

and the Survey Director is Barbara Levitan. If you have any questions or concerns about the research, please feel free to contact Dr. Ken Wells at 310-794-0443; 10920 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Information about Participating in Research:

You may withdraw your consent at any time and discontinue participation without penalty. You are not waiving any legal claims, rights or remedies because of your participation in this research study. If you have questions regarding your rights as a research subject, contact the Human Subjects Protection Committee, RAND, 1776 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401, or call 310-393-0411 (ext. 7852) or the Office for Protection of Research Subjects, 2107 Ueberroth Building, UCLA, Box 90095-1694, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1694, 310-825-8714.

For the past five years, this study has been providing important information to the nation about how to improve health care. We appreciate your participation, and hope that it is possible to work with you again.

Thank you!

Kenneth B. Wells, M.D.,
Principal Investigator,
on behalf of the Investigators and Staff
of Partners in Care

RAND Corporation
1776 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401
1-800-269-5817



2005



Partners in Care 8-year Follow-up:

Questions and Answers

What is Partners in Care?

Partners in Care is a study of how efforts to improve primary care practice, particularly concerning care for depression, affects the quality of care and health outcomes for primary care patients.

What is the purpose of the current study?

We want to learn how people who participated in the study are doing, in terms of their health and healthcare, after 8 years. Some participants were initially in health care practices with special study programs to improve care and some were in health care practices with written guidelines, or suggestions, for care. We want to see how all participants are doing now.

How is the study conducted?

During the next several months, we will be doing a follow-up telephone survey similar to those you completed before. We will contact you by phone to interview you either at that time or at a more convenient time.

What's in the survey, and are there risks in participating?

The survey contains questions similar to those included in past surveys, concerning your health and mental health, use of services and treatments, economic status, experiences, and relationships. There may be some questions that you do not feel comfortable answering. As in the past, you may refuse to answer any question you do not want to answer and still remain in the study. The study is not delivering any healthcare services.

What are the benefits of participating?

When your telephone survey is complete, we will mail you a check for \$50 to thank you. We think it is very important to provide information to help guide the nation in how to improve healthcare, and we are pleased to have this additional opportunity to do so. You may also enjoy providing this helpful information.

What happens if I have a medical emergency during the survey?

If you have a serious medical emergency (for example, a heart attack) during the survey, the interviewer will suggest that you hang up and call 911. While we will not ask you about suicidal thoughts in this interview, if you mention that you are concerned about thoughts of death or suicide, the interviewer will ask a supervisor to listen in, and the project Principal Investigator or another project clinician will call you to determine if you need further assistance. If there is reason to believe that someone is in immediate danger of being harmed, the Principal Investigator would call 911 and ask them to contact the police.

How were participants selected?

We are including ALL persons who ever participated and have remained enrolled in Partners in Care in this phase of the study. Participants have been selected regardless of how often they have participated in the study.

Privacy and Confidentiality:

Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential. We will disclose identifiable information about you only with your written permission or as required by law. Your participation is voluntary. It's up to you whether you want to participate.

How can I let you know about participating in the survey?

If you should decide not to participate, simply call 1-800-269-5817 and let us know that you do not want to participate.

If you want to participate, you do not need to do anything now. We will be contacting you within the next couple of weeks to conduct the survey or to arrange a more convenient time. If your telephone number or contact information has changed, please call 1-800-269-5817 to let us know!

Should you have any special needs, problems with telephone availability or a change of telephone number, or questions or concerns about the telephone survey, please leave a message at the toll-free number 1-800-269-5817 and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Who is conducting the study?

As in the past, the study is being conducted by RAND, a private nonprofit corporation in Santa Monica, California, that conducts research in the public interest. Ken Wells, MD, MPH is the Principal Investigator of Partners in Care, and will analyze the data in collaboration with colleagues at RAND and UCLA. Dr. Jeanne Miranda is the Principal Investigator at UCLA. The Study Coordinator is Maureen Carney,