

Group Medical Visits in the
Safety-Net:

Collaborating to Set a
Research Agenda

Facilitators

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Integrated Center for Group Medical Visits



Learning Objectives

- Create shared vocabulary and understanding between GMV staff and researchers interested in GMVs.
- Identify and develop consensus on priorities for research on safety-net GMV programs
- Develop potential collaborations between researchers and clinic staff to advance these priorities through specific research projects

Getting to know each other

- Thermometer/spectrum exercise
- Complaining exercise in groups of 3--small groups to complain about research

Group Medical Visit Research

- Most is about **diabetes** and **group prenatal care** (primarily Centering Pregnancy)
- Growing research on **chronic pain** (especially with integrative health care)
- Also published articles on:
 - Hepatitis C
 - Older adults with chronic conditions
 - Cancer
 - Erectile dysfunction
 -and much more



Example GMV research topic: Integrative Group Visits for Chronic Pain

Health outcomes research shows....



pain intensity
opioid medication use
depression symptoms
fatigue



sleep quality
health-related quality of life



(Chao et. al. 2015, Cornelio-Flores et. al. 2017, Gardiner et. al. 2014, Mehl-Madrona et. al. 2016)

Reviewing Group Medical Visit Research

- **Search terms:** “group medical visit,” “shared medical appointment,” “cluster visit,” “group visit,”
- Quantitative? Qualitative? Both?
- Patient outcomes? Implementation process? Provider experience? Cost of care?
- **Setting:** FQHC? Private practice? Primary care? Specialty care? Other?

Do you want to do research on group visits?

Study design &

Research questions:

- Can group visits work (feasibility and implementation)?
- Who goes to group visits (demographics)?
- Does this help people with X or Y physical or mental health condition (health outcomes)?
- What is the cost-effectiveness of group care (financial)?
- What do patients or staff like about group visits? Why do they participate? (qualitative)

Data collection:

- electronic health records
- other quantitative data
- qualitative data

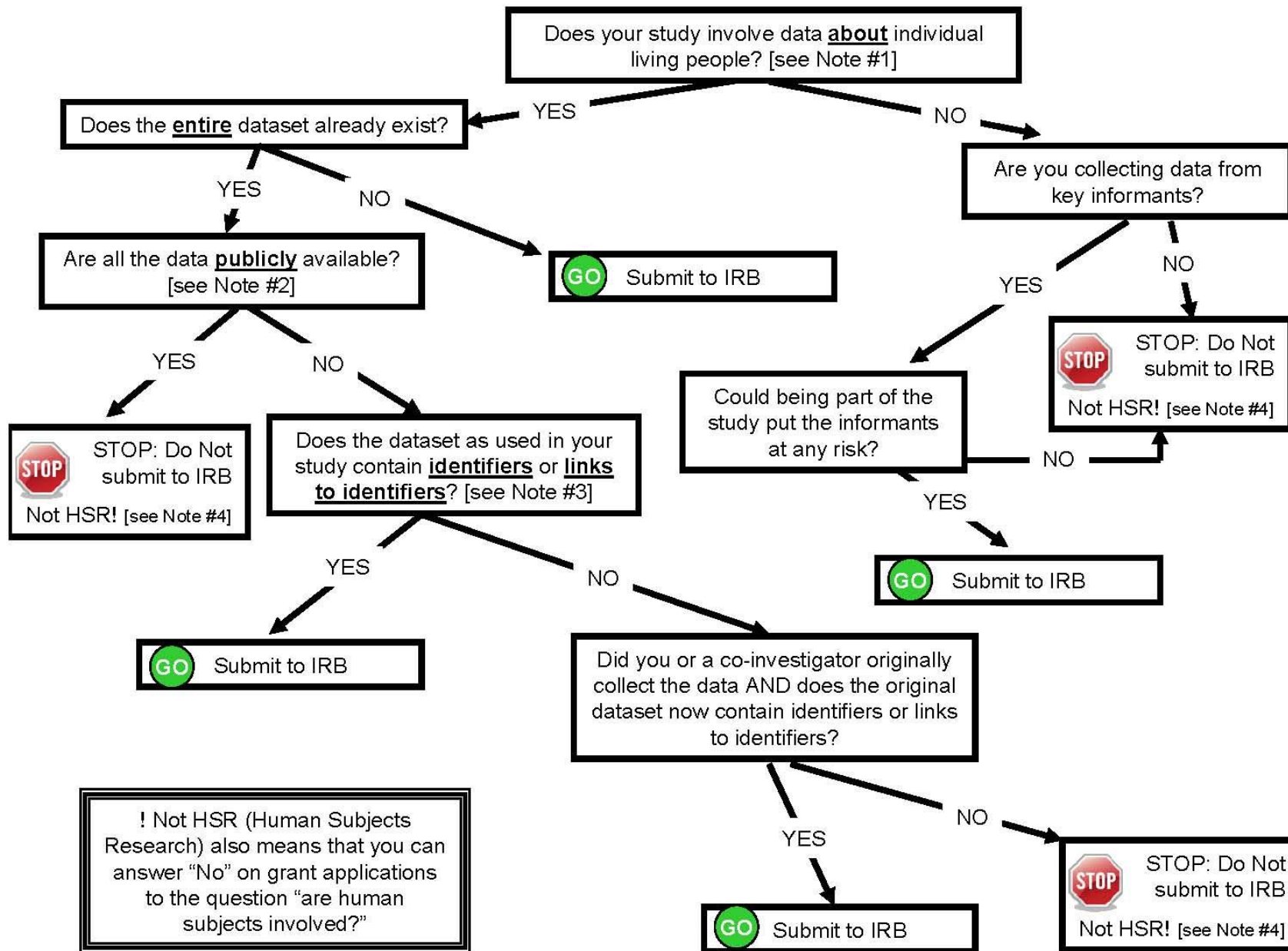
Who will be involved?

Clinic staff?

University or other research partners?

Patients?

Research vs. Quality Improvement



- IRB=Institutional Review Board
- Clinic or hospital IRB?
- University IRB?
- Tribal or other IRB?

Research vs. Quality Improvement

Jeff:

FQHC clinician collaborating with university researchers on GMV research

Udaya:

Safety-net clinician doing GMV QI program to demonstrate care enhancements with groups fusing meditation and nutrition into group care

Small Group Discussion

What research do you want to be part of?

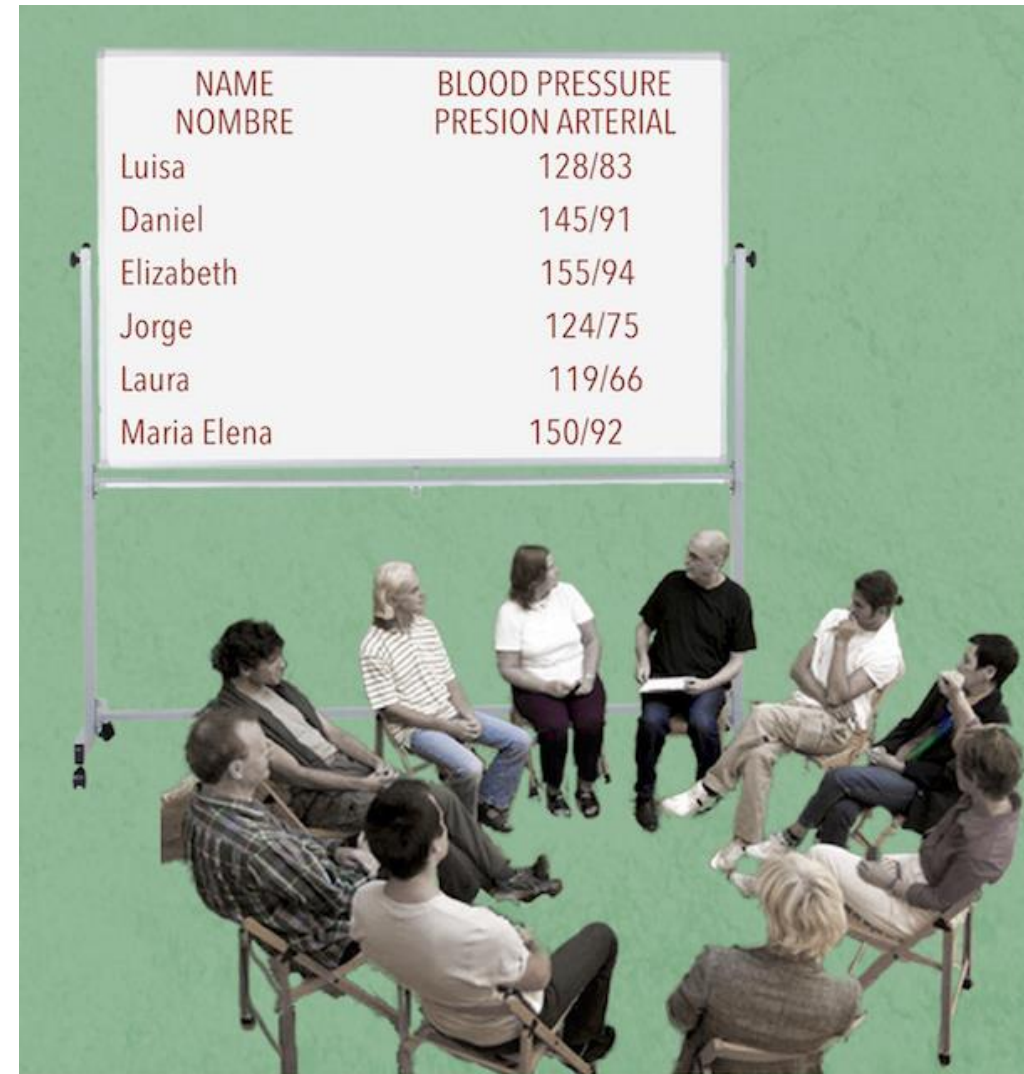
What are your priorities for GMV research?

Review Priorities

Which ideas do you think are most important or urgent?

Which ones could you see yourself getting involved with?

Form small groups with potential collaborators



Questions/next steps/wrap up



Sources

QI vs Research Flowchart: Johns Hopkins School of Public Health

Integrative group visits for chronic pain:

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Mehl-Madrona, Lewis, Barbara Mainguy, and Julie Plummer. 2016. "Integration of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Therapies into Primary-Care Pain Management for Opiate Reduction in a Rural Setting." *The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine* 22(8):621–26.