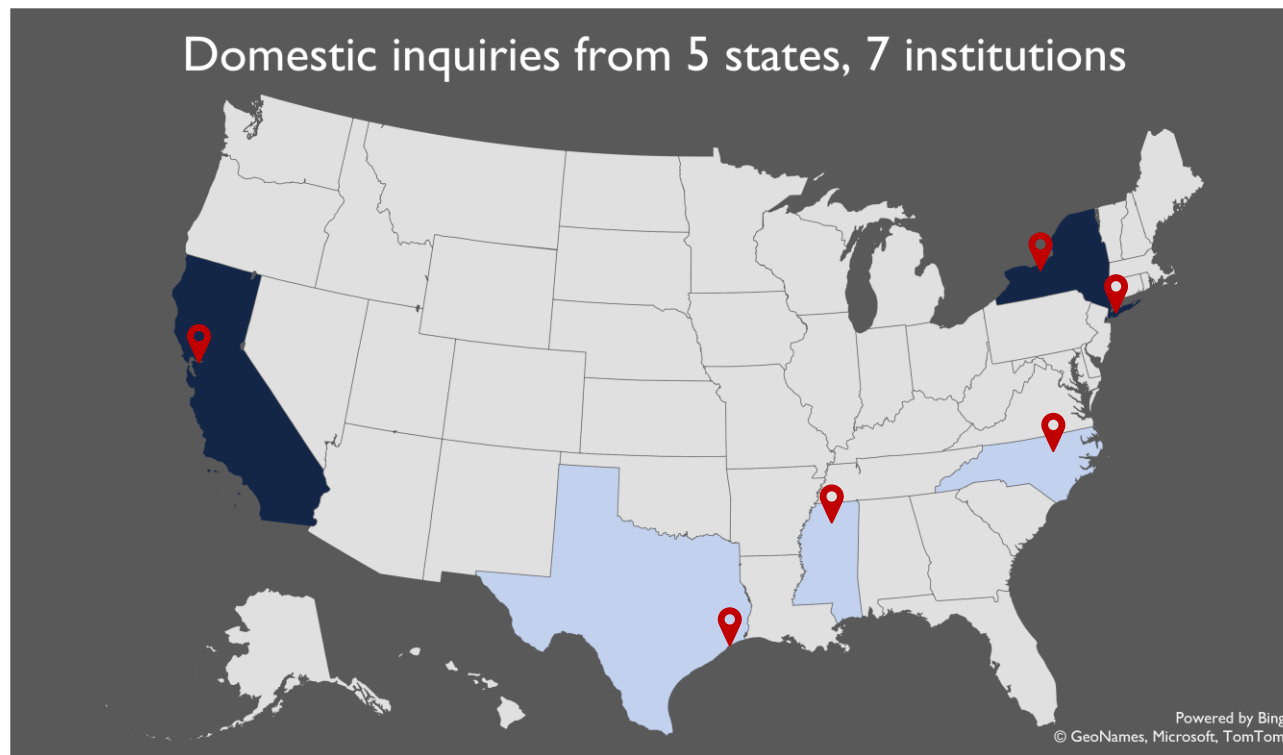
# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

*11 HSR Core consults since January 2021*

HSR Consult Date	Name	Stage of Project	Research Topic / Consultation Question
3/19/2021	Manvi Sharma	Study design: Data source identification	Targeted therapy drug-drug interactions and survival, accessing VA data as a non-VA researcher
5/21/2021	Vanita Noronha	Study design: Proposal feedback	Representation of older adults in clinical trials in India
12/3/2021	Melisa Wong	Study design feedback for K76	Development of a feasibility pilot study for a communication tool intervention
12/8/2021	Kelly McConnell (Trevino)	Identification of collaborators	Assistance identifying a potential collaborator with dissemination and implementation expertise
2/11/2022	Charley Gaber	Data analysis refinement for PhD dissertation	Comparative effectiveness of multimodality treatments for esophageal cancer
4/8/2022	Mostafa Mohamed	Specific aims feedback for PhD proposal	Association between treatment modification and dosing with tolerability and survival
6/10/2022	Meera Ragavan	Study design feedback for funded pilot grant	Barriers and facilitators to financial drug assistance among older adults, interview guide feedback
6/10/2022	Lisa Lowenstein	Research question and study design feedback	Development of a large randomized trial for a prostate cancer decision aid intervention
12/6/2022	Sophie Pilleron	Manuscript revision feedback	Feedback on a directed acyclic graph (DAG) representing relationships between surgery and death in patients with colon cancer
2/10/2023	Jenny Lund	R21 data analysis feedback	Clinical interpretation and utility of a life expectancy predictor
2/10/2023	Melisa Wong	Specific aims feedback for Alliance U34	Clinical trial planning grant to evaluate the feasibility of the Best Case/Worst Case-GeriOnc communication tool

# SUMMARY OF IMPACT

- 11 research inquiries to Core
- From 3 countries:
  - USA (5 states, 7 institutions)
  - India
  - United Kingdom



# WHAT'S WORKING AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

## What's working

- Diverse Core membership expertise and interests
- High Core meeting attendance by members
- Engaged Core members prepared to provide input
- Core members encouraged trainees to submit inquiries and present
- Challenged Core members to present their own work and questions

## Areas for Improvement

- Need to increase number of HSR inquiries from broader CARG membership via clarification of feedback across the research spectrum – from design through analysis, including manuscript revisions and grant proposals and resubmissions
- Clarify potential areas of overlap with the Analytics Core
- Ongoing identification of expertise gaps we need to fill

# HEALTH SERVICES CORE: EXAMPLE INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- **Administrative claims database research:**

- How do I access datasets and create novel database linkages?
- How do I use claims data to identify relevant study populations and define treatments, covariates, and outcomes?

- **Implementation science:**

- Which implementation science theory/framework/model best fits my research question?
- What implementation outcomes should be measured and how?

- **Descriptive and causal inference studies:**

- How do I address confounding by indication in my study?
- What methods are available to address immortal time bias?

- **Qualitative methods:**

- Which analysis method (e.g., framework, grounded theory, thematic) is most appropriate for my research question?
- What interview structure and interview guide format is the best fit for my aims/population?



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CANCER & AGING RESEARCH GROUP  
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# CORE EXPERTISE



# FUTURE DIRECTION

## *Top 3 goals/priorities for next year*

- Support Rising Tide and Clinical Trial infrastructure needs
- Engage CARG members in our Core activities to increase the number of inquiries
- Explore ways of working collaboratively with other CARG Cores to address cross-cutting needs of investigators