Investigator:	Joyce Akwe Phone: (404) 321-6111 ext. 204602 Email: joyce.akwe@va.gov
Primary Research Interest:	Internal Medicine
Description of Research:	Hospitalized patients with a primary diagnosis of alcohol withdrawal will be identified from records at all participating VHA medical centers during FY 2016-2019. For patients with multiple admissions during the study period, only the most recent admission will be included. Site investigators from each medical center will perform a chart review of identified patients as described below. Each site will review 35 patients starting with FY19 and moving backwards as necessary.
Relevance to VA:	Alcohol withdrawal is one of the most common reasons for patients to be hospitalized in the VHA. Despite its commonness, relatively little has been published describing patients that are hospitalized on acute care wards with alcohol withdrawal. Most published series are either relatively small or occur in specialized alcohol withdrawal centers that are poorly generalizable to the acute care ward.3 Basic questions related to alcohol withdrawal remain uncertain, including risks of poor outcomes such as seizure, delirium, prolonged length of stay, ICU transfer, and death. Also, the optimal management remains unknown, with varied medications used with varied dosing schedules. In the current study we propose to describe a cohort of patients hospitalized with alcohol withdrawal across multiple VHA medical centers.