In order to achieve optimal patient-centered care on inpatient psychiatric settings, patients and staff nurses need to experience an environment that has the following quality dimensions: safety, engagement, self determination, achievement, and respect. Currently there are no instruments that measure these dimensions. The long term objective of this program of research is to provide a nationally recognized measure to guide achievement of optimal patient-centered care in inpatient psychiatric settings and predict outcomes of psychiatric care. To that end, the purpose of this pilot project is to develop a measure of patient-centered care: the Combined (patient and staff nurse versions) Assessment of Psychiatric Environments (CAPE).

**Specific Aims**

1. Develop a patient version of CAPE representing patients' perceptions of the five quality dimensions of the inpatient environment by:
   1a. Generating a list of items that reflect patient-centered care from focus groups with former inpatients
   1b. Establishing content validity of these items using an expert panel of former inpatients.
   1c. Establishing former inpatients' interpretation of items using cognitive interviewing.
   1d. Conducting psychometric evaluation (reliability-convergent validity) of the final version with patients at six psychiatric inpatient settings

2. Develop a staff version of CAPE representing staff nurses' perceptions of the five quality dimensions of the inpatient environment by:
   2a. Developing a list of items that reflect patient-centered care from existing nursing interview data
   2b. Establishing content validity of items using an expert panel of psychiatric nurses
   2c. Establishing nurses' interpretation of items through cognitive interviewing.
   2d. Conducting psychometric evaluation (reliability, convergent validity) of the final version with staff

**RELEVANCE**

Relatedness of project to program requirements: There is no currently accepted method to assess the delivery of patient-centered care in psychiatric inpatient settings. Using patient and staff nurses' perspectives, the research team will create an innovative measure of patient-centered care in psychiatric inpatient settings. This project informs a critical element of patient-centered research by tapping into the voice of a population usually deemed incapable of guiding their health care. Psychiatric patients' perspectives have been consistently overlooked yet have substantial implications for their recovery.

Research design and methods for achieving states goals. This study will employ an instrument development design to create the patient/staff versions of the CAPE, an instrument made up of five quality dimensions of patient-centered care. In preliminary work, focus groups were conducted to learn ways patients and staff define the events that occur during inpatient treatment that have significance and value to the individual in the context of creating a safe unit and promoting patient-centered care. These data will be used to generate items for the CAPE and via an event judgment approach; items will be rated for importance. Expert panels of staff and patients will review the items. Cognitive interviewing will be conducted to assess former inpatients' and staff nurses understanding and interpretation of the items. The measure will be administered to patients and staff at six psychiatric settings to establish its psychometric properties.