

Virtual Care CORE



August 2023 Newsletter

Quicklinks:

- [Recent News](#)
- [Funding and Presentation Opportunities and Deadlines](#)
- [Relevant Recent Publications](#)
- [Upcoming Meetings and Cyberseminars](#)
- [Links to Resources](#)

Recent News from OCC and the VC CORE

Help Develop the OCC Outcomes Framework by **Sending Self-Report Measures You Use in Your Work!**

The VC CORE is working in collaboration with OCC and VA's eHealth Partnered Evaluation Initiative to crowdsource validated self-report measures used by members of our investigator network in their projects focused on virtual care. Measures recommended by the CORE investigator network will be used as part of OCC's ongoing efforts to develop an outcomes framework related to the use of virtual care technologies.

We hope you will help the cause by sharing the self-report measures you have used in your own virtual care-related research and evaluation projects! Please look out for an invitation to share these measures with us through a brief REDCap survey in the weeks ahead. Similar requests to share your expertise and input may follow as this effort moves forward. If you have any questions about this effort, please reach out to VHAvirtualcarecore@va.gov.

Six funding opportunities with deadlines in the next 2-3 months

While we have shared several of these previously, some have not been included in newsletters yet. All six are in the funding opportunity table on page 3. See the newly released funding opportunities below:

OCC FY24 Rapid QI/Evaluation Project and ATLAS RFAs

The Office of Connected Care has two funding opportunities (so far) for FY24. The first is their **annual request for proposals addressing OCC's rapid QI and evaluation priorities**. Proposals may request up to \$250k over two years, with a maximum of \$150k in either year. Priorities and

Study: Assessing Collaborative Research Networks to Enhance Research Value

To better understand what individual and environmental factors contribute to successful collaborative research, Dr. Elizabeth Stevens at NYU Langone Health is conducting a research study that will collect information about our consortium's members and their collaboration networks.

Please check your VA spam filters! So far, two emails have been sent with the subject "Invitation to take part in a survey about research collaboration" on June 6 and June 20 from noreply@nyulangone.org. The study will last approximately 5 years and involve several parts including a baseline survey, the possibility of a one-time 60-minute interview, and four follow-up surveys. The surveys ask about your background, personality, perceptions of collaborative research, research productivity, and collaboration networks. All study activities are 100% optional. If you do not wish to be contacted, please reach out to Dr. Stevens at elizabeth.stevens@nyulangone.org.

full details for FY24 can be found in the RFA document attached in the email with this newsletter!

The second OCC funding opportunity for FY24 specifically solicits proposals for a rigorous evaluation and implementation project on the **ATLAS (Accessing Telehealth through Local Area Stations)** program. This funding opportunity has a maximum budget of \$500k in year one, with the potential for renewal in year two. Full details are attached in the ATLAS RFA with this newsletter.

Each of these funding opportunities will hold two office hours sessions in the coming weeks. Full details for all four of these sessions can be found in the upcoming meetings and Cyberseminars section on page 3.

THRIVE FY24 Pilot Project RFAs

The TeleHealth Research and Innovation for Veterans with Cancer (THRIVE) team are requesting proposals for pilot studies that are focused on virtual care modalities for Veterans with cancer, with specific interests in social determinants of telehealth and health equity. Pilot studies can be at the facility, VISN or national level. In this application cycle, three pilots will be funded, all of which must integrate of social determinants for telehealth and/or health equity; of these three pilots:

- Two will be funded by the Office of Rural Health – these *must* study applications of telehealth in rural populations (at least 50% of study participants or population designated as rural by Rural-Urban Commuting Area (RUCA) codes; they may be research or QI/evaluation projects
- One will be funded by HSR&D and *must* be an IRB approved or exempt research project

Applications are due **11:59 PM EST on September 1, 2023**. Please contact christa.tumminello@va.gov with any questions about this this funding opportunity.

Telehealth to Optimize Management of Multiple Chronic Conditions Among Vulnerable Populations

The reissue of this [Targeted PCORI Funding Announcement](#) is soliciting applications that respond to the following question: What is the comparative clinical effectiveness of different approaches to incorporating access to and use of telehealth to optimize management of multiple chronic conditions in primary care, particularly among vulnerable populations? PCORI will host an [Applicant Town Hall](#) on September 14 from 12-1 EST. The deadline for LOIs is October 3 by 5 pm EST! For questions regarding this funding announcement, please reach out to sciencequestions@pcori.org.

Reminder: The VC CORE Directory is Live!

We are incredibly excited to share the [VC CORE Directory](#). We’re still working on re-entering survey responses as multi-selections within our response columns, as well as adding our new VC CORE members who have joined since this went live. Thanks to the level of engagement from our wonderful Network (read: you), the list is very impressive, at over 170 entries. We invite you all to find yourselves and quality check your entries, as well as to find each other and connect! If you wish to be added to the Directory, it’s not too late! Please reach out to navid.dardashti@va.gov to receive a unique survey link we will use to populate your entry.

Funding and Dissemination Opportunities and Deadlines

Opportunities	Contact	Deadline
Small aWard Initiative For impact – Independent VA Investigators (SWIFT—IVI) Pilot RFA for VA investigators at non-COIN sites	Send EOI to Mary.Bartnik@va.gov and Danielle.Peters@va.gov (see instructions above or in attached word doc)	8/18/2023
ATLAS Evaluation RFA	VHAvirtualcarecore@va.gov	Letters of Intent due 8/25/2023
THRIVE FY24 Pilot RFA	Christa.Tumminello@va.gov	9/1/2023
OCC FY24 RFA	VHAvirtualcarecore@va.gov	9/21/2023

Telehealth to Optimize Management of Multiple Chronic Conditions Among Vulnerable Populations in Primary Care -- Cycle 3 2023	sciencequestions@pcori.org .	Letters of intent due 10/3/2023
Notice of Special Interest: Assessing Real-World Effectiveness and Implementation of Telehealth-Guided Provider-to-Provider Communication among Rural Communities	See NOSI posting on nih.gov for full details and contact list	10/5/2023

Recent Virtual Care Publications

- Connolly, S.L., Charness, M.E., Gifford, A.L., and Miller C.J. (2023). Discipline-level differences in mental health provider perceptions of video and phone telehealth. *Psychological Services*. [Online ahead of print. doi: 10.1037/ser0000791](#)
- Trivedi, R., Hirayama, S.K., Risbud, R., Suresh, M., Humber, M.B., Butler, K., Razze, A., Timko, C., Nelson, K., Zulman, D.M., Asch, S.M., Humphreys, K., Piette, J.D. Adapting a Telephone-Based, Dyadic Self-management Program to Be Delivered Over the Web: Methodology and Usability Testing. *JMIR Form Res 2023;7:e43903* doi: [10.2196/43903](#) PMID: [37327057](#) PMCID: [10337331](#)

Upcoming Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
ATLAS RFA Office Hours: Q&A session with VC CORE leadership and OCC representatives Meeting ID: 250571 010827 Passcode: PeKC4m Or call in (audio only) +1 347-566-4838 , 119012779 #	Leonie Heyworth, MD, MPH Lesly Roose, RN, BSN, MS Courtney Summit, PT, DPT, PMP	8/8/2023 3:00 – 3:50 PM EST 8/10/2023 3:30 – 4:20 PM EST
FY24 RFA Office Hours: Q&A session with VC CORE leadership and OCC representatives Meeting ID: 250571 010827 Passcode: PeKC4m Or call in (audio only) +1 347-566-4838 , 119012779 #	Leonie Heyworth, MD, MPH Nilesh Shah, MD	8/9/2023 1:00 – 1:50 PM EST 8/10/2023 4:30 – 5:20 PM EST
Sleep and PTSD: Using Wearables to Examine Symptoms and Mechanisms	Laura Straus, PhD	8/9/2023 12 – 1 PM EST
Ways to Use (and Not Use) Mobile Devices to Assist PTSD Treatment: From Doomscrolling to Gaming	Matthew Price, PhD	9/13/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
PCORI Targeted Telehealth funding APPLICANT TOWN HALL	PCORI Representatives TBA	9/14/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM ET

Recent Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Comparative Effectiveness and Outcomes of Telehealth Interventions: VA Studies in Neurology and Substance Use Disorder Treatment	Lewei (Allison) Lin, MD, MS; Linda Williams, MD	7/12/2023 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST

Mobile and Web-based Intervention for Veteran Couples With PTSD and Pain	Jolie Haun, PhD	7/12/2023 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
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Links to Resources

Telehealth

- [VHA Telehealth Services Website](#)
- [Telehealth Intranet Site](#)
- [VHA Mobile and Peripheral Devices for Facilities](#)

VA Mobile

- [VA Mobile | VA App Store](#)
- [New VA Mobile 'My App List' functionality/categories](#)
- [ANNIE Automated Texting System | SharePoint site](#)
- [VACO Mobile Mental Health & Technology | SharePoint site](#)
- [VA Mobile Health Practice Guide | SharePoint site](#)

MyHealtheVet

- [MyHealtheVet | Portal Homepage](#)
- [MyHealtheVet | VA Intranet Product Homepage](#)
- [My HealtheVet Statistics - My HealtheVet Product \(va.gov\)](#)
- [My HealtheVet Secure Messaging Reports Guide](#)

Data Reports, Measures, Definitions, and Training

- [VHA Reports and Measures Portal \(RAMP\)](#)
- [Reporting and Analytics Field Training \(RAFT\)](#)
- [VSSC – Connected Care, Telehealth, Call Centers](#)
- [Data Definitions for VSSC Data Cubes](#)

Patient Generated Health Data

- [Approved VA Policy on PGHD](#)
- [PGHD video for staff](#)

General Office of Connected Care

- [Connected Care Website](#)
- [Connected Care Outreach Toolkit](#)
- [Connected Care Academy](#) (VA Intranet Required)

Contact Information

- For any comments or questions about material in this newsletter or about the Virtual Care Consortium of Research, please email the CORE team at VHAVirtualCareCore@va.gov.
- Please let us know if you have news to share with the community! Email us and we will add it to the next newsletter.
- Finally, [follow us on Twitter](#) for regular, bird-sized bits of information!

The mission of the VA Virtual Care Consortium of Research is to facilitate research that evaluates and improves use of virtual care to enhance the accessibility, capacity and quality of VA health care and Veteran experience.
