

tients with multiple chronic conditions. But elderly patients are not the only population that may benefit from house calls. Small numbers of pediatric residencies are creating house call curricula to address the chronic care needs of children and to better understand the needs of patients.⁵

I agree with the author that family medicine residents should be taught the skills to provide effective house calls. The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's Group on Geriatrics, who could champion and create a national house call curriculum, is the ideal group to take the lead on this issue.

Lars E. Peterson, MD, PhD
American Board of Family Medicine
Lexington, KY

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Re: Integrating Behavioral and Physical Health Care in the Real World: Early Lessons from Advancing Care Together

To the Editor: I would like to present further clarification with regard to our overall study alluded to in the editorial titled “Patient-Centered Research Happens in Practice-based Research Networks” in the September/October 2013 issue of the *Journal*.¹ In that editorial, the authors stated that our article, titled “Integrating Behavioral and Physical Health Care in the Real World: Early Lessons from Advancing Care Together”² (ACT), describes “the challenges of implementing a more intensive depression screening program that requires additional staff.” While this was discussed in our article about many randomized

controlled trials, the ACT program funds diverse primary care practices and community mental health centers to deliver whole-person, integrated care. Instead of looking at how practices address a single disease, such as depression, our article shows how the ACT innovators are addressing the full spectrum of patients’ behavioral and physical health needs.

The ACT program and our article on early findings begin to address one of the current challenges in translating the findings from research studies into “real world” contexts by eliminating the artificial focus on individual disease states and embracing the multidimensionality of patient care.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the purpose and focus of our article.

Melinda Davis, PhD
Oregon Rural Practice-based Research Network
(ORPRN) Department of Family Medicine
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland
davismel@ohsu.edu
Bijal A. Balasubramanian, MBBS, PhD
University of Texas Health Science Center
School of Medicine, Dallas
Elaine Waller, BA
Department of Family Medicine
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland
Benjamin F. Miller, PsyD
Office of Integrated Healthcare Research and Policy
Department of Family Medicine
University of Colorado, Aurora
Larry A. Green, MD
Department of Family Medicine
University of Colorado, Aurora
Deborah J. Cohen, PhD
Department of Family Medicine
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland

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The above letter was referred to the author of the article in question, who declined to comment.