

August 3, 2021

Dear American Academy of Home Care Medicine,

We would appreciate your participation in a funded research study that we expect to occur in 2022. The Home Health Discharge Decision Support: Impact on Patient Outcomes (HEADS-UP) study, funded through a Betty Irene Moore Fellowship for Nurse Leaders and Innovators, will be the first step in creating a clinical decision support algorithm, based on your expert knowledge, to support home health clinicians as they make the critical decision to discharge from services or recertify for additional care.

We are recruiting physicians and nurses to review approximately 10 online home health case studies. Clinicians will be reimbursed \$20 for each case reviewed.

Medicare and private payers rely upon home health nurses and physicians to evaluate beneficiary needs to decide when they are ready for discharge from home health. However, there are no national, empirically derived clinical decision support (CDS) tools to assist clinicians in making these frequent and important discharge decisions. CDS may improve outcomes for patients and reduce unnecessary costs associated with relapse and hospitalization.

It is our sincere hope that with your knowledge and experience, you can help us achieve this goal and improve outcomes for skilled home health patients. If you would like to serve as a clinical expert for this study, please contact Rachel Borger and provide your name, contact information (email, work address, and phone number), and number of years caring for older adults at home.

Regards,

**Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, FGSA, FAAN**

Professor

Fellow, Betty Irene Moore Fellowships for Nurse Leaders and Innovators

Distinguished Educator in Gerontological Nursing

Director, Gerontology Interest Group (The GiG)

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