

If you are interested, please respond directly to Shreya Desai at Shreya.Desai1@va.gov

From: Desai, Shreya B. <Shreya.Desai1@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 9:22 AM
To:
Subject: Looking to Recruit Caregivers: VetCORE Study

Dear Caregivers of Veterans,

The Elizabeth Dole Center of Excellence is starting to recruit for a new study on ***The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Veteran Caregivers: A Mixed Methods Study*** (Dr. Penney – PI; see project details below). The study has been approved by the STVHCS Research & Development Committee and the UTHSA's IRB. We are trying to recruit 30 Veteran caregivers from the STVHCS to participate in an online survey. Caregivers are compensated for their participation.

We would greatly appreciate any suggestions you might have to facilitate recruitment for this study and wanted to specifically ask if it would be possible for you to distribute (or send us a list of individuals we could distribute to) the attached flyer to caregivers of Veterans directly or to colleagues, providers, or staff to see if they would be willing and able to distribute the attached flyer to caregivers of Veterans they may encounter during their clinics or home visits. If there are specific programs that you feel would be more appropriate than others to approach, please let us know.

We would be happy to print out and deliver copies of the flyers. We would greatly appreciate any suggestions you might have to facilitate recruitment for this study.

If you have any questions or would like additional documentation, please let us know.

Kind regards,
Ranak Trivedi, PhD (Co-I on the study)
Shreya Desai, MS

PROJECT DETAILS

Formal study name: The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Veteran Caregivers: A Mixed Methods Study to inform the VA Caregiver Support System

Informal study name: VetCORE: Veteran COVID-19 Caregiver Ecosystem

Funding source: VA Health Services Research and Development (grant PPO 20-342)

Approvals: UTHSA Institutional Review Board and STVHCS Research and Development Committee (project ID: 20-864E)

Project summary: Informal caregivers play a critical role supporting Veterans with functional impairments who choose to remain at home. The COVID-19 pandemic has introduced stressors to an already strained and burdened caregiving system. However, there are no studies focused on how the pandemic has impacted Veteran caregivers. This project uses multiple methods to obtain a broad and deep understanding of caregivers' experiences. We will survey and interview Veteran caregivers in San Antonio, Palo Alto, Miami, Salt Lake City, and Durham. We will share preliminary findings with VA program office leaders and explore how programs, like the Caregiver Support Program, are working to address those needs. Finally, we will engage caregivers to set priorities for future Veteran caregiver research and intervention. By identifying caregiver impacts we will be able to inform caregiver-centered service and policy reforms.