



## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

# Aging, Disability, and Long-Term Care

The Aging, Disability, and Long-Term Care program studies a wide range of policy issues related to the health and long-term care of the elderly population and persons with disabilities. Our studies focus on the availability, access, and payments for a full range of health, long-term care, and related social services for these populations. Using both quantitative and qualitative research methods, our studies cover a wide range of topics, including evaluating community-based programs and residential alternatives and measuring use of services, such as medical care, personal care, supportive housing, and other services needed by the elderly, long-term care, or disabled populations. Main clients include the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Administration on Aging, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, and private foundations. Selected projects are described below.

### Medicaid and State Long-Term Care Systems

- *Research on Systems Change in Long-Term Care* is a multi-year implementation evaluation of the Systems Change for Community Living Grants Program.  
CONTACT: Janet O’Keeffe, Dr.P.H., jok@rti.org.
- *Research on Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services* is a multi-state analysis of differences in quality, cost, and utilization using primary and secondary data.  
CONTACT: Joshua Wiener, Ph.D., jwiener@rti.org.
- *Examination of Medicaid’s Role in Assisted Living* analyzes six states’ use of Medicaid to cover services in residential care settings for older persons.  
CONTACT: Janet O’Keeffe, Dr.P.H., jok@rti.org.
- *Evaluation of Oregon’s 1115 Waiver Program on the SSI Population* analyzed the impact of Medicaid managed care on long-term care service utilization and costs and impacts on beneficiaries.  
CONTACT: Edith Walsh, Ph.D., ewalsh@rti.org.

### Medicare Post-Acute Care

- *Integrated Post-Acute Payment Options* evaluates the impact of bundled payments for a post-acute provider system, including the design of case-mix-adjusted payments using standardized assessment tools for inpatient rehabilitation facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and home health agencies.  
CONTACT: Barbara Gage, Ph.D., bgage@rti.org.
- *Medicare Post-Acute Care: Evaluation of Balanced Budget Act Payment Policies and Related Changes* evaluates the impact of changes in Medicare payments for home health, skilled nursing facilities, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, long-term care hospitals, and outpatient providers on the access, costs, and use of post-acute care.  
CONTACT: Barbara Gage, Ph.D., bgage@rti.org.
- *The Impact of Medicare’s Prospective Payment System on the Delivery and Utilization of Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation Therapy Services* studies the impact of the inpatient rehabilitation facility prospective payment system on the relative use of outpatient and inpatient rehabilitation services and on beneficiary access.  
CONTACT: Barbara Gage, Ph.D., bgage@rti.org.
- *Medicare’s Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System: Monitoring and Evaluation* develops classification criteria for long-term care hospital payments in the Medicare program.  
CONTACT: Barbara Gage, Ph.D., bgage@rti.org.

### Dually Eligible Populations

- *Support for Medicare Risk Adjustment* identifies modifications to the Principal Inpatient Diagnostic Cost Groups to improve payments for the frail elderly.  
CONTACT: Edith Walsh, Ph.D., ewalsh@rti.org.

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## Aging, Disability, and Long-Term Care *(continued)*

- *The Use of the PACE Health Survey in Dual Eligible Demonstrations in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Massachusetts* collects and analyzes functional impairment data used as frailty adjusters to plan payments.

CONTACT: Edith Walsh, Ph.D., ewalsh@rti.org.

- *Case Studies of Managed Care Arrangements for Dually Eligible Beneficiaries* examined the managed care options available and interaction of Medicare, Medicaid, and state regulations on beneficiaries enrolled in managed care and on the managed care organizations.

CONTACT: Edith Walsh, Ph.D., ewalsh@rti.org.

### Aging Community Support Services

- *Health and Social Support Systems of the Older Americans Act* studied integrated access points, information systems, consumer-directed options, and integrated financing that states undertook by leveraging Administration on Aging funding with Medicaid and other state revenues.

CONTACT: Barbara Gage, Ph.D., bgage@rti.org.

- *Evaluation of the Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Services Program of the Older Americans Act* was a nationwide study of innovative practices in evidence-based health promotion programs designed for the elderly.

CONTACT: Joshua Wiener, Ph.D., jwiener@rti.org.

- *Senior Companion Program Quality of Care Evaluation* was a 5-year study evaluating the senior companion program for the Corporation for National and Community Service.

CONTACT: Donna Rabiner, Ph.D., rabiner@rti.org.

- *Study of Financial Exploitation of Elderly Persons* examined the extent of financial exploitation of the elderly in the U.S. and prepared a report to the U.S. Congress.

CONTACT: Donna Rabiner, Ph.D., rabiner@rti.org.

- *Design of a National Survey of Residential Care Facilities* is designing a large survey of residential care facilities, including assisted living facilities.

CONTACT: Joshua Wiener, jwiener@rti.org.

- *National Resource Center for the Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grants to States Program* conducts case studies and technical assistance to state grantees (in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Association).

CONTACT: Joshua Wiener, jwiener@rti.org.

- *Evaluation of Title III-B of the Older Americans Act* assesses how Area Agencies on Aging and State Units on Aging are implementing the main social services funding subpart of the Older Americans Act.

CONTACT: Donna Rabiner, rabiner@rti.org.

- *Analysis of the National Nursing Assistant Survey* examines recruitment/retention and satisfaction issues using a new survey of certified nursing assistants in nursing homes.

CONTACT: Wayne Anderson, wlanderson@rti.org.

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**For additional information on aging, disability, and long-term care research at RTI International, visit [www.rti.org](http://www.rti.org) or contact:**

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