



Award ID:
RP101207-P04

Project Title:
Quality of Supportive Care of Texans with Cancer [CERCIT: Comparative Effectiveness Research on Cancer in Texas]

Award Mechanism:
Multi-Investigator

Principal Investigator:
Linda Elting

Entity:
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

Lay Summary:

Comparative Effectiveness Research on Cancer in Texas, (CERCIT) is a consortium of investigators at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), MD Anderson Cancer Center, the University of Texas School of Public Health, Rice University, Baylor College of Medicine and the Texas Cancer Registry. CERCIT is comprised of four projects and four cores. The four projects will focus on different aspects of the cancer care trajectory experienced by Texans. Project 1 will study utilization of screening tests for breast, colorectal and prostate cancer. Project 2 will study receipt and quality of cancer treatment. Project 3 will assess post-treatment surveillance testing. Project 4 will measure the quality of supportive care. The four projects share common approaches: • all measure changes over time (2001 through 2012) and in response to changing guidelines. • all assess both overutilization and underutilization, as well as appropriate utilization of various aspects of cancer care. • all analyze factors at the level of the patient, neighborhood, provider, and medical system that are associated with suboptimal care at specific points in the trajectory of care. • all use large administrative databases. CERCIT will also have four cores: the Data Management Core, the Training Core, the Knowledge Translation Core and the Administrative Core, which will support the projects, train new cancer outcomes investigators, and disseminate CERCIT findings to the relevant stakeholders. We anticipate that health care policy will evolve rapidly over the next decade, including broader health insurance coverage, new models of health care delivery, and increasing attention to cost containment. Such rapid evolution increases the need for reliable information on the impact of policy changes on cancer care. CERCIT will provide this information.