Project Title: Hearing Impairment, Strategies and Outcomes in VA Emergency Departments
Principal Investigator: Joshua Chodosh, MD, MSHS
Site: 630 – New York Harbor Healthcare System

Study Goals:

1) Establish the feasibility of screening for hearing loss in the ED
2) Determine the acceptability of the screening procedure (among ED population)
3) Derive a preliminary estimate of effect size of primary outcomes
4) Identify the evidence that decision makers in VAMCs, ED and Audiology Services need to commit to this approach

Study Outline:

-18 month funding period, to include: four month start-up, 12 months of intervention, and two months of analysis, disseminations, and plans for next steps to advance hearing healthcare in VA health system
-Minimum goal of 68 and maximum is 150 (across both Manhattan and Brooklyn)
-Patients will be randomized to receiving a HAD or control
-Data collections from VA CPS, RA observations, 10-minute RA survey, and brief qualitative follow-up interviews with patients, nurses, physicians. Follow-up calls three-days and 30-day ED visits will occur.
-Brief semi-structured interviews with 10 veterans willing to speak more extensively after discharge from ED
-Brief semi-structured interviews with 10 nurses and physicians (providers) will access their experiences with the hearing-impaired patients

Milestones/Developmental Progress Goals (DPGs):

We will track and report on these Milestones regardless of your decision about the feasibility of continued support beyond the 18-month period.

- Hiring and training of research staff
- Successful recruitment of at least 68 subjects who consent to hearing screening in the Emergency Department
- Completion of the HHIE for 85% of consented patients
- Delivery and fitting of the PockeTalker™ for 85% of patients who score > 10 on the HHIE
- Completion of the HAD use survey for 70% of patients who are given PockeTalkers™
- Completion of the 6-item measure of quality of hearing, understanding, and communication for 70%
- Completion of the CTM-3 for these same 70%
- Successful pilot test of the Patient Understanding of Discharge Instructions (PUDI) for 10 subjects
- Completed semi-structured interviews these 10 subjects and research staff to assess feasibility and refine processes
- Completion of three virtual advisory council meetings with 70% attendance
- Preparation of a summary report of these virtual meetings addressing key issues of feasibility/implementation
- Demonstration of feasibility for all aspects of screening process and delivery, fitting, and teaching PockeTalker™ use through observed time/effort, proportion of completed assessments, and patient/provider feedback.

Table 5: Project activities and timeline	FY 2018		FY 2019			
Tasks:	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Hiring and training						
Subject materials preparation						
Obtain IRB approval						
Build survey tool						
Subject recruitment / consent						
Intervention / usual care study period						
Subject post-ED visit survey/interview						
Subject (physician) interviews						
Medical record data extraction [1]						
Conduct qualitative analyses						
Conduct data analyses						
Write final report						
Conduct advisory / stakeholder meetings						
Presentations for dissemination						
Q1 = Quarter 1, etc [1] Adminstrative data of all consented subjects on visit and diagnostic variables						