

(as of 1/14/2026)

**Peer-Reviewed Publications by Research Center at VNS Health Staff****2026**

1. Arbaje, A.I., Hsu, Y.J., Greyson, S., **Bowles, K.H., McDonald, M.V., Vergez, S.,** Harbison, K., Williams, N., Hohl, D., Carl, K., Gurses, A.P., Marsteller, J.A., Leff, B. (2026). [\*The coming home intervention to enhance safe hospital-to-home health transitions: Pilot evaluation.\*](#) *Quality Management in Health Care.* 35(1), 1-9
2. **Burgdorf, J.G.,** Wolff, J.L., **Barrón, Y.,** Amjad, H. (2026). [\*Dementia severity associated with unmet caregiving needs during skilled home health care.\*](#) *Journal of Applied Gerontology.* 45(1), 135-146.
3. Lee, C.S., Antoniadou, M., Jaarsma, T., **Riegel, B.,** Westland, H. (2026, E-published ahead of print). [\*The comparative efficacy of comprehensive self-care interventions in chronic illness: An updated meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.\*](#) *International Journal of Nursing Studies – Advances,* 2026, 10: 100476.
4. Matarese, M., Lommi, M., De Maria, M., **Riegel, B.** (2026). [\*Development and psychometric testing of the inventory of self-care decision-making styles of older adults.\*](#) *Research in Nursing & Health.* 49(1), 49-59.
5. Napolitano, D., Iovino, P., Benedetti, F., Dorri, N., **Riegel, B.,** Vellone, E. (2026, In press). [\*Predictors of Self-Care Among Informal Caregivers of Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease: A Cross-Sectional Study.\*](#) *Annals of Gastroenterology.*
6. Song, J., Beigi, H., **Davoudi, A.,** Moon, R., **McDonald, M.V., Sridharan, S.,** Stanley, J., **Bowles, K.H.,** Shang, J., Stone, P.W., **Topaz, M.** (2026, In press) *Leveraging Patient and Their Surrogate Caregiver Communication with Clinicians to Predict Palliative Care Decisions: A Speech Processing Study* *Geriatric Nursing*
7. Zolnoori, M., Zolnour, A., Rashidi, S., **Spens, I.,** Haghbin, Y., **Vergez, S., Flaherty, G., Onorato, N., Vasquez, F.,** Noble, J.M., **McDonald, M.V.** (2026). [\*Detecting mild cognitive impairment using follow-up call speech and electronic health record data in home health care settings.\*](#) *Journal of Gerontological Nursing.* 52(1), 8-14.

**2025**

1. **Bowles, K.H.,** Stawnychy, M.A., O'Connor, M., Mikkelsen, M.E., Hodgson, N., Sang, E., You, S.B., Pitcher, K., Song, J., Oh, S., Newman, B., Garren, P., Weiss, C., Hirschman, K.B. (2025). [\*Context and determinants for implementing a sepsis survivor care transition\*](#)

- intervention reported from five health systems and home health agencies*. *Frontiers in Medicine* (Lausanne). 12, 1632083.
2. **Burgdorf, J.G.**, Amjad, H., **Barrón, Y.**, Ryvicker, M. (2025). [Undocumented dementia diagnosis during skilled home health care: Prevalence and associated factors](#). *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. 73(7), 2117-2126.
  3. **Burgdorf, J.G.**, Freedman, V. A., Wolff, J. L. (2025). [A look at caregivers for community-living persons with dementia: Implications for the guide model](#). *Alzheimer's & Dementia*. 21(3), e70013.
  4. **Burgdorf, J.G.**, **Russell, D.**, Fabius, C.D., Miller, K.E.M., Reckrey, J.M. (2025). [Caregiving network precarity among community-living, dually enrolled persons with dementia](#). *Gerontologist*. 65(9), gnaf156.
  5. **Burgdorf, J.G.**, **Russell, D.**, Reckrey, J.M. (2025). [Who chooses consumer-directed personal care? Characterizing users and switchers under new york medicaid](#). *Health Affairs Scholar*. 3(9), qxaf174.
  6. **Burgdorf, J.G.**, Smiley, A., **Barron, Y.**, Goodman, J., **McDonald, M.V.** (2025). [Social work during skilled home healthcare: Prevalence and determinants](#). *Innovation in Aging*. 9(5), igaf018.
  7. **Burgdorf, J.G.**, Wolff, J. L., **Barrón, Y.**, Amjad, H. (2025). [Family caregiver availability and capacity associated with home health service types for patients with dementia](#). *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*. 26(9), 105744
  8. Chae, S., **Davoudi, A.**, Song, J., **Evans, L.**, **Bowles, K.H.**, **McDonald, M.V.**, **Barrón, Y.**, Min, S. H., Oh, S., Scharp, D., Xu, Z., **Topaz, M.** (2025). [Developing a clinical decision support framework for integrating predictive models into routine nursing practices in home health care for patients with heart failure](#). *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*. 57(1), 165-177.
  9. Chastain, A.M., Shang, J., Murali, K. P., **King, L.**, Ogunlusi, C., Zhao, S., Kang, J.A., Zhao, Y., Dualeh, K., **McDonald, M.V.** (2025). [Development of and Testing Novel Questionnaires Assessing Palliative Care-Related Knowledge, Attitudes, and Confidence Among Home Healthcare Clinicians, Patients and Caregivers](#). *Home Healthcare Now*. 43(1), 21-31.
  10. Cordoza, M.L., Anderson, B.J., Cevasco, M., Diamond, J.M., Younes, M., Gerardy, B., Iroegbu, C., **Riegel, B.** (2025). [Feasibility and acceptability of using wireless limited polysomnography to capture sleep before, during, and after hospitalization for patients with planned cardiothoracic surgery](#). *Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*. 40(3), e110-e116.
  11. Denfeld, Q.E., Hiatt, S.O., Rosenkranz, S.J., Camacho, S.A., Chien, C.V., Dieckmann, N.F., Ramos, T.B., Lee, C.S., **Riegel, B.**, Hansen, L. (2025). [Background and design of](#)

- [the physical frailty and symptom monitoring and management behaviors in heart failure \(prism-hf\) study: A mixed methods study.](#) International Journal of Nursing Studies Advances. 8, 100282.
12. Fisher, L., Massimo, L., **Riegel, B.**, Walser, T.J., Hirschman, K.B. (2025). [Evaluating the implementation fidelity of a motivational health coaching intervention to improve self-care for caregivers of persons living with dementia.](#) Journal of Applied Gerontology. 44(12), 1999-2005.
  13. Geisser, S.R., Amponsah, A., **Vasquez, F.**, **McDonald, M.**, Coyne, N., Tamer, E., Luth, E.A. (2025). [Developing and testing a two-part intervention: Enhancing dementia instruction and tool in home hospice care.](#) Journal of Applied Gerontology. 44(8), 1371-1378
  14. Gupta, P., Zhang, Z., Song, M., Michalowski, M., Hu, X., Stiglic, G., **Topaz, M.** (2025). [Rapid review: Growing usage of multimodal large language models in healthcare.](#) Journal of Biomedical Informatics. 169, 104875.
  15. Harkins, S.E., Hulchafo, II, Scroggins, J.K., Walsh, C., Didier, M., **Topaz, M.**, Barcelona, V. (2025). [Patient disability status and the use of stigmatizing language in clinical notes during hospital admission for birth.](#) Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing. 54(6), 606-617.
  16. Hobensack, M., **Davoudi, A.**, Song, J., Cato, K., **Bowles, K.H.**, **Topaz, M.** (2025). [Comparing the influence of social risk factors on machine learning model performance across racial and ethnic groups in home healthcare.](#) Nursing Outlook. 73(3), 102431.
  17. Iovino, P., Dollaku, H., Alvaro, R., Pucciarelli, G., Rasero, L., Macchi, C., Liuzzi, P., **Riegel, B.**, Vellone, E. (2025). [Sleep quality patterns in patients with heart failure: A person-centred latent class analysis from a secondary analysis of the motivate-hf trial.](#) BMJ Open. 15(8), e101950.
  18. Jaarsma, T., **Riegel, B.**, Strömberg, A. (2025). [Self-care: A well-known but yet elusive concept. A discussion of theories, concepts, interventions, and measurement.](#) European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing. 24(1), 160-164.
  19. Koons, B., Lehman, R., **Riegel, B.**, Buck, H. (2025). [Facilitators and barriers to patient-caregiver dyadic recruitment in transplantation.](#) Nursing Research. 74(5), 399-404.
  20. Lee, C.S., **Riegel, B.** (2025; E-published ahead of print). [Psychometric testing of the updated self-care of heart failure index version 8.0 using item response theory.](#) The Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing.
  21. Levy, S., Hirschman, K., Matus, A., Thomas, G., **Riegel, B.**, Ashare, R. (2025). [Do coping style and future time perspective relate to surrogate decision-making](#)

- [preparedness? A cross-sectional analysis of heart failure caregivers](#). Aging & Mental Health. 29(5), 874-880.
22. Locatelli, G., Matus, A., Lin, C.Y., Vellone, E., **Riegel, B.** (2025). [Symptom perception in adults with chronic physical disease: A systematic review of insular impairments](#). Heart and Lung. 70, 122-140
23. Luciani, M., De Maria, M., Barbaranelli, C., Fazio, P. C., **Riegel, B.**, Ausili, D. (2025). [Measuring self-care in the general adult population: Cross-validation of the self-care inventory](#). Applied Nursing Research. 82, 151920.
24. Luth, E.A., **Brickner, C.**, **Bowles, K.** (2025). [Clinician-identified health characteristics and palliative care eligibility: Is dementia overlooked?](#) American Journal of Managed Care. 31(11), 656-663.
25. Luth, E.A., **Brickner, C.**, Rakotoarivelo, H., Gao, O., **Bowles, K.H.** (2025). [Adding functional ability measures to a mortality algorithm to support palliative care eligibility decisions](#). Research in Gerontological Nursing. 18(5), 225-234.
26. Luth, E., O'Malley, D., **Brickner, C.**, Xue, R., **Bowles, K.H.** (2025). [Developing the right for you? Intervention to improve engagement in community-based palliative care: A feasibility study and pilot test](#). The Journals of Gerontology. Series A, Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences. 80(8), glaf122.
27. Matus, A.M., Agni, A., Amiel, S.A., **Riegel, B.**, Shaw, J.A., Speight, J., Rickels, M.R., Lin, Y.K. (2025, E-published ahead of print). [Interoceptive awareness moderates the relationship between hypoglycemia exposure and symptom recognition in adults with type 1 diabetes](#). Diabetes Care.
28. Matus, A. M., Matura, L.A., Cronholm, P.F., Rickels, M.R., **Riegel, B.** (2025). [Understanding self-care patterns in adults with type 1 diabetes: Insights from a mixed methods study](#). Journal of Advanced Nursing. 81(12), 8914-8928.
29. Matus, A., **Riegel, B.**, Rickels, M. (2025) [Interoceptive Awareness Is Associated with Impaired Awareness of Hypoglycemia in Adults with Type 1 Diabetes](#). Diabetes Care. 48(1), 101-105.
30. Min, S.H., Song, J., Evans, L., **Bowles, K.H.**, **McDonald, M.V.**, Chae, S., **Sridharan, S.**, **Barrón, Y.**, **Topaz, M.** (2025). [Nonlinear relationship between vital signs and hospitalization/emergency department visits among older home healthcare patients and critical vital sign cutoff for adverse outcomes: Application of generalized additive model](#). Clinical Nursing Research. 34(7), 364-376.
31. Murali, K. P., Gogineni, S., Bullock, K., **McDonald, M.**, Sadarangani, T., Schulman-Green, D., Brody, A.A. (2025). [Interventions and predictors of transition to hospice for people living with dementia: An integrative review](#). Gerontologist. 65(5), gnaf046.

32. Osei Baah, F., Boateng, A.C.O., Brownlow, J.A., So, C.J., Miller, K.E., Gehrman, P., **Riegel, B.** (2025). [Associations between neighborhood factors and insomnia and their spatial clustering in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.](#) *Sleep Health.* 11(4), 458-468.
33. Reckrey, J.M., **Russell, D., Burgdorf, J.G.,** Aldridge, M. (2025). [Consumer-directed personal care in the new york metropolitan area: Trends in use from 2017 to 2022.](#) *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association.* 26(5), 105535.
34. **Riegel, B.,** De Maria, M., Barbaranelli, C., Luciani, M., Ausili, D., Dickson, V.V., Jaarsma, T., Matarese, M., Stromberg, A., Vellone, E. (2025). [Measuring self-care: A description of the family of disease-specific and generic instruments based on the theory of self-care of chronic illness.](#) *Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing.* 40(2), 103-113.
35. **Riegel, B.,** Jaarsma, T., Strömberg, A. (2025, E-published ahead of print). [An update to the middle-range theory of self-care of chronic illness.](#) *ANS: Advances in Nursing Science.* .
36. **Riegel, B.,** Jaarsma, T., Stromberg, A. (2025) *Editorial: Designing Interventions to Promote Self-Care.* *Infermieristica Journal.*
37. **Riegel, B.,** Kim, S.H., Quinn, R., Walser, T.J., Pitcher, K.S., Ferguson, J., Sang, E., Matus, A., Thomas, G.L., Hirschman, K.B. (2025, In press) *Predictors of Engagement in a Virtual Support Intervention for Caregivers of Adults with Heart Failure: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed Methods Study.* *The Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing.*
38. **Riegel, B.,** Quinn, R., Hirschman, K. B. (2025). [A longitudinal comparative analysis of sustained benefit of a self-care intervention for caregivers of adults with heart failure.](#) *BMC Nursing.* 24(1), 1501.
39. **Russell, D., McDonald, M.V.,** Chastain, A.M., Xu, Z., **Vergez, S.M., Onorato, N.,** Brasch, J., Ramos, E., Wang, J., Perera, U.G.E., McGoldrick, M., Shang, J. (2025, E-published ahead of print). [Infection prevention and control knowledge, attitudes, and practices among home health care patients and their family caregivers: Findings from a multisite survey.](#) *American Journal of Infection Control.*
40. Sang, E., Hirschman, K.B., Stawnychy, M.A., Bin You, S., Pitcher, K.S., O'Connor, M., Oh, S., Song, J., Garren, P., Newman, B.J., **Bowles, K.H.** (2025). [Patient-level barriers, related facilitators, and proposed strategies for timely home health care and outpatient appointments for sepsis survivors: Perspectives from healthcare system and home health care informants.](#) *Patient Education and Counseling.* 138, 109207.
41. Saracino, R.M., Park, E.Y., **Onorato, N.,** Pessin, H., **McDonald, M.,** Demirjian, C., Schofield, E., Rosenfeld, B., Breitbart, W., Applebaum, A.J. (2025). [A pragmatic randomized controlled trial of nurse-delivered brief meaning centered psychotherapy at home \(mcp-h\) for individuals with advanced cancer: Study protocol.](#) *Journal of Geriatric Oncology.* 16(8), 102736.

42. Saracino, R.M., Park, E.Y., Pessin, H., **Onorato, N., McDonald, M.V.**, Demirjian, C., Schofield, El., Rosenfeld, B, Breitbart, W., Applebaum, A.K. (2025). [\*A pragmatic randomized controlled pilot trial of brief meaning centered psychotherapy in homecare.\*](#) *Cancer*. 131(18): e70082
43. Scharp, D., Song, J., Palmer, M.H., Barcelona, V., **Topaz, M.** (2025). [\*Risk factors for emergency department visits or hospitalizations among older adults with urinary incontinence in home health care.\*](#) *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*. 51(6), 38-47.
44. Scroggins, J.K., **Topaz, M.**, Song, J., Zolnoori, M. (2025). [\*Does synthetic data augmentation improve the performances of machine learning classifiers for identifying health problems in patient-nurse verbal communications in home healthcare settings?\*](#) *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*. 57(1), 47-58.
45. Shang, J., Chastain, A.M., **McDonald, M.V.**, Wang, J., Lee, J.W., Morse-Karzen, B., **Russell, D.** (2025, E-published ahead of print). [\*Infection prevention and control knowledge, attitudes, and practices among patients and informal caregivers in home-based care: A systematic review.\*](#) *American Journal of Infection Control*.
46. Shang, J., Perera, U.G.E., Liu, J., Chastain, A. M., **Russell, D.**, Wang, J., Caprio, T. V., **Barrón, Y.**, Szanton, S., Zhao, S., **McDonald, M.V.** (2025). [\*Disparities in infection risk among home health care patients: A study using area deprivation index.\*](#) *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*. 26(4), 105455.
47. Sheldon, K.G., **Bowles, K.H., King, L.**, Luth, E.A. (2025, E-published ahead of print). [\*Why is community-based palliative care declined? Older adult, caregiver, and provider perspectives.\*](#) *Journal of Palliative Medicine*.
48. Sheldon, K.G., **Bowles, K.H.**, Sage, C., Stanley, J., Luth, E.A. (2025). [\*Making community-based palliative care eligibility determinations: Palliative care team member perspectives on access to information and algorithm use.\*](#) *American Journal of Hospice & Palliative Care*. 42(11), 1187-1195.
49. Smith, J.M., **Burgdorf, J.G.**, Riser, T. J., **Ryvicker, M.** (2025). [\*Skilled home healthcare utilization and outcomes for older adults with dementia: A scoping review.\*](#) *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. 73(2), 612-625.
50. Song, J., Ramlogan, L., **Vergez, S., Davoudi, A., Sridharan, S.**, Cho, H., Stanley, J., **McDonald, M.V., Bowles, K.H.**, Shang, J., Stone, P. W., **Topaz, M.** (2025). [\*The paradox of choice in palliative care decision-making in managed long-term care: A qualitative study.\*](#) *Home Health Care Management & Practice*. 37(1), 45-53.
51. Spertus, D., Abraham-Aggarwal, K., Unruh, M.A., Yu, J., **Bowles, K.H.**, Thompson, M.P., Espinosa, C., Jung, H.Y., Sterling, M.R. (2025). [\*Understanding home health agencies' perspectives toward telehealth use among home health stakeholders in the post-covid-19 era: Qualitative interview study.\*](#) *J of Medical Internet Research*. 27, e75861.

52. Sterling, M.R., Espinosa, C.G., **Vergez, S.**, **McDonald, M.V.**, Ringel, J., Tobin, J.N., Banerjee, S., Dell, N., Kern, L.M., Safford, M.M. (2025). [Home health aides caring for adults with heart failure: A pilot randomized clinical trial.](#) JAMA Network Open. 8(11), e2548121.
53. Sterling, M.R., Kern, L.M., **McDonald, M.V.**, Tobin, J.N., Arbaje, A.I., Cené, C.W., Jones, C.D., Dicipinigaitis, M., Shum, M., **Bowles, K.H.** (2025). [Envisioning home health as a critical component of learning health systems to improve evidence-based care in heart failure.](#) JACC Advances. 4(11 Pt 2), 101980
54. Szanton, S.L., Roth, D.L., **Bowles, K.**, **Onorato, N.**, Gitlin, L.N., Leff, B. (2025). [CAPABLE for people after hospitalization: A randomized trial.](#) Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. 73(12), 3663-3669.
55. Tamer, E., Hoover, D.R., **McDonald, M.V.**, Sheldon, K.G., **Vasquez, F.**, Gaibi, M., Luth, E.A. (2025). [Feasibility, acceptability, and preliminary efficacy protocol of an intervention for caregivers of hospice patients living with dementia: A pilot randomized control trial.](#) PLoS One. 20(11), e0332360
56. **Topaz, M.** (2025). [Invisible scribes: Can nurses trust ambient ai for clinical documentation?](#) Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing. 56(9), 358-359.
57. **Topaz, M.**, **Davoudi, A.**, **Evans, L.**, **Sridharan, S.**, Song, J., Chae, S., **Barrón, Y.**, Hobensack, M., Scharp, D., Cato, K., Rossetti, S. C., Kapela, P., Xu, Z., Gupta, P., Zhang, Z., **McDonald, M.V.**, **Bowles, K.H.** (2025). [Building a time-series model to predict hospitalization risks in home health care: Insights into development, accuracy, and fairness.](#) Journal of the American Medical Directors Association. 26(2), 105417.
58. **Vergez, S.M.**, **Barrón, Y.**, **McDonald, M.V.** (2025). [Disparities in timely receipt of home healthcare: Neighborhood disadvantage and delayed start-of-care visits in New York City.](#) Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. 73(5), 1462-1471.
59. Xu, Z., Scharp, D., Hobensack, M., Ye, J., Zou, J., Ding, S., Shang, J., **Topaz, M.** (2025). [Machine learning-based infection diagnostic and prognostic models in post-acute care settings: A systematic review.](#) Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association. 32(1), 241-252.
60. Xu, Z., **Vergez, S.** Esmaeili, E., Zolnour, A., Briggs, K.A., Scroggins, J.K., Ebrahimabad, S.F.H., Noble, J.M., **Topaz, M.**, Bakken, S., **Bowles, K.H.**, **Spens, I.**, **Onorato, N.**, **Sriharan, S.**, **McDonald, M.V.**, Zolnoori, M. (2025). *Voice for all: Evaluating the accuracy and equity of automatic speech recognition systems in transcribing patient communication in home healthcare.* Student Health Technology Information. 329, 1904-1906.

61. You, S.B., **Bowles, K.H.** (2025). [\*Risk of sepsis in gastroenterology patients and the role of nurses to prevent, identify, manage, and educate about sepsis.\*](#) *Gastroenterology Nursing*. 48(3), 233-235.
62. You, S.B., Hirschman, K.B., Stawnychy, M.A., Song, J., Sang, E., Pitcher, K., Oh, S., O'Connor, M., Garren, P., **Bowles, K.H.** (2025). [\*Qualitative study of the context of health information technology in sepsis care transitions: Facilitators, barriers, and strategies for improvement.\*](#) *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*. 26(7), 105606.
63. Zhang, Z., Gupta, P., Potts-Thomson, S., Prescott, L., Morrison, M., Sittig, S., **McDonald, M.V.**, Raymond, C.W., Taylor, J., **Topaz, M.** (2025) *Identifying and reducing stigmatizing language in home healthcare: the ENGAGE study protocol.* *JMIR Research Protocols*. 14, e69753.
64. Zhang, Z., Potts-Thompson, S., Prescott, L., Morrison, M., **McDonald, M.**, Raymond, C.W., Sittig, S., Taylor, J., **Topaz, M.** (2025, E-published ahead of print). *Beyond Keywords: A qualitative study of context-dependent stigmatizing language in clinical documentation from a large, multi-payer home healthcare agency.* *Home Health Care Management & Practice*.
65. Zolnoori, M., Esmaeili E., Nasaria, M., Morovati, T., Azadmaleki, H., Zonour, A., Rashidi, S., Zhang, Z., Noble, J.M., **McDonald, M.V.** (2025, In press). *SpeechDETECT: An explainable automated speech processing pipeline for early detection of cognitive impairment.* *Health Information Science and Systems*.
66. Zolnoori, M., Zolnour, A., **Vergez, S., Sridharan, S., Spens, I., Topaz, M.,** Noble, J.M., Bakken, S., Hirschberg, J., **Bowles, K., Onorato, N., McDonald, M.V.** (2025). [\*Beyond electronic health record data: Leveraging natural language processing and machine learning to uncover cognitive insights from patient-nurse verbal communications.\*](#) *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*. 32(2), 328-340.

### **Submitted Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts Currently Under Review**

Bidwell, J.T., Quinn, R., Hirschman, K.B., Bowles, K.B., Thomas, G.L., Stawnychy, M.A., Matus, A., Fauer, A.J., **Riegel, B.** *Supporting Family Caregiver Health in Heart Failure: Longitudinal Associations Between Heart Failure Caregiver Self-Care and Patient Hospitalizations.* Under review.

Kim, P.S., **McDonald, M.V.**, Boafu, J., Moreines, L.T., Schulman-Green, D., David, D., Brody, A., Aldridge, M., Franzosa, E. *Home care workers' role in supporting hospice care: An integrated multiple methods analysis.* Under review.

Kumar, D.S., **Riegel, B.** Dunsiger, S., Walaska, K., Breault, C., Cohen, R., Liu, C., Pond, H., Salmoirago-Blotcher, E. *Mindfulness training and trajectories of medication adherence among Individuals with Heart Failure: A Latent Class Growth Analysis.* Under review



Song, J., Beigi, H., **Davoudi, A.**, Moon, R., **McDonald, M.V.**, Sridharan, S., Stanley, J., **Bowles, K.**, Shang, J., Stone, P., **Topaz, M.** *Leveraging Patient and Their Surrogate Caregiver Communication with Clinicians to Predict Palliative Care Decisions: A Speech Processing Study.* Under review.

**Spens, I.**, Zhang, Z., Maleki H.A., **Vergez, S.**, **Sridharan, S.**, **Flaherty, G.**, **Onorato, N.**, Noble, J., **McDonald, M.**, Zolnoori, M. *Capturing cognitive clues through speech: Feasibility and acceptability of audio-recorded assessments in black home healthcare patients.* Under review.

Sun, C., Hirschman, K.H., Matus, A., Stawnychy, M., Goba, M., Thomas, G., Ashare, R., **Bowles, K.H.**, **Riegel, B.** *Cost Effectiveness of Virtual Health Coaching for Caregivers of Heart Failure Patients: Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial.* Under review.

## **Honors and Awards**

Margaret McDonald was one of just 32 healthcare leaders selected for McKnight's Pinnacle Award, which is granted to "outstanding sector veterans, who are being recognized for driving change, setting new standards and inspiring others for at least the last 20 years." She was honored with the *Thought Leader Award* at a gala awards ceremony in March 2025.

## **Interviews & Profiles of the VNSNY Research Center and its Staff & Projects**

Famakinwa, Joyce. (May, 2025) [\*Only 31% Of Home Health Patients Report Their Dementia Diagnosis To Their Providers.\*](#) Home Health Care News (Highlights Julia Burgdorf's work)

- [Frontline](#)

Martin, Audrie. (May, 2025) [\*Tackling Language Barriers in Home-Based Care Improves Care Quality, Patient Outcomes.\*](#) Home Health Care News (Interviews Margaret McDonald on the subject of language gaps between patients and providers)

- [Frontline](#)

Aquino, Neil. (June 2025) [\*Rochester native leads groundbreaking research on dementia care in home health settings.\*](#) Rochester Business Journal (Highlights the work of Julia Burgdorf)

- [VNS Health Newsroom](#)

Famakinwa, Joyce. (July, 2025) [\*How Bayada, VNS Health Are Using Research To Accelerate Their Business.\*](#) Home Health Care News (Highlights the work of the Research Center and interviews Kathy Bowles)

Famakinwa, Joyce. (October, 2025) [\*VNS Health Enhances Patient Outcomes with Virtual Coaching Program for Heart Disease Caregivers.\*](#) Home Health Care News (Highlights Barbara Riegel's work on the Improving Self-Care of Caregivers of Adults in Homecare with Heart Failure and Cognitive Impairment study)

- [Frontline](#)

Span, Paula. (December, 2025) [\*Solving the Home Care Quandary.\*](#) New York Times (Highlights Leveraging Home Health Aides to Improve Outcomes in Heart Failure: Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial Study)

- [Frontline](#)

Gonzales, Morgan. (December, 2025) [\*2025's Hidden Gem Stories: The Next Generation of At-Home Care Workers, Brightstar's Evolution.\*](#) Home Health Care News (Article rementioning and linking to the article in Home Health Care News, July, 2025)