



Pamela Mitchell and Margaret Heitkemper are submitting testimony from the American Academy of Nursing and the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science. We draw the Committee's attention to the critical need for large scale, longitudinal multi-site randomized controlled trials and comparative effectiveness research to undergird and strengthen the evidence base regarding self-care management and health promotion interventions in chronic conditions for people of all ages -- for example, youth with diabetes to older adults recovering from stroke to promoting the best possible health states at the end of life. The studies are essential to bring promising innovative care delivery models up to a scale of implementation that will improve both individual and population health in the US. This research cuts across all three areas in which the Committee is conducting public forum.

We have numerous examples from nurse scientists and interdisciplinary teams of outstanding behavioral and care system interventions that are cost-effective and have high impact in improving health in chronic conditions but have not been tested in multiple settings.

While large scale and longitudinal clinical trials have been the norm in many of the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) has not had the funding base to conduct such trials. Yet it is the NINR that focuses the most on chronic conditions, self-care management and health promotion strategies. We urge the Committee to recommend an infusion of funding in appropriations to NINR that would provide adequate resources to conduct such trials over time.