

VA Palo Alto Health Care System Doctor Receives Highest Honor for VA Health Services Researcher



Mary K. Goldstein, MD, MS is the recipient of the **2010 Under Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Services Research** - the highest honor for a VA health services researcher. For more than 18 years, Dr. Goldstein has brought scientific distinction to the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System through her contributions to health services research, and has clearly met the three major criteria for this award by: improving our understanding of factors that affect the health of veterans and improving the quality of their care, contributing to the future of VA health services research by inspiring and training the next generation of investigators, and enhancing the visibility of VA research through national recognition within the research community.

Dr. Goldstein received her MD from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, NY, and her MS in Health Services Research from Stanford University School of Medicine. She did her residency training at Duke University Medical Center and a fellowship at Stanford University School of Medicine. Currently, she is part of the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, where she serves as Director of their Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC).

Dr. Goldstein has achieved a prolific scientific career studying functional status in geriatrics, hypertension management, application of clinical guidelines and guidelines compliance, and automated clinical decision support systems. Her work in health informatics is known nationally and internationally. Within the HSR&D funded Consortium for Healthcare Informatics Research (CHIR), Dr. Goldstein is principal investigator for the project on translational use cases. During her own HSR&D Career Development Award, Dr. Goldstein led a team that developed an automated clinical decision support system for hypertension management known as ATHENA-CDS, which combines patient information from VistA with an automated knowledge base of hypertension to generate patient-specific recommendations for managing hypertension. These recommendations are displayed for clinicians within VA's Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) window during clinic visits. For this ATHENA-CDS work, Dr. Goldstein was awarded a project which provides resources that will allow further development of the software and make ATHENA-CDS available more broadly.

Dr. Goldstein shares her expertise and experience by actively mentoring VA researchers and clinicians. Over the years, she has generated more than 100 publications, including journal articles and book chapters, in the areas of hypertension, geriatrics, decision-making and decision support.

Dr. Goldstein continues to bring great prestige to VA HSR&D through her research, mentorship, and leadership in the healthcare community. Therefore, it is most appropriate to honor Dr. Mary K. Goldstein by presenting her with the prestigious VA Under Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Services Research.