

Veterans Health Administration

Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act (VACAA) Veterans Choice Program (VCP) Data

What We Have and How to Use it

Office of Community Care
Program Oversight and Informatics (POI)
Department of Informatics

Agenda

- Presenter Information
- Data Flow
- Choice Data Availability
- Understanding the Data
- Choice Data Versus Traditional Community Care Data
- Requesting Access the Data
- How to Use the Data
- Report Examples
- Operations-Research Join Efforts
- Resourceful Links
- Questions

Presenter Information

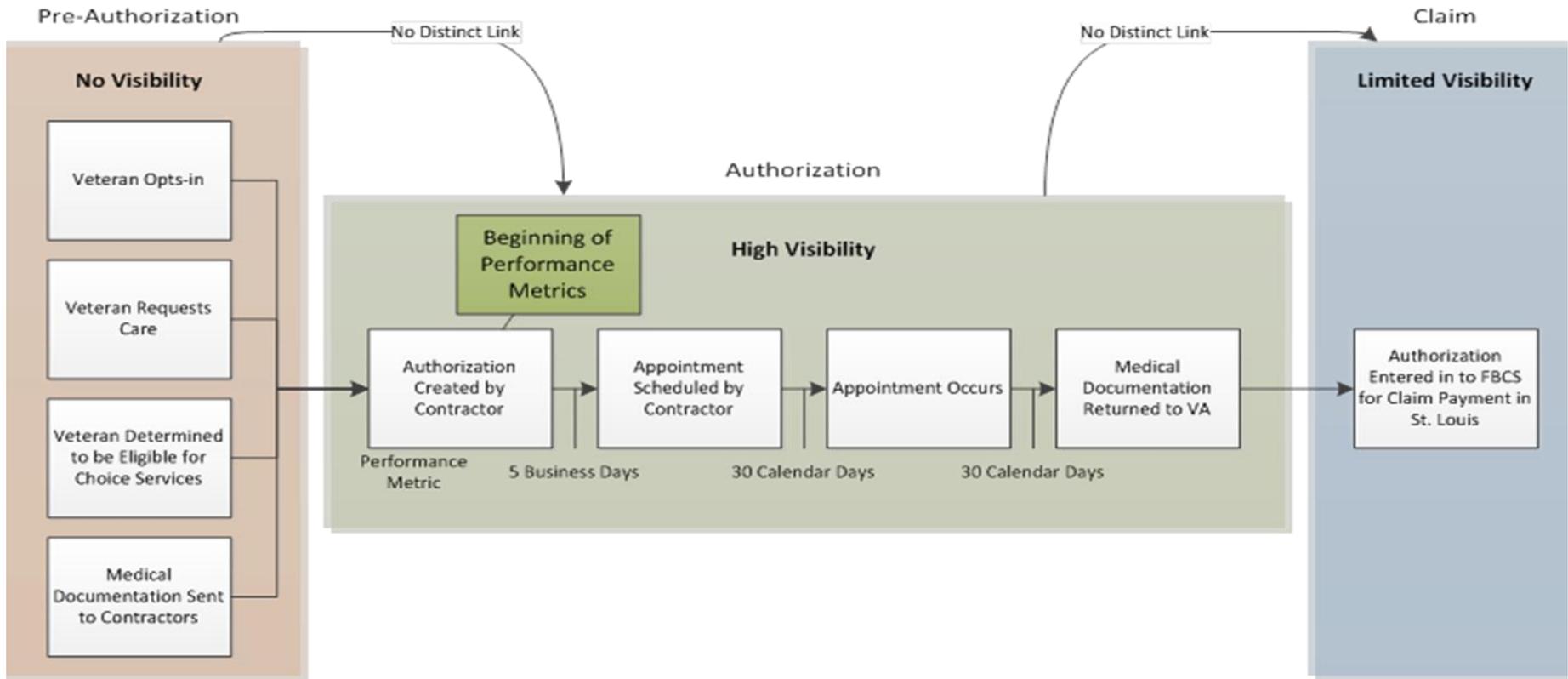
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- Position: Senior Data Analyst, Department of Informatics, Program Oversight and Informatics, Office of Community Care.
- Federal Career: 15 years of Federal Service, all at the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Education:
 - Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Studies, University of California, Davis
 - Masters in Education, American InterContinental University
 - Doctoral of Philosophy, Candidate, Capella University
- VA Achievements
 - Lean Six Sigma, Yellow Belt
 - VISN 07 LEAD Graduate
 - VISN 07 Employee of the Quarter



Data Flow

Prior to the Pre-Authorization stage, the Veteran has been determined by the VAMC facility to be either be (1) a Wait Time (30 day) eligible Veteran, where eligible services are not available at the VAMC or in a timely manner, or (2) a Mileage (40 mile) eligible Veteran.



Choice Data Availability

- Choice Data
 - Contractual Requirement: Monthly Report
 - Standardized Reporting Template developed
 - Monthly Report received from both Contractors – TriWest and Health Net
 - Data/Report Validation Process
 - Informatics performs an Extract Transform Load (ETL) to SQL Database on VA Corporate Data Warehouse Server

Choice Data Availability

- Data fields reported:
 - VAMC Demographic Data
 - Region, VISN, Station #, VAMC Facility Name
 - Patient Demographic Data
 - Name, SSN, Address, Wait-time vs Mileage, NSC/SC/SA indicator, OHI data
 - Provider Demographic Data
 - Name, Address, NPI, Specialty
 - Episode of Care Data
 - Category of Care, Inpatient vs Outpatient, Commute Type
 - Authorization Data
 - Date Appointed, Appointment Date, Medical Documentation Return Date, Inpatient Discharge Date, Date and Reason for Authorization Returned

Understanding the Data

- Self Reported by the Contractors
 - Data is not directly entered into VA systems
- Data is based off authorizations created by the Contractors
- Data limitations are present in the data
 - Data is only based on authorizations
 - Data does not display all appointment data
- Data Availability Lag Times
 - Reports are received on the 10th of the month for the previous month and validation process is currently taking approximately 1 to 2 weeks
- Choice data is not easily linked to Traditional Community Care billing data

Understanding the Data

Traditional Community Care Data

- Purchased Care (formerly known as Fee, Fee Basis, Non VA Care) data has been available in CDW production (prior to Choice)
- This is primarily authorization and billing data – records payments to providers.
- Records delayed based on payment approvals
- Limited provider type information
- Data Elements:
 - Billing institution address, city, state
 - Can be linked to SPatient for Veteran home location

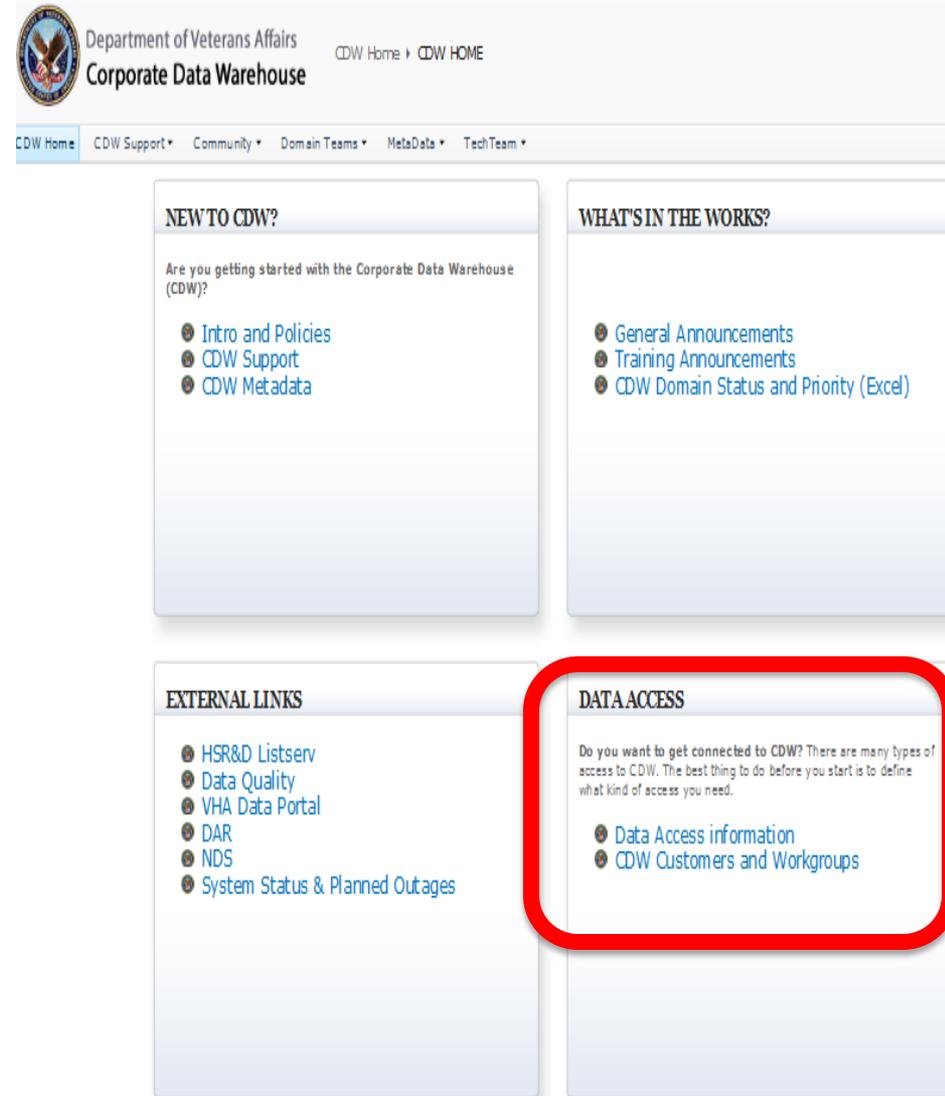
- Choice data adds:
 - More specificity on date occurrences of the Veteran experience
 - Opt In data
 - Schedule data
 - Medical Documentation data
 - Provider location
 - High Level visibility to Episode of Care
- Self Reported Data

Requesting Access the Data

CDW Access

- Data is stored on CDW Raw server
- Data has to be requested
 - Not automatically available because of current CDW access
- NDS grants access

<https://vaww.dwh.cdw.portal.va.gov/Pages/CDWHome.aspx>



Department of Veterans Affairs
Corporate Data Warehouse

CDW Home | CDW HOME

CDW Home | CDW Support | Community | Domain Teams | MetaData | TechTeam

NEW TO CDW?

Are you getting started with the Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)?

- Intro and Policies
- CDW Support
- CDW Metadata

WHAT'S IN THE WORKS?

- General Announcements
- Training Announcements
- CDW Domain Status and Priority (Excel)

EXTERNAL LINKS

- HSR&D Listserv
- Data Quality
- VHA Data Portal
- DAR
- NDS
- System Status & Planned Outages

DATA ACCESS

Do you want to get connected to CDW? There are many types of access to CDW. The best thing to do before you start is to define what kind of access you need.

- Data Access information
- CDW Customers and Workgroups

Requesting Access to VACAA (Choice) Data

VHA Data Portal: Data Access Overview

<http://vaww.vhadatportal.med.va.gov/DataAccess/DataAccessOverview.aspx>

There are **THREE** types of data access in the VA:

1. Research Access
2. Operations Access
3. Preparatory to Research Access

Requesting Access the Data

Research Access

<http://vaww.vhadataportal.med.va.gov/DataAccess/ResearchAccess.aspx>

| CDW DOMAIN CHECKLIST | |
|---|--|
| <u>Production</u> | <u>RAW*</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allergy | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Claims (CBO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appointment | <input type="checkbox"/> CAPRI Audit Trail table |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consult | <input type="checkbox"/> CliniComp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CPRS Orders | <input type="checkbox"/> Echocardiogram |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Data Profiling | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Dept. Int. Software (EDIS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Inventory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Factors | <input type="checkbox"/> FBICS (Fee Basis Claim System) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immunization | <input type="checkbox"/> IFCAP (Integrated Funds Control, Accounting, and Procurement) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inpatient | <input type="checkbox"/> Intravenous meds (IV) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lab Microbiology | <input type="checkbox"/> Oncology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LabChem | <input type="checkbox"/> PAID (Personnel and Accounting Integrated Data System) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Prosthetics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-VA Meds | <input type="checkbox"/> Pulmonary Function Test (PFT) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient | <input type="checkbox"/> RxUD (Unit Dose) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient Associated | <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient Enrollment | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PCMM (Primary Care Management Module) | <input type="checkbox"/> VACAA (Veterans Choice Program Eligibility) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy BCMA (Bar Code Medication Administration) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Outpatient | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy Patient | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchased Care (formerly fee) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pyramid GIS | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recall Reminders | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPatient | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SStaff | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery PRE Table (Not the Surgery RAW domain) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VistA Compensation & Pension | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VistA Waitlist | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vital Signs | |

**CDW Raw data is data that has been pulled directly from the VistA sites and the data has not been verified or had business rules applied. It may not be current and there is limited documentation for users. Requests for CDW Raw data require additional time for creating data extracts and it is more difficult for studies to use.*

From the VHA Data Portal
(link below)

1. On the CDW Data Domain Checklist select “VACAA (Veterans Choice Program Eligibility)”
2. Complete the NDS Research Request Memorandum

* Requires Supervisor and ISO approval

In DART,

1. Select **CDW Raw** on the Data Sources page.
2. Upload the Memo and Checklist with other required forms and documents
3. Submit your completed DART Request

Requesting Access the Data

Operations Access

<http://vaww.vhadataportal.med.va.gov/DataAccess/HealthcareOperationsRequestProcess.aspx>

From the VHA Data Portal
(link below)

1. Complete and submit
Healthcare Operational
Request Process ePAS
Form

* Requires Supervisor and
ISO approval

2. Select “Corporate Data
Warehouse” in the Data
Sources section



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Data Sources". It contains a list of checkboxes for selecting data sources. The first option, "Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)", is highlighted with a red rectangular box. A red arrow points from the right side of the slide towards this box. Below the "Data Sources" section, the beginning of another section titled "Duration of Access" is visible.

| Data Sources | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | VSSC and MCA Web Reports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mainframe Access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Operation Enduring Freedom / Operation Iraqi Freedom / Operation New Dawn Roster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CAPRI / VistAWeb |

Duration of Access

Note: VACAA data is
available only in SQL
format

Requesting Access the Data

Preparatory to Research Access

<http://vaww.vhadatportal.med.va.gov/DataAccess/PreparatorytoResearchAccess.aspx>

From the VHA Data Portal
(link below)

1. Complete and submit
Preparatory to Research
Memorandum

2. Describe the data you
need and how you will
use it.

* Requires Supervisor
and ISO approval

Note: VACAA data is
available only in SQL
format

Home About Us Contact Us FAQ Report Broken Link

Department of Veterans Affairs
VHA Data Portal

Data Sources Data Access Tools & Applications Resources Training Policy & Agreements Support

Data Access > PreptoResearch Request Process

Did You Know?
Pilot studies are not considered preparatory to research activity. Visit the [Research Request Process](#) page for more information on requesting data for pilot studies.

Preparatory to Research Access
Overview
Access
Resources

Preparatory to Research Request Process

Overview
The Preparatory to Research Request Process includes requests for select data sources and data access tools. This process is only for Researchers involved in Preparatory to Research activities.

Request Access
The NDS process for requesting access for preparatory to research requires researchers to submit the following forms:

- Preparatory to Research Memorandum
- CAPRI Access Request Form - if applicable
- Vital Status Rules of Behavior - if applicable

*Note: [PreptoResearchMemo_102615.pdf](#)

Please fill out the following form. You can save data typed into this form.

Department of Veterans Affairs Memorandum

Date:

From: Principal Investigator

Subj: Data Access for Preparatory to Research

To: VHA Health Information Access, National Data Systems

The following information is required and all signatures must be obtained before any review of this request can take place:

Is this Principal Investigator a VA employee? Yes No

Check the type(s) of data needed: Real SSN Scrambled SSN Identifiable but No SSN

Will the data be stored in the VINCI Environment? Yes No

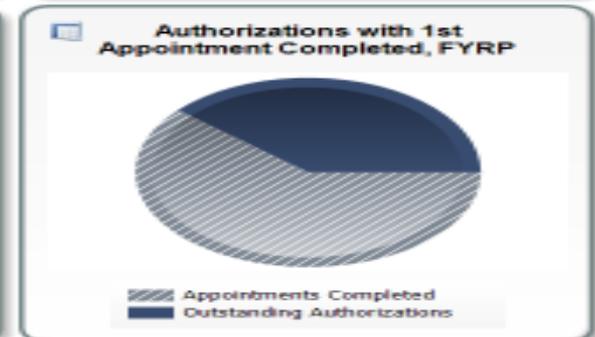
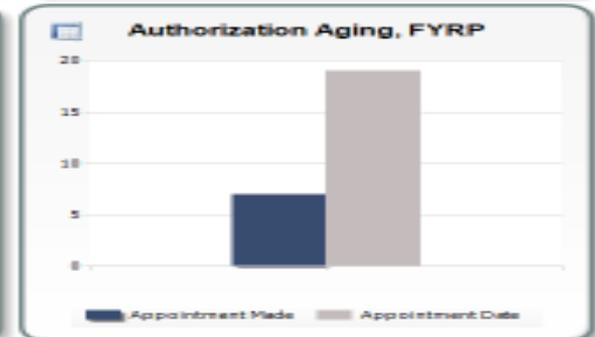
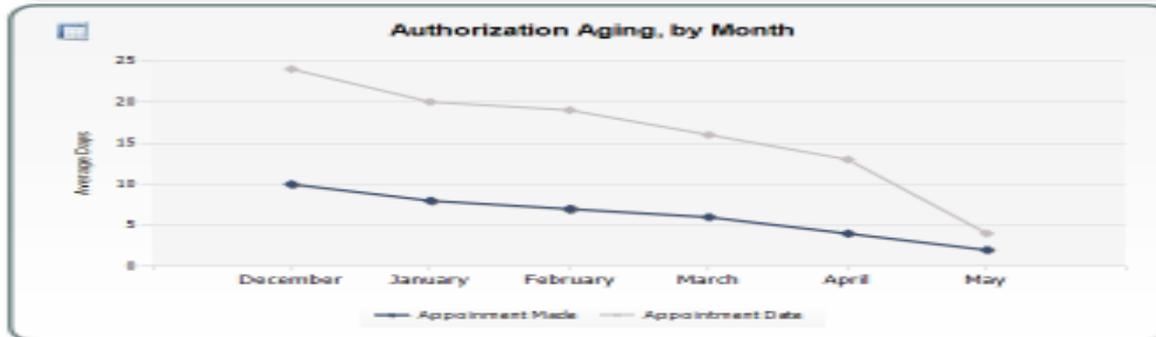
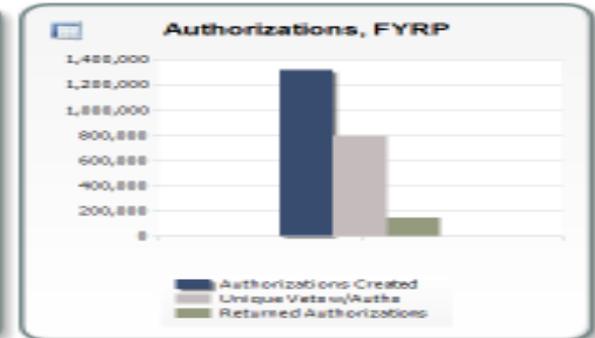
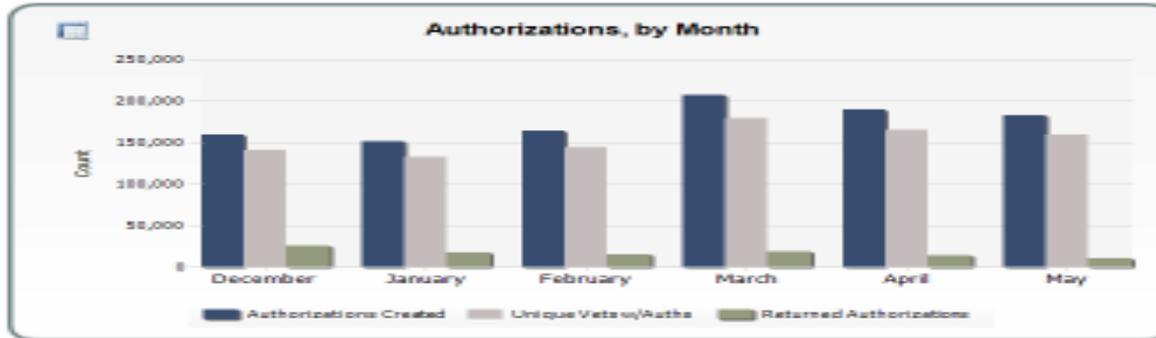
Please provide a brief description of how you will use the data to prepare the proposal. Be sure and include the following in your description:

- The name of the facility of the IRB or other Committee where the Protocol will be submitted.
- The proposed name of the research protocol
- Date when the Protocol will be submitted to the IRB
- Provide a detailed description of how you will use the requested data
- Provide a justification if Real SSN is requested

- Reporting and Trending
 - Reoccurring Reports
 - Total Counts
 - Averages
 - Timeliness
 - Ad-hoc Reports
 - External Stakeholder Requests, Executive Leadership Requests, Internal Department/Directorate Requests
 - Dashboard

Report Examples

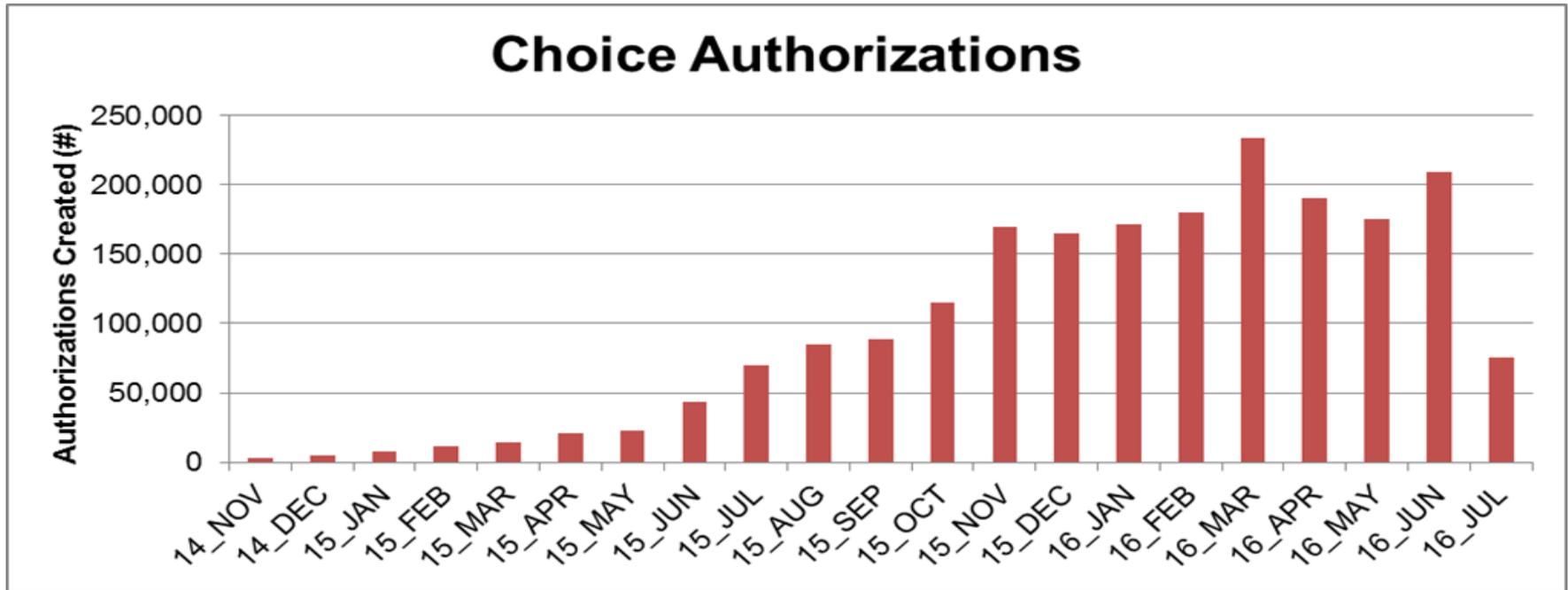
Snapshot of the Choice Dashboard - [Choice Dashboard](#)



Report Examples

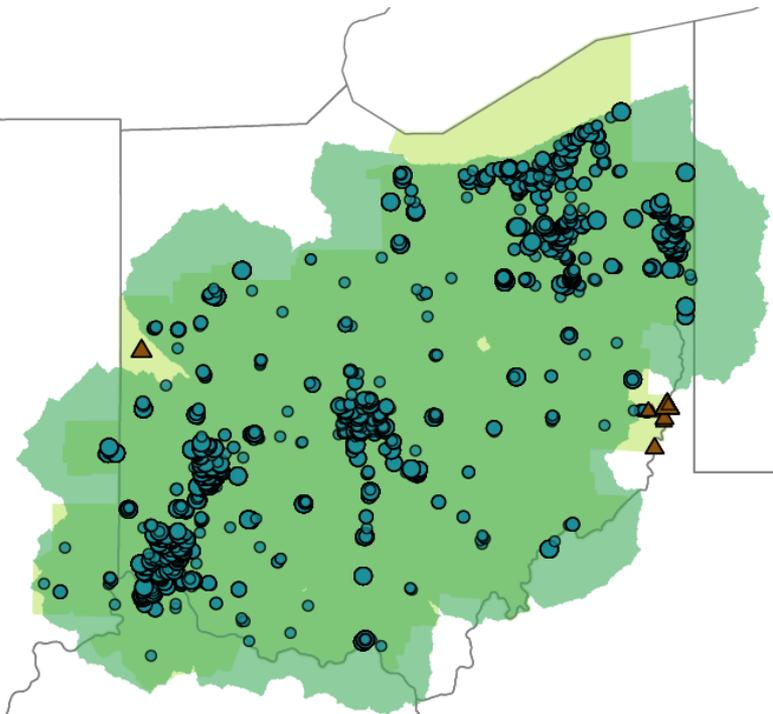
| Choice Contractor Data | Combined | Routine | Urgent |
|-------------------------|----------|---------|--------|
| Referrals Received | 50,525 | | |
| Authorizations Created | 41,254 | 39,957 | 1,297 |
| Appointments Scheduled | 39,327 | 38,139 | 1,188 |
| Authorizations Returned | 6,072 | 5,795 | 277 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Avg Days to Appt Scheduling | 5.83 | 5.88 | 4.13 |
| Avg Days to Appt Completion | 26.99 | 27.24 | 19.96 |

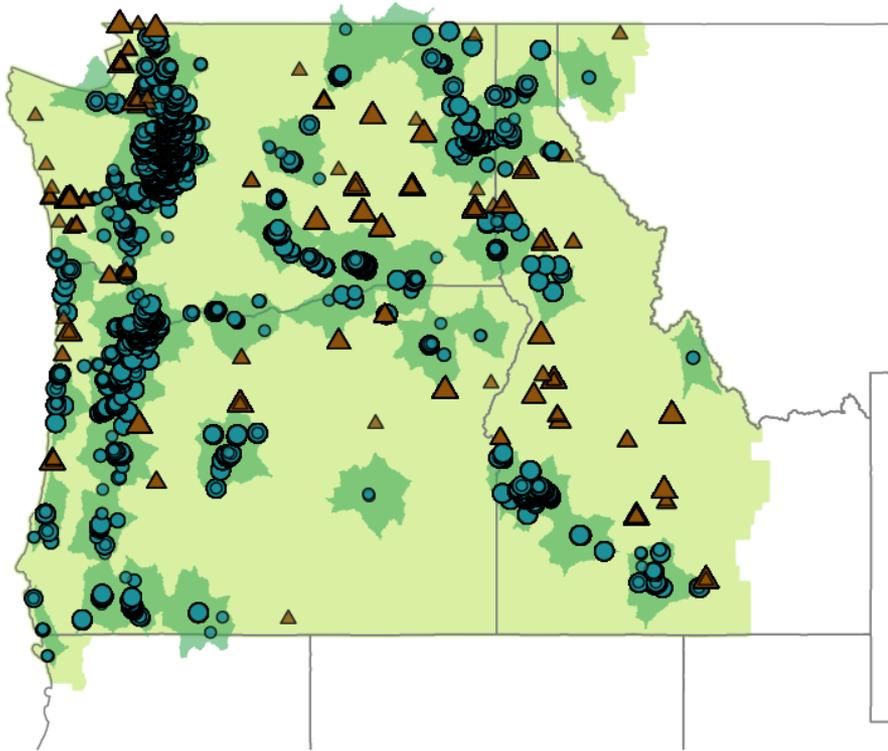


Past Choice Work Based on Provider Level Analysis

VISN 10



VISN 20



1 2 3 4 5 >5
Providers Inside SA ● ● ● ● ● ●
Providers Outside SA ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲

● VA Service Area ● VISN

Future Choice Work Will be Patient Level

- Important Reports:
 - How many Veterans are eligible, then scheduled, then completed?
 - How much time was saved compared to the internal availability (wait times)?
 - How many miles were saved compared to internal availability (distance to nearest VA provider)?

Resourceful Links

VA Community Care

<http://vaww.va.gov/choice/index.asp>

VA Community Care – Veterans Choice Program

<http://vaww.va.gov/CHOICE/Community-of-Care/Choice.asp>

VA Community Care – Choice First

http://vaww.va.gov/CHOICE/Choice_First_Initiative.asp

Choice Contractor Dashboard

https://spsites.cdw.va.gov/sites/CBOPC_NVCC/_layouts/15/ReportServer/RSViewerPage.aspx?rv:RelativeReportUrl=/sites/CBOPC_NVCC/Dashboards/Choice%20Contractor%20Dashboard.rdl&Source=https://spsites.cdw.va.gov/sites/CBOPC_NVCC/Dashboards/Forms/AllItems.aspx

Questions?

