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Recent News from OCC and the VC CORE

CONTINUED – Resources from the Office of Connected Care!

Last month, we shared the new Patient-Generated Health Data and Virtual Care Best Practices Communities, and the Virtual Health Resource Centers (VHRC) Web Page, Video, and Implementation Consult Service. These resources are constantly expanding with new material for clinical teams that will be of great interest to researchers seeking an understanding of how VC is being implemented in the field. This month, we share some of OCC's new additions to these communities.

Patient-Generated Health Data

The ['Patient-Generated Health Data' Community](#) in Connected Care Academy is now live, and provides access to all PGHD related trainings, resources, and guidelines. Here you can access the two new on-demand training modules: *Introduction to Patient-Generated Health Data* (1.5 hour, TMS #4620536) and *Clinical Use of Patient-Generated Health Data in Virtual Care Manager* (1 hour, TMS #4620602)

Virtual Care Best Practices

The ['Virtual Care Best Practices' Community](#) in Connected Care Academy is now live, and provides VA care teams with the foundational information needed to integrate virtual care into clinical practice, including trainings, resources, videos, podcasts, and more.

Seeking Research Coordinator in Durham

The Institute for Medical Research, an affiliate of the Durham VA Health Care System (DVAHCS) is seeking a [Research Coordinator](#) to assist Principal Investigators including Drs. Nicki Hastings and Leah Zullig with two newly funded research studies. The hired incumbent will coordinate and administer study associated activities, ensure that pre-established work scope, study protocol, and regulatory requirements are followed, recruit and coordinate research subjects as appropriate, and serve as principle administrative liaison for the project. The position is linked above, please forward to anyone who may be a good fit and direct inquiries to [Leah Zullig](#).

Congratulations to Dr. Lucinda Leung on the acceptance of her oral presentation to the SGIM 2022 Annual Meeting. Her presentation entitled *Widening Rural-Urban Divide in Telehealth Use during the COVID-19 pandemic: A national observational study of primary care delivery in the Veterans Health Administration*, will take place April 8, 2022 from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM. We hope those of you attending the SGIM Meeting this year can make it!

Early Career Investigator Spotlight



J. Antonio Gutierrez, MD, MHS

I am an academic interventional cardiologist who specializes in vascular medicine and has formal training and experience in research. My current research focus is peripheral artery disease. I have prior experience completing cardiovascular research endeavors in Veterans treated within the VHA. My group was the first to use the VA Clinical Assessment Reporting and Tracking (CART) Program to examine the association between the radial approach to percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) and a decreased risk of post-PCI blood transfusion among high volume radial access PCI sites within the VHA. More recently, my group has used the CART Program to study the risk of major adverse cardiac events associated with non-coronary atherosclerosis among Veterans undergoing coronary angiogram with the VHA. I have published multiple peer-reviewed manuscripts in leading journals such as *Circulation*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and the *European Heart Journal*. I am fully committed to a career in VA Health Services Research.

Recently Awarded CDA

Telehealth to Improve Functional Status and Quality of Life in Veterans with PAD

The proposed research will use a telehealth-based intervention to improve physical function, health-related quality of life, and reduce coronary artery disease risk among Veterans with peripheral artery disease. The exercise program will be modeled according to national guideline recommendations. The aims of the CDA are as follows: Aim 1. To develop a telehealth-facilitated exercise intervention for Veterans with PAD that serves as a Veteran centric new model of care; Aim 2. To integrate Veteran preferences into the development of a telehealth-facilitated supervised exercise program; and Aim 3. To assess the long-term patterns of functional impairment and quality of life among Veterans with PAD not undergoing supervised exercise training.

Get in touch via email at JorgeAntonio.Gutierrez@va.gov.



Felicia Skelton, MD, MS

I am an investigator at the Center for Innovations in Quality, Effectiveness and Safety (IQuEst) at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and a staff physician in the spinal cord injury (SCI) care line at the DeBakey VA as the primary physician for the SCI home-based primary care program. I hold an academic appointment of assistant professor in the H. Ben Taub department of physical medicine and rehabilitation (PM&R) at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM). I completed medical school at Baylor College of Medicine, residency in rehabilitation medicine at the University of Washington, where I served as chief resident, clinical fellowship in spinal cord injury medicine at BCM, and a VA health services research and development (HSR&D) post-doctoral fellowship through IQuEst.

I am currently funded by a VA HSR&D Career Development Award aimed to develop best practices on urine testing and treatment after SCI. My current Office of Rural Health funded project aims to reduce mental health care disparity and increase access to care for rural Veterans with mobility impairments using VVC. I have over 20 peer-reviewed publications and national presentations on my research, clinical care and education. I am building a research portfolio that seeks to optimize primary care delivery of persons with SCI, as well as other patient safety, quality, and health equity. I was awarded a BCM Woman of Excellence Award in 2019, and the BCM Department of PM&R Research Excellence Award in 2017 and 2019.

Read more at: <https://www.houston.hsrd.research.va.gov/bios/skelton.asp>

Funding and Presentation Opportunities and Deadlines

Opportunities	Contact	Deadline
<p>Present at our Upcoming VC CORE Cyberseminar Wednesday, May 4, at 1 PM EST!</p> <p>We are seeking more early career investigators to present at our next cyberseminar in May! Investigators are encouraged to submit their project title and brief abstract for consideration. Our Cyberseminars have been extremely well-attended, averaging approximately 200 live attendees and many more registrations.</p>	<p>To be considered, please email vhavirtualcarecore@va.gov</p>	<p>3/15/2022</p>

Recent Virtual Care Publications

- Hilty, D. M., Armstrong, C. M., Smout, S. A., Crawford, A., Maheu, M., Drude, K., Chan, S., Yellowlees, P. M., & Krupinski, E. [Provider technology, fatigue, and well-being: a scoping review](#). Submitted to *Journal of Medical Internet Research* on 11/01/2021.
- Chuang, E., Bonilla, A., Stockdale, S., Das, A., Yano, E.M., Rose, D. [Telephone Access Management in Primary Care: Cross-Case Analysis of High-Performing Primary Care Access Sites](#). *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 02/2022.
- Walsh, C., Lewinski, A.A., Rushton, S., Soliman, D., Carlson, S.M., Luedke, M.W., Halpern, D., Crowley, M., Shaw, R., Sharpe, J., Alexopoulos, A.S., Alishahi, Tabriz A., Dietch, J.R., Uthappa, D.M., Hwang, S., Ball, Ricks K.A., Cantrell, S., Kosinski, A.S., Ear, B., Gordon, A.M., Gierisch, J.M., Williams, J.W., Goldstein, K.M. [Virtual Care for the Longitudinal Management of Chronic Conditions](#). VA ESP Project #09-009; 11/2021.
- Tran, L.D., Rose, L., Urech, T., Vashi, A. [Encounters after Appointments Cancelled Due to COVID-19 in the Veterans Affairs Health Care System](#). Technical Report 38. Menlo Park, CA. VA Palo Alto Health Economics Resource Center, 11/2021.

Upcoming Meetings and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
The Elevator Pitch: Sharing Your Work Concisely and with Wide Appeal	Mark Hager, PhD Julie Weitlauf, PhD	3/8/2022 1:00 – 2:00 EST
Evolution of the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR): Overview of CF...	Laura Damschroder, MPH Caitlin Reardon, MPH	3/21/2022 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
Access to Data Series: Research Access to VA Data (Session 1 of 3)	Angela Jannotta, BA Linda Kok, MA	3/28/2022 3:00 – 4:00 PM EST
Introduction to Effectiveness, Patient Preferences, and Utilities	Josephine Jacobs, PhD	3/30/2022 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST
RFA Cyberseminar		3/31/2022 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST

Past Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Considering Human Factors in the VA EHR Transition	April Savoy, PhD Michael Weiner, MD, MPH Scott Wiltz, MD, MPH, FAAFP	2/23/2022 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
Virtual Care to Support Heart Health	Kariann Drwal, MS Andrea Kossoudji, MS, MBA, RN Kathleen Craig, BSN, RN	2/17/2022 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
PETALS (Patient Engagement Tracking and Longterm Support): A new HSR&D Resource for Communicating with Veterans via Text and IVR	Nicolle Marinec, MPH John Piette, PhD	2/8/2022 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST
Overview of CMS & USRDS data from VIReC	Kristin de Groot, MPH	2/7/2022 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST

Commented [DEL1]: Teams meeting

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](#)

MyHealthVet

- [MyHealthVet | Portal Homepage](#)
- [MyHealthVet | VA Intranet Product Homepage](#)
- [My HealthVet Statistics - My HealthVet Product \(va.gov\)](#)
- [My HealthVet 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.
