

New tool assesses quality of work relationships in the clinic

January 3 2014



The Work Relationships Scale seems to be a valid tool for measuring the quality of relationships in primary care settings, according to a study published in the November/December issue of the *Annals of Family Medicine*.

(HealthDay)—The Work Relationships Scale (WRS) seems to be a valid tool for measuring the quality of relationships in primary care settings, according to a study published in the November/December issue of the *Annals of Family Medicine*.

Erin P. Finley, Ph.D., M.P.H., from South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio, developed and validated a scale assessing relationships within [primary care](#) clinics (WRS) in 17 Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) primary care clinics (457 clinicians/staff surveyed). Validation included comparison against semi-structured clinic member interviews (247) and VA Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients (SHEP) data.

The researchers found that WRS scores were significantly associated with clinic-level reporting of the SHEP variables of overall rating of personal doctor/nurse (P

"Relationships play an important role in shaping care delivery and should be assessed as part of efforts to improve patient care within primary care settings," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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Citation: New tool assesses quality of work relationships in the clinic (2014, January 3) retrieved 1 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-01-tool-quality-relationships-clinic.html>

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