

DATABASE & METHODS CYBERSEMINAR SERIES

FY24 Session #6:

Understanding and Accessing the Office of Connected Care's Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) Database

March 4, 2024

Hosted by  **VIRec**

Terry Newton, MD, Director of Clinical Analytics, VA Office of Connected Care

Mark Zocchi, PhD, Health Science Specialist, Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research (CHOIR), VA Bedford Healthcare System

Stephanie Shimada, PhD, Investigator, Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research (CHOIR), VA Bedford Healthcare System



DATABASE & METHODS CYBERSEMINAR SERIES

Informational seminars to help VA researchers access and use VA databases.

Sessions cover...

- VA data sources & data access systems
- Application of VA data to research and quality improvement questions
- Limitations of secondary data use
- Resources to support VA data use

UPCOMING DATABASE & METHODS SESSIONS

First Monday of the month | 1:00pm-2:00pm ET

Date	Topic
4/1/24	Assessing Race and Ethnicity in VA Data
5/6/24	An Introduction to VA Pharmacy Data: Sources and Uses for Medication Information

Visit the [VIReC Database & Methods Cyberseminar](#) page for more information & registration links.

Visit [HSR&D's VIReC Cyberseminar Archive](#) page to watch previous sessions.

Where can I
download a
copy of the
slides?

VA HSR&D

CYBERSEMINARS



SAMPLE EMAIL

**A Practical Approach to Working with VA-Purchased Community
Care Data**

Thursday, October 13, 2022

2:00 PM | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada) | 1 hr

Please download today's slides

~~Please click here for today's live captions~~

Join webinar

More ways to join:

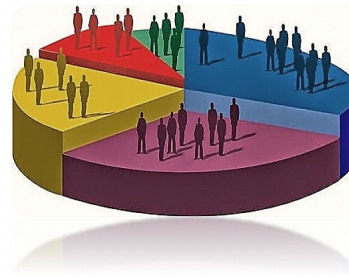
Join from the webinar link

<https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?>

Poll #1:

*What is your primary **role** in projects using VA data?*

- Investigator, PI, Co-I
- Statistician, methodologist, biostatistician
- Data manager, analyst, or programmer
- Project coordinator
- Other – please describe via the chat function



Poll #2:

How many years of experience working with VA data?

- None – I'm brand new to this!
- One year or less
- More than 1, less than 3 years
- At least 3, less than 7 years
- At least 7, less than 10 years
- 10 years or more



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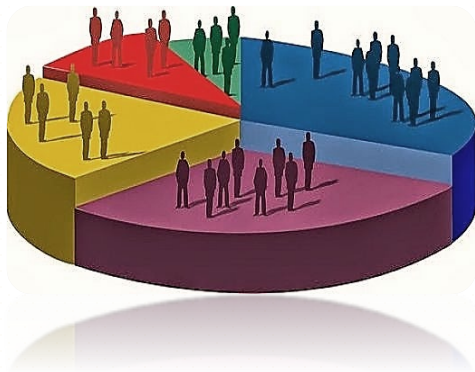
Session roadmap

- Introduction to Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD)
- Overview of the VA PGHD Database
- How to Access the PGHD Database
- Q & A



Poll #3:

How would you rate your overall knowledge of Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD)?



- 1 (No knowledge)
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 (Expert-level knowledge)

Introduction to PGHD

Terry Newton, MD

Director of Clinical Analytics, VA Office of Connected Care

Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) are health-related **data created, recorded, or gathered by or for patients** (or family members or other caregivers) to promote health and wellness or to help address a health concern.

SOURCE: [VHA Directive 6506](#)
[Patient-Generated Health Data \(PGHD\)](#)
[Office of Connected Care \(OCC\) Operations Manual](#)

What is PGHD?

PGHD is distinct from data generated in clinical settings.

Patients are primarily responsible for capturing and/or recording these data, and patients explicitly decide to share these data through some form of authorization or consent process, or by voluntarily sending or transmitting their data.

PGHD may include:

- Remote device-generated consumer-collected clinical data
- Biometric data
- Symptoms and other types of patient-reported outcomes
- Clinical screeners
- Perceived quality of life data
- Patient goals, values and lifestyle choices

PGHD Definition - Continued



There are Three Categories of PGHD

SOLICITED

- PGHD that is collected and shared by a patient in response to a specific request by a VA HCP as part of a care management program protocol is solicited PGHD.
- If a VA HCP explicitly requests that a patient collect and share PGHD in accordance with the program protocol, the VA HCP has a responsibility to review the data.

EXAMPLE

Solicited PGHD is collected and used as a part of patient enrollment in the VA RPM-HT Program

SUGGESTED

- PGHD that is collected and shared by a patient in response to a suggestion from a VA HCP is suggested PGHD but falls short of a formal consent or enrollment process.
- The Clinician should use professional judgment to determine when the data will be viewed and how it will be used in clinical decision-making, and then communicate this with the Veteran.

EXAMPLE

The provider suggests that the patient use a BP cuff to record their BP readings at home and share the data with their VA HCP during their next visit

UNSOLICITED

- PGHD that is collected and shared by a patient without a request from a VA HCP or health care staff is unsolicited PGHD.
- PGHD is shared solely at the discretion of the Veteran or Caregiver. There is no expectation for the clinician to review such data until they become aware of it.

EXAMPLE

A patient downloads a VA mobile application or logs into a VA web portal and chooses to connect their wearable biometric device or manually enter health data

Categories of PGHD

VINCI currently only has PGHD from suggested and unsolicited use-cases

PGHD that is not monitored in real time

Benefits of Collecting PGHD



Improve understanding of patients' health between visits.



Empower patients to engage as an active partner in their care.



Support shared decision making and delivery of care.



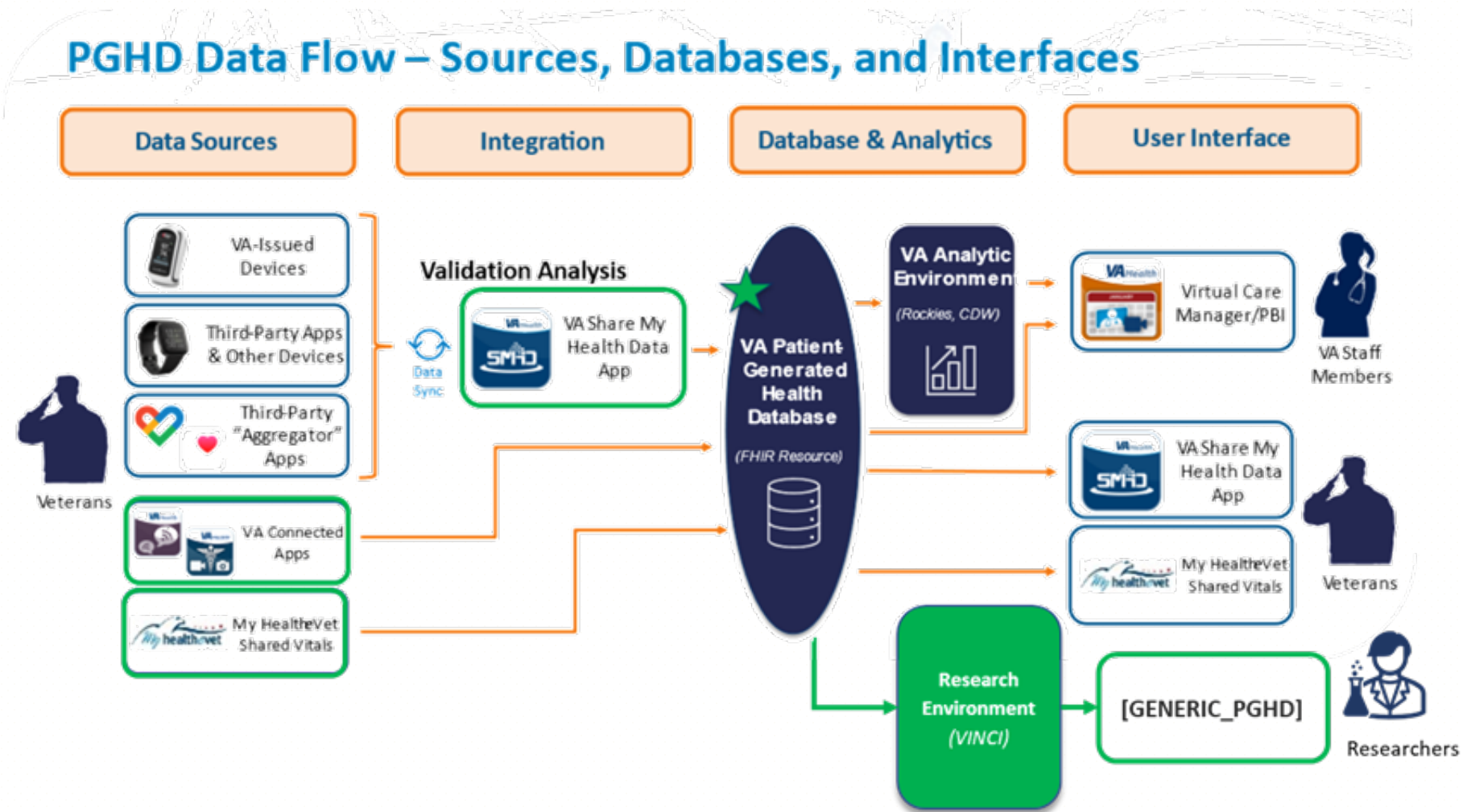
Identify meaningful health trends over time.

Connected Devices Ecosystem

- Numerous clinical and consumer health data sources.
 - Wearable devices (e.g., Fitbit)
 - Smartwatches (e.g., Apple Watch)
 - Sleep Tracking
 - Heart Rate
 - Health and Nutrition Apps
 - Blood Pressure Monitors
 - Glucose Meters
 - Pulse Oximeters
 - Weight Scales
 - Thermometers
 - And More

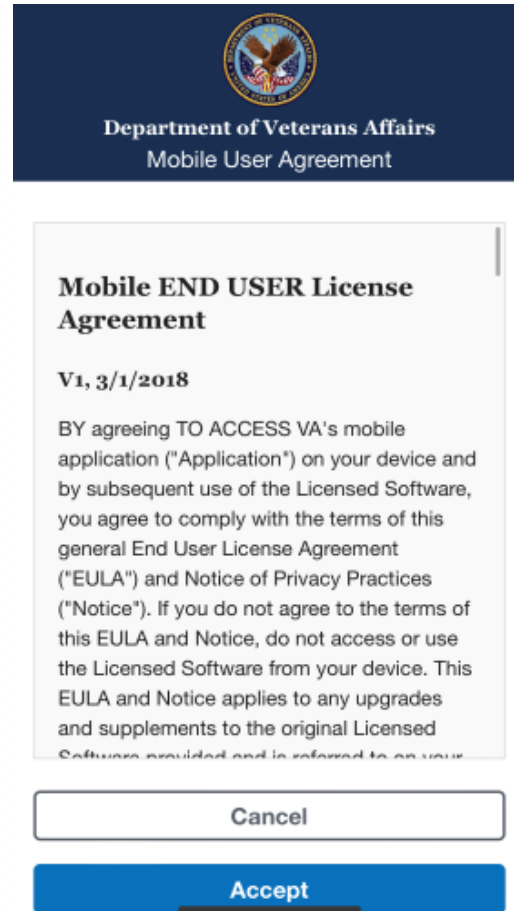



How does the data get to the PGHD database?



Term Agreements

Prior to using the app, the user must accept the End-User License Agreement (EULA) and the Data Collection Agreement.




Department of Veterans Affairs
Mobile User Agreement

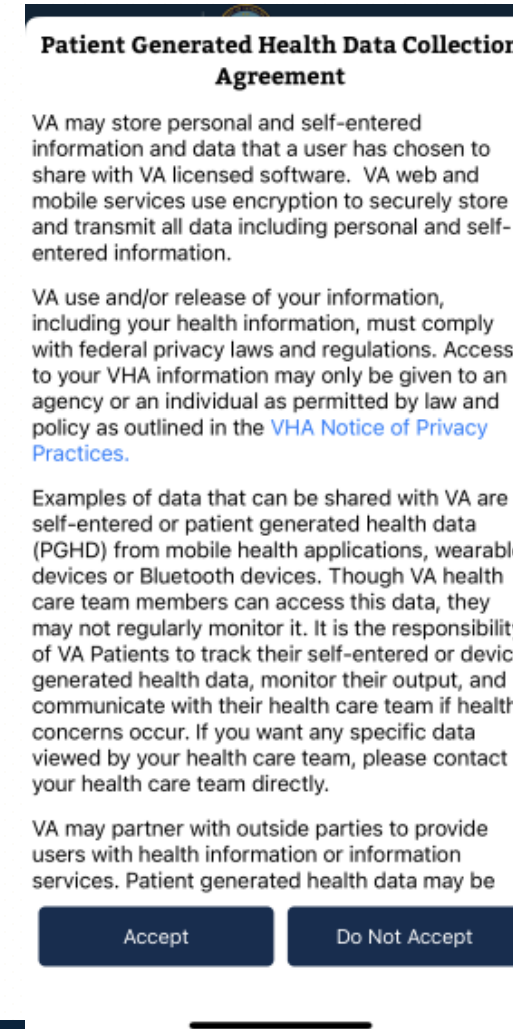
Mobile END USER License Agreement
V1, 3/1/2018

BY agreeing TO ACCESS VA's mobile application ("Application") on your device and by subsequent use of the Licensed Software, you agree to comply with the terms of this general End User License Agreement ("EULA") and Notice of Privacy Practices ("Notice"). If you do not agree to the terms of this EULA and Notice, do not access or use the Licensed Software from your device. This EULA and Notice applies to any upgrades and supplements to the original Licensed Software provided and is referred to as your

Cancel

Accept

The Data Collection Agreement informs the user that the VA may collect and store any patient generated health data that the user has agreed to share with the VA.



Patient Generated Health Data Collection Agreement

VA may store personal and self-entered information and data that a user has chosen to share with VA licensed software. VA web and mobile services use encryption to securely store and transmit all data including personal and self-entered information.

VA use and/or release of your information, including your health information, must comply with federal privacy laws and regulations. Access to your VHA information may only be given to an agency or an individual as permitted by law and policy as outlined in the [VHA Notice of Privacy Practices](#).

Examples of data that can be shared with VA are self-entered or patient generated health data (PGHD) from mobile health applications, wearable devices or Bluetooth devices. Though VA health care team members can access this data, they may not regularly monitor it. It is the responsibility of VA Patients to track their self-entered or device generated health data, monitor their output, and communicate with their health care team if health concerns occur. If you want any specific data viewed by your health care team, please contact your health care team directly.

VA may partner with outside parties to provide users with health information or information services. Patient generated health data may be

Accept Do Not Accept

New Approved Consent Language

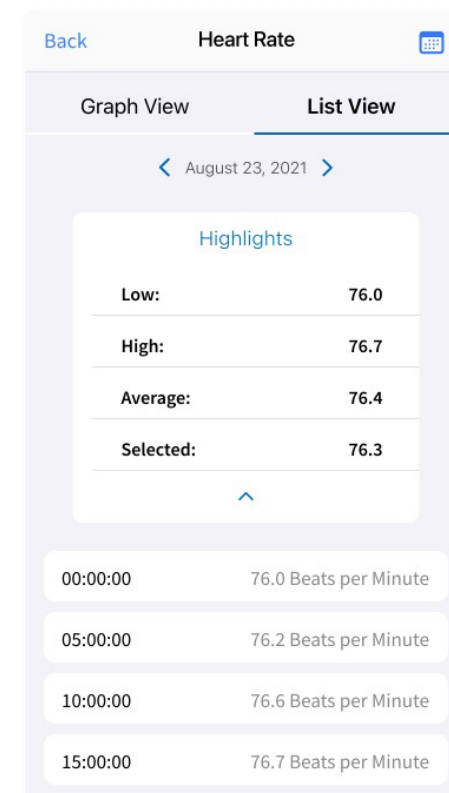
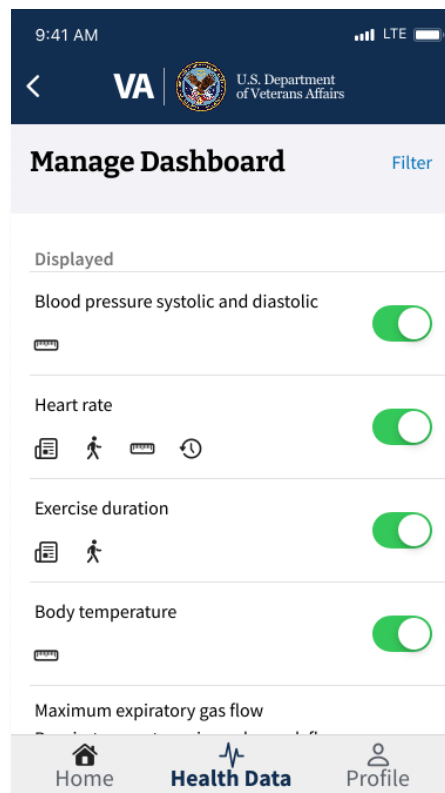
- “...VA staff may analyze Patient Generated Health Data (PGHD) shared by Veterans for many purposes such as;
 - **Clinical Care**- sharing your data helps your VA care team understand your daily activities (sleep, diet, and exercise etc.) in between your visits. This data helps you and your VA healthcare team make informed decisions about your care plan.
 - **Veteran Health Data**- sharing your data helps your VA care team monitor or even predict your risk factors for certain health conditions. Your data adds value to the larger data pool and can help VA care team understand these health trends and patterns. This data can be used to adapt care plans for you, and fellow Veterans, to stay as healthy as possible.
 - **VA approved quality efforts** – sharing your data helps VA learn how to improve care using health technologies such as virtual care tools. This data can be used to add virtual care tools into care plans for you, and fellow Veterans.
 - **VA approved research** – sharing your data helps VA researchers better understand how to prevent and manage certain health conditions. This data can be used by your VA care team to adapt care plans for you, and fellow Veterans.”

Share My Health Data (SMHD) App



Data Dashboard

Patients can view data trends in graphs and list format.



Accessing PGHD: Virtual Care Manager (VCM)

VCM My Workspace **Patient Care** Clinical Dashboards Feedback External Apps

DOE, JANE DOB MM/DD/YYYY AGE/GENDER SSN ***-**-1234 MHV Select New Patient

Appointments Subscriptions Image/Video Requests Documents Laboratory Data Condition Graphs **Patient Generated Vitals & Health Data**

Patient Generated Vitals & Health Data

Summary BP PGHD Available SPO2 PGHD Available Weight PGHD Available Activity PGHD Available Glucose PGHD Available

Patient Name
DOE, JANE

Most Recent Weight
136 (lbs)

3 Month Weight Change
4.63lbs!

Average # of Steps Per Day in the Last 2 Weeks
6,056.58

Average Steps Trend
3568↑

Active Weight & Hypertension Medications

Medication	Issued/Renewed	Weight Impact
LISINOPRIL	09/12/2023	Potential for Weight Gain
SMG TAB		

Average Systolic in the Last Two Weeks
119

Average Diastolic in the Last Two Weeks
75

Most Recent BMI
24

Patient Summary
Left click the leftmost value, right click, and then click copy > copy selection to copy this table for a note.

Latest Weight	Most Recent BMI	3MonthWeight Change	Average Systolic Last 2 Weeks	Average Diastolic Last 2 Weeks	AverageStepsLast2Weeks
136.20	24.10	-4.63	119.04	74.75	6,056.58

VCM My Workspace Patient Care **Clinical Dashboards** Feedback External Apps

PGHD Master Patient Search
Chronic Kidney Disease
Telehealth Controlled Substances
Remote Temperature Monitoring Eligibility
Nutrition and Food Service

Nutrition and Food Service

The dashboards available in the menu are clinical condition-specific dashboards for use by care providers. The data represented here comes from the VA's Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) and from patient generated health data (PGHD) that Veterans may have chosen to share with VA through various means. Not all Veterans will have shared PGHD and therefore PGHD may not display for some Veterans. The CDW is not the authoritative electronic health record data source and may have delays and some discrepancies from what is in the electronic health record (CPRS and/or Cerner). These dashboards should be used to gain insights, see trends, and help identify opportunities for intervention. Before any intervention, outreach, or change in care management of any Veteran occurs, the information should be validated in the patient's electronic health record and any actions taken documented in that record.

Open Dashboard in a New Tab/Window

Filters Appointments Vitals & PGHD Labs & Macros

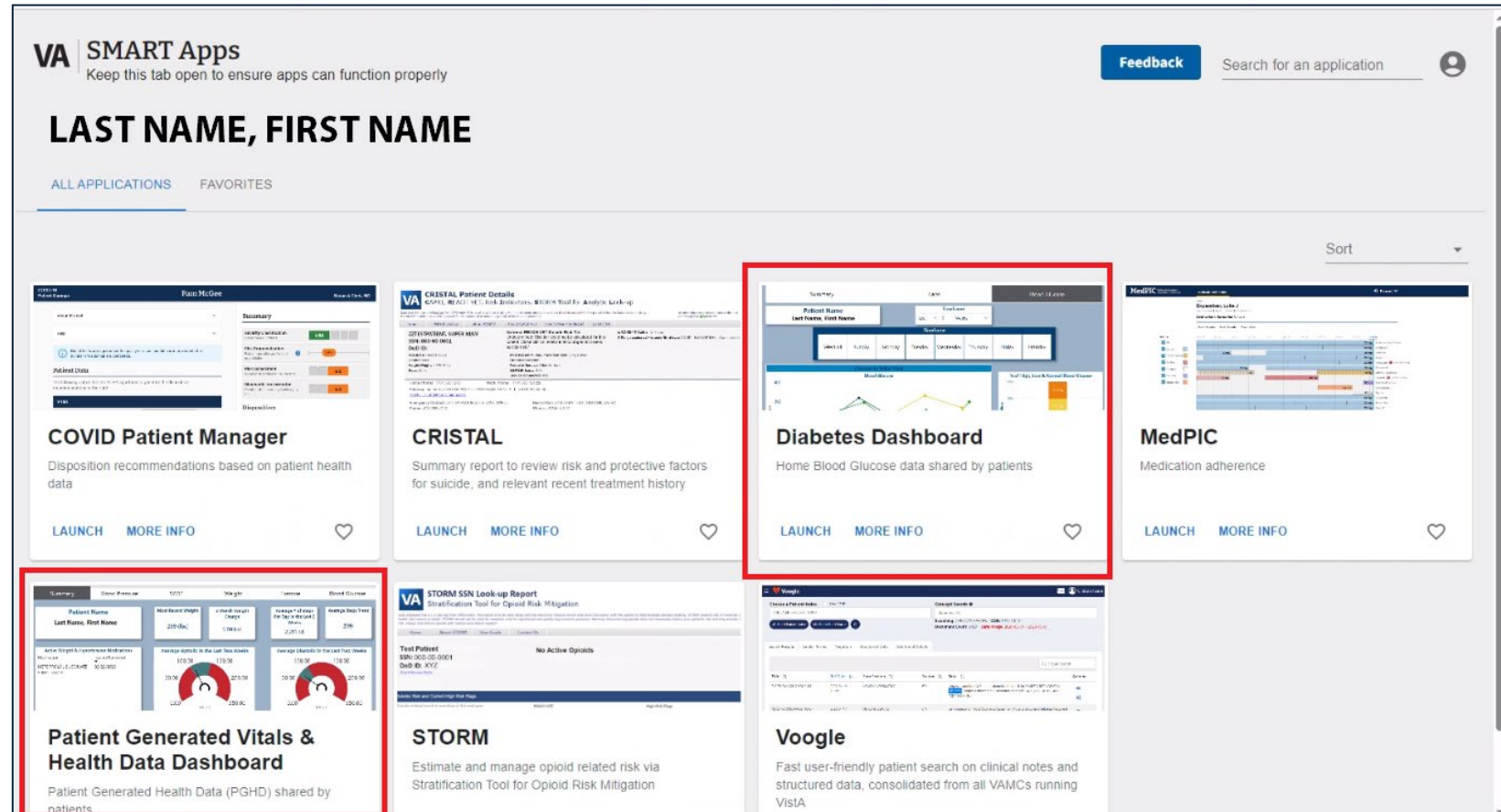
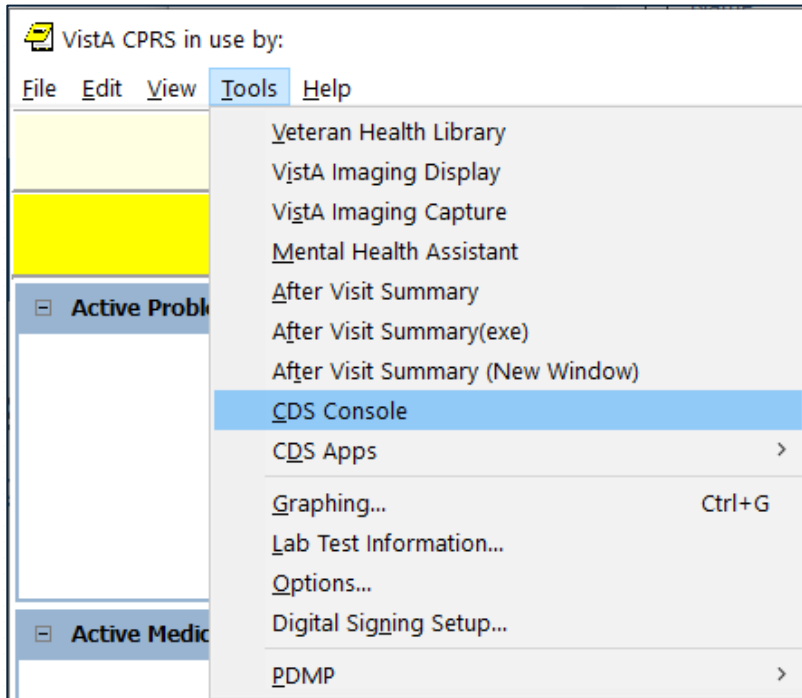
Station Team Type Team PCP Patient Gender Patient Ethnicity Patient Rurality Patient Race Most Recent Site Patient Name Search Last Initial & Last 4 Patient Age Most Recent HgbA1C Most Recent BMI Category Six Month Weight Change

Distinct # of Patients
5.24M

Type I Diabetes Type II Diabetes Has Lab Data? Has PGHD? Mental Health History Supplements? Dx of Dyslipidemia Dx of HTN Food Insecurity Hx of Bariatric Surgery Dx of Anorexia Dx of Malnutrition Trauma History

Nutrition & Food Service About Data Definitions

Accessing PGHD: Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Console



*Note, the CDS Console may be in a different location within your facility's CPRS Tools or may not yet be available.

Contact your Clinical Application Coordinators (CACs) for assistance with [installation](#).



Patient Name
Last Name, First Name

Most Recent Weight
421 (lbs)

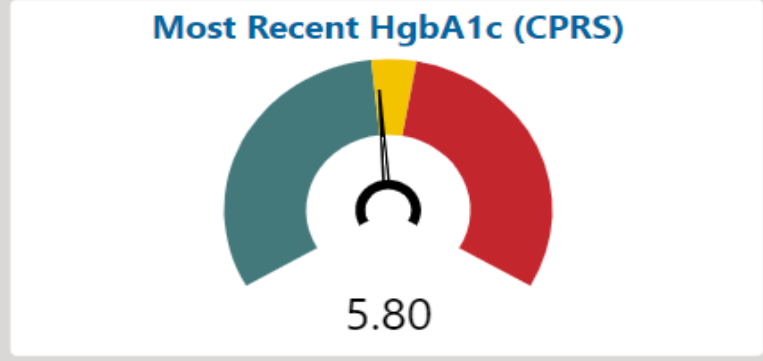
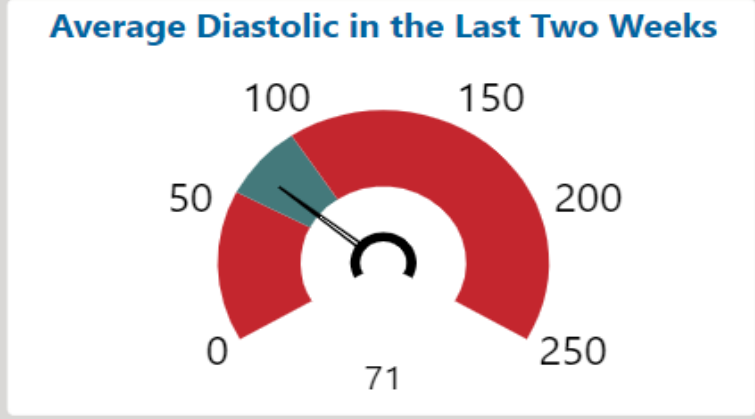
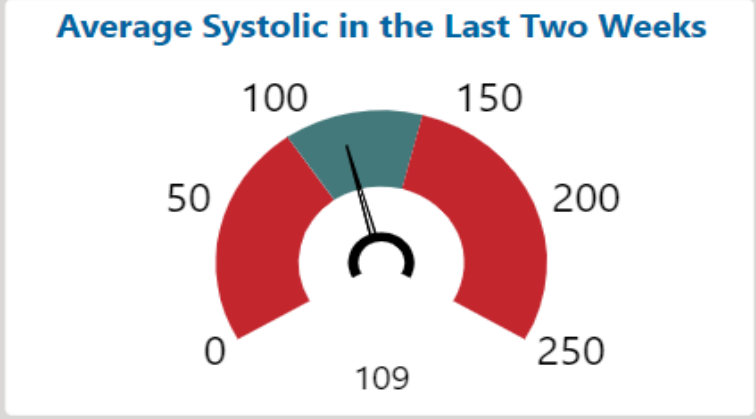
3 Month Weight Change
2.90lbs↑

Average # of Steps Per Day in the Last 2 Weeks
143.67

Average Steps Trend
5↑

Active (CPRS) Weight & Hypertension Medications

Medication	Issued/Renewed	RxStatus	Weight Imp
TAMSULOSIN HCL 0.4MG CAP	02/14/2024	SUSPENDED	Potential fo Neutral or \
CARVEDILOL 6.25MG TAB	12/26/2023	ACTIVE	Potential fo Neutral or \
LISINOPRIL 5MG TAB	12/26/2023	ACTIVE	Potential fo Gain



Patient Summary

Left click the leftmost value, right click, and then and click copy > copy selection to copy this table for a note.

Latest Weight	Most Recent BMI	Most Recent HgbA1c	3MonthWeight Change	Average Systolic Last 2 Weeks	Average Diastolic Last 2 Weeks	AverageStepsLast2Weeks
421.10	60.90	5.80	2.90	109.08	71.17	143.67

Oracle Health Data Not Yet Available

Summary

BP PGHD Available

Glucose PGHD Available

Weight PGHD Available

Nutrition PGHD Available

Activity PGHD Available

SPO2 PGHD Available

Source

- Share My Health Data
- Annie

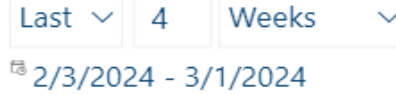
Device

- fitbit
- garmin

Timeframe



Timeframe



% Of Days with at Least 500 Calories Logged

40.00% of days have at least 500 calories logged

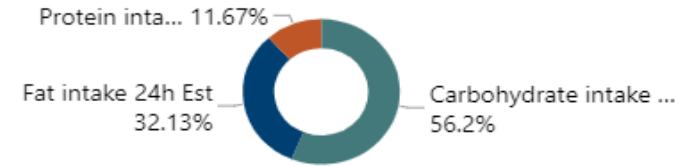
Patient Name
Last Name, First Name

[Click Here to Change to Table View](#)

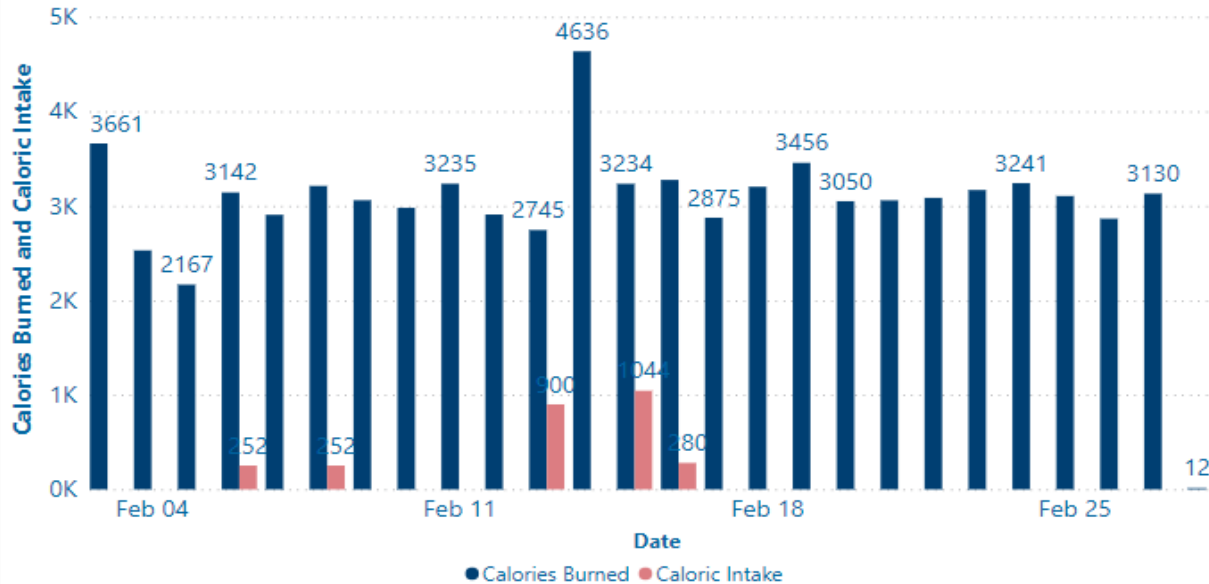
[Click Here To Go To the Nutrition & Food Service Dashboard](#)

Most Recent Weight w/
Date
244 (lbs) 2/27/2024

PGHD- Macronutrients (Grams)



Calories Burned



Measurement	Avg Amount Per Day	Goal Per Day	Left
Calorie intake 24h Est	546	2000	1454.40
Carbohydrate intake 24h Est	53g	275g	221.65g
Fat intake 24h Est	24g	78g	53.60g
Fiber intake 24h Est	2g	28g	25.75g
Fluid intake 24h	8fl oz	64fl oz	56.00fl oz
Protein intake 24h Est	9g	50g	41.14g
Sodium intake 24h Est	756mg	2300mg	1543.75mg

Oracle Health Data Not Yet Available

Activity Type

Daily Activity Summary
 Workout

Device Selection

fitbit

Timeframe

2/17/2024 3/1/2024

Timeframe

Last ▾ 2 Weeks ▾

📅 2/17/2024 - 3/1/2024

Average Daily Steps Taken

23,641

Average Daily Flights Climbed

15

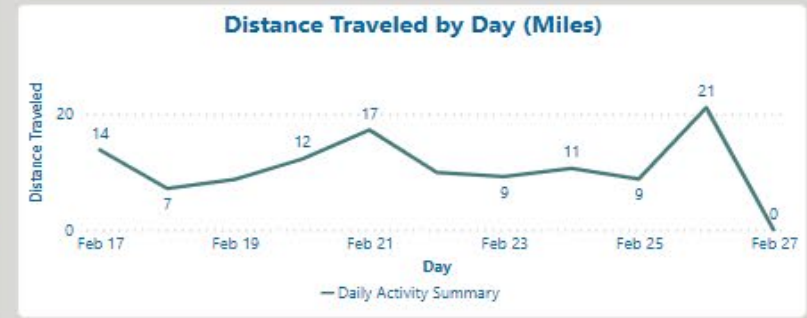
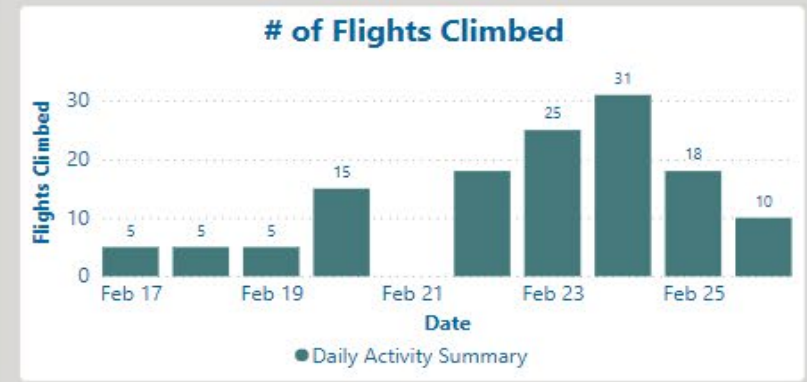
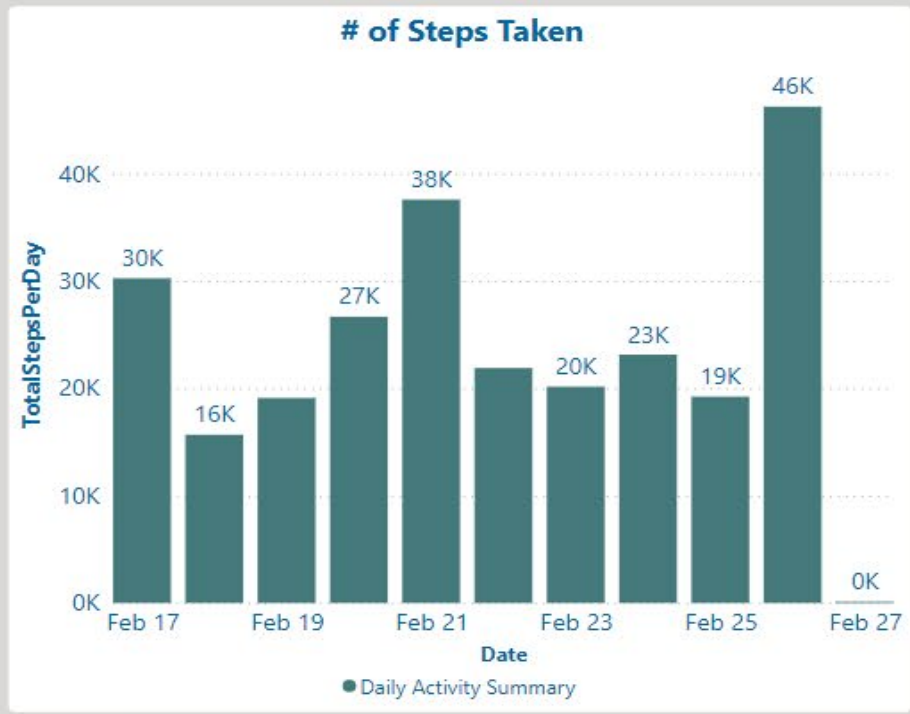
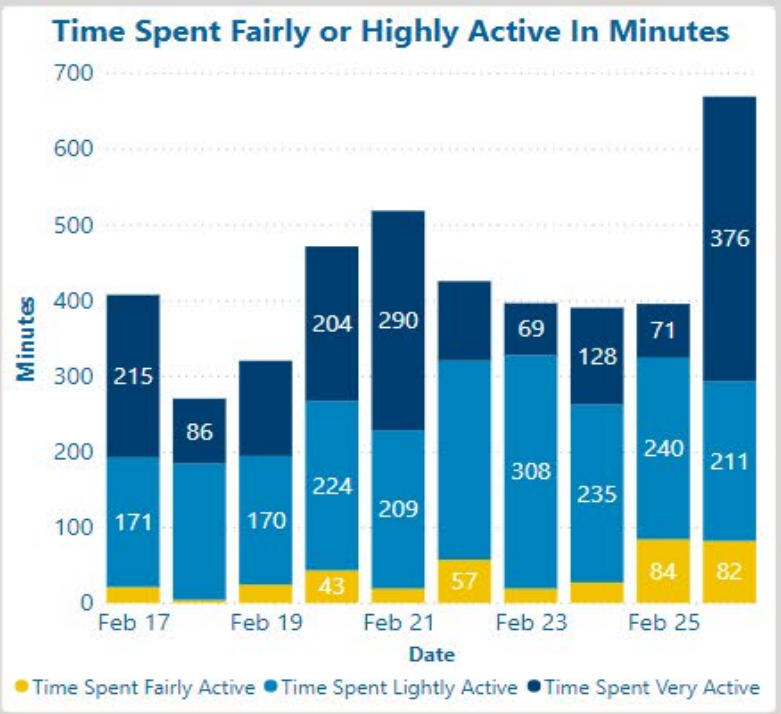
Average Daily Time Spent Active (Minutes)

426

Average Daily Distance Traveled (Miles)

10.81

Patient Name
 Last Name, First Name



Oracle Health Data Not Yet Available

Overview of the VA Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) Database

Mark Zocchi, PhD

Health Science Specialist

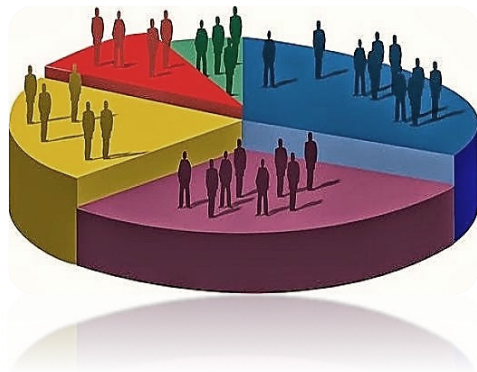
Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research (CHOIR)

VA Bedford Healthcare System, Bedford MA



Poll #4:

Have you ever used Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) for a project?



- Yes
- No
- No, but I'm planning to in the future

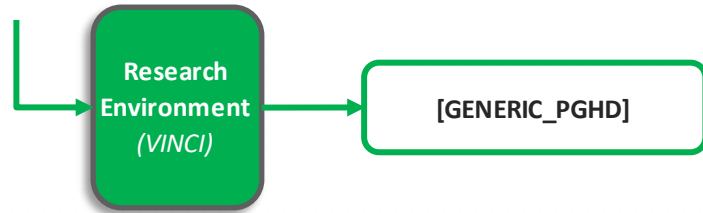
Where does data in the PGHD database come from?

- **Data sources:**

Sources	Devices	Categories
Share My Health Data App	Apple Health, Fitbit, Garmin, Bluetooth digital devices	Daily activity summary, sleep, vital signs, workout, nutrition, anthropometric measurement
My HealtheVet (shared vitals)	None (Patient self-entered)	Vital signs
Annie for Veterans	None (Patient self-entered)	Vital signs



Overview: PGHD Measurement View



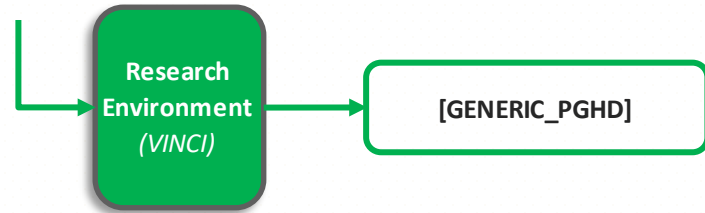
1

Veteran connects Apple Health to SMHD

ICN	Observation PID	Observation Component SID	Source	Device	Category	Measurement	Code	Value	Units	Measurement Date
XXXXXXXX01	1	11	SMHD	apple_health	Vital Signs	Systolic blood pressure	8480-6	161.33	mm[Hg]	17dec2023 12:18:42
XXXXXXXX01	1	12	SMHD	apple_health	Vital Signs	Diastolic blood pressure	8462-4	93.33	mm[Hg]	17dec2023 12:18:42
XXXXXXXX01	2		SMHD	apple_health	Vital Signs	Heart Rate	8867-4	86	{beats}	17dec2023 12:18:42
XXXXXXXX02	3	31	SMHD	bluetooth omron bp7350	Vital Signs	Systolic blood pressure	8480-6	170.43	mm[Hg]	01feb2023 11:10:09
XXXXXXXX02	3	32	SMHD	bluetooth omron bp7350	Vital Signs	Diastolic blood pressure	8462-4	90.11	mm[Hg]	01feb2023 11:10:09
XXXXXXXX02	4		SMHD	bluetooth omron bp7350	Vital Signs	Heart Rate	8867-4	90	{beats}	01feb2023 11:10:09



PGHD Measurement View



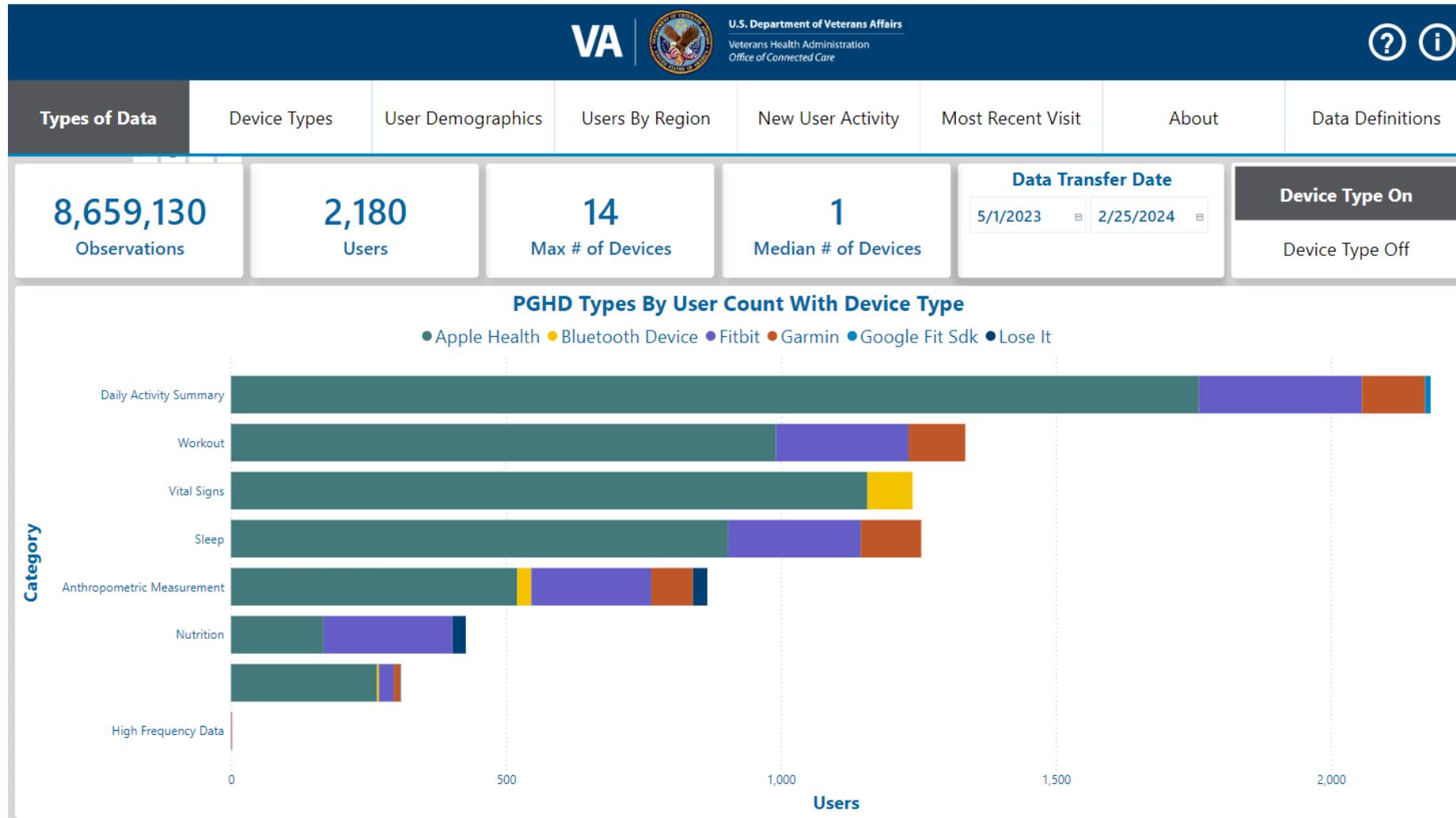
ICN	Observation PID	Observation Component SID	Source	Device	Category	Measurement	Code	Value	Units	Measurement Date
XXXXXXXX01	1	11	SMHD	apple_health	Vital Signs	Systolic blood pressure	8480-6	161.33	mm[Hg]	17dec2023 12:18:42
XXXXXXXX01	1	12	SMHD	apple_health	Vital Signs	Diastolic blood pressure	8462-4	93.33	mm[Hg]	17dec2023 12:18:42
XXXXXXXX01	2		SMHD	apple_health	Vital Signs	Heart Rate	8867-4	86	{beats}	17dec2023 12:18:42
XXXXXXXX02	3	31	SMHD	bluetooth omron bp7350	Vital Signs	Systolic blood pressure	8480-6	170.43	mm[Hg]	01feb2023 11:10:09
XXXXXXXX02	3	32	SMHD	bluetooth omron bp7350	Vital Signs	Diastolic blood pressure	8462-4	90.11	mm[Hg]	01feb2023 11:10:09
XXXXXXXX02	4		SMHD	bluetooth omron bp7350	Vital Signs	Heart Rate	8867-4	90	{beats}	01feb2023 11:10:09

2

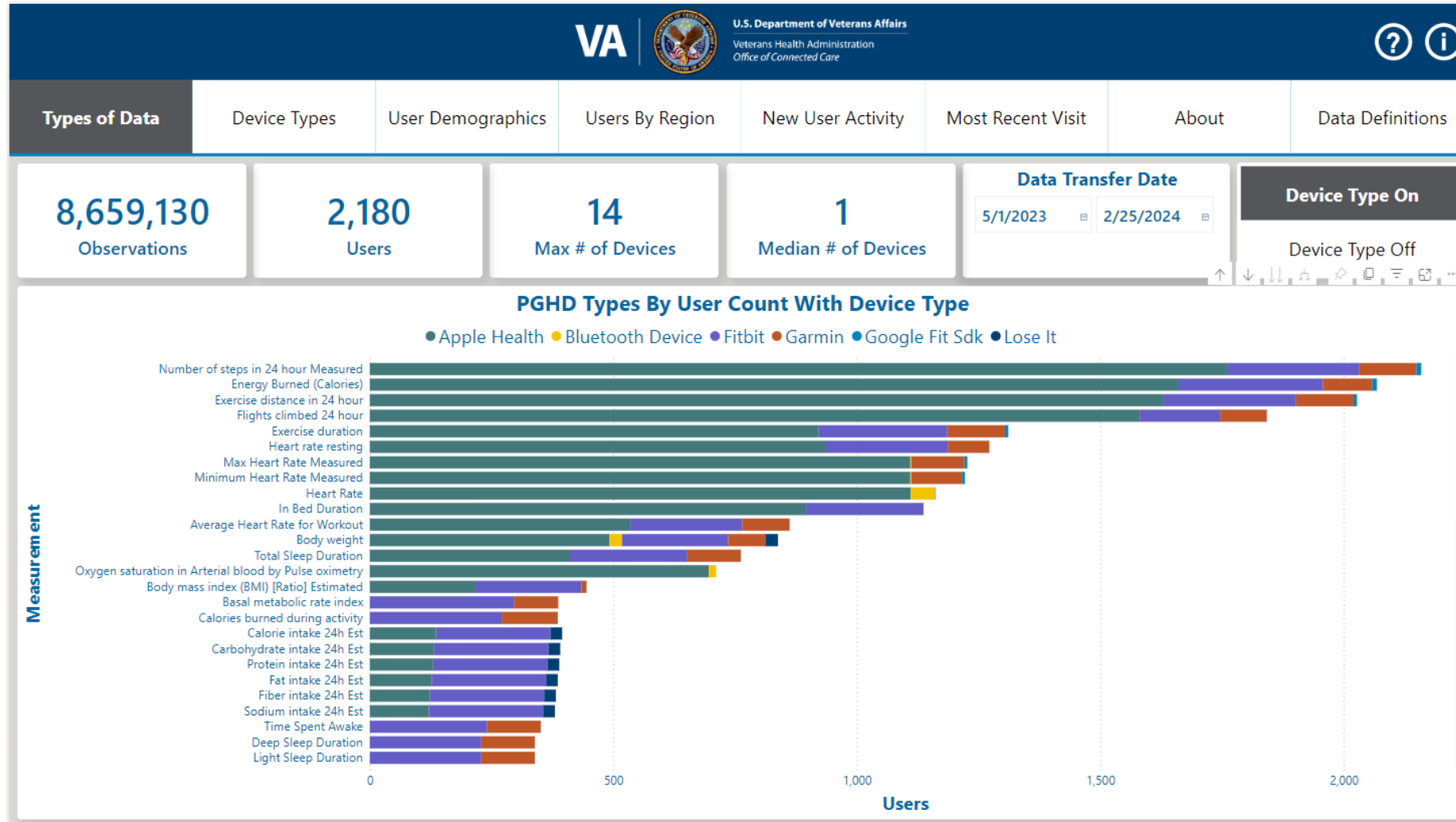
Veteran
pairs
Bluetooth
device to
SMHD



Share My Health Data: Categories



Share My Health Data: Measurements



My HealtheVet & Annie

Source	Category	Device(s)	Total Observations	Total Users
MyHealtheVet	Vital Signs	N/A	372,728	3,123
Annie	Vital Signs	N/A	95,087	1,415
Annie	Vital-signs	N/A	285,630	2,223
Annie	Laboratory	N/A	88,741	748
Annie	NA	N/A	196,111	6,142

* Total observations with measurement dates between 5/1/2023 and 2/25/2024.



Nuances of PGHD

- PGHD can be messy!
- The FHIR specification standardizes data across many different sources of PGHD, but it does not “clean” or validate the accuracy of the data.

What to look out for:

Duplicate values

Zero and null values

Values out of range

Limited meta-data

Pay attention to date/time stamps

How to Access the PGHD Database

Stephanie Shimada, PhD

Investigator, eHealth Partnered Evaluation Initiative

Center for Healthcare Organization and Implementation Research (CHOIR)

VA Bedford Healthcare System, Bedford MA



Documents Required by Type of Access

IRB-approved
Research Study



Must Upload:

- PODAA for Research Use Form
- IRB Protocol
- IRB Committee Approval Letter

Preparatory
to Research



Must Upload:

- PODAA for Preparatory to Research Use Form

Quality Improvement
/ Program Evaluation
(Operations)




Must Upload:

- PODAA for Operations Use Form
- QI Determination Letter

PODAA forms at: [Patient-Generated Health Data \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov/podaa/)



Online Data Access Approval Process

VA  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Office of Connected Care

Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) PODAA Submission Portal

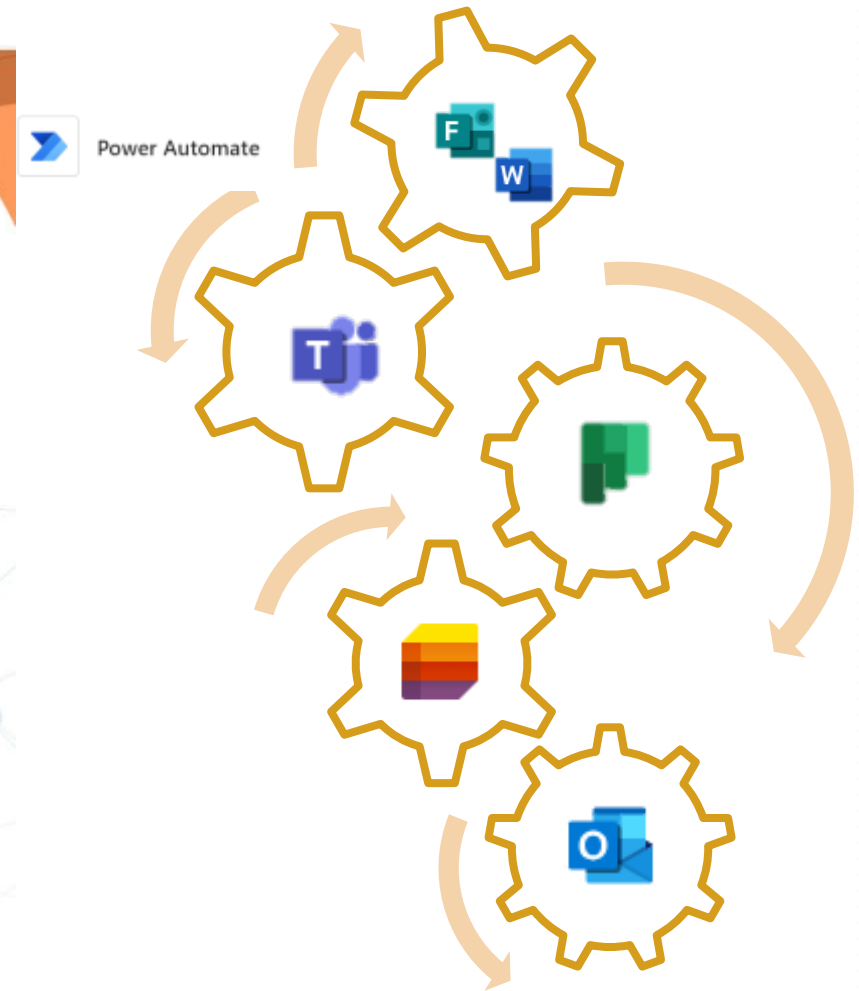
This form is used to request program office approval for use of the Patient Generated Health Data (PGHD) database produced by the Office of Connected Care. These files can be made available for VA-approved research projects, approved quality improvement/program evaluation projects, and preparatory to research.

Instructions

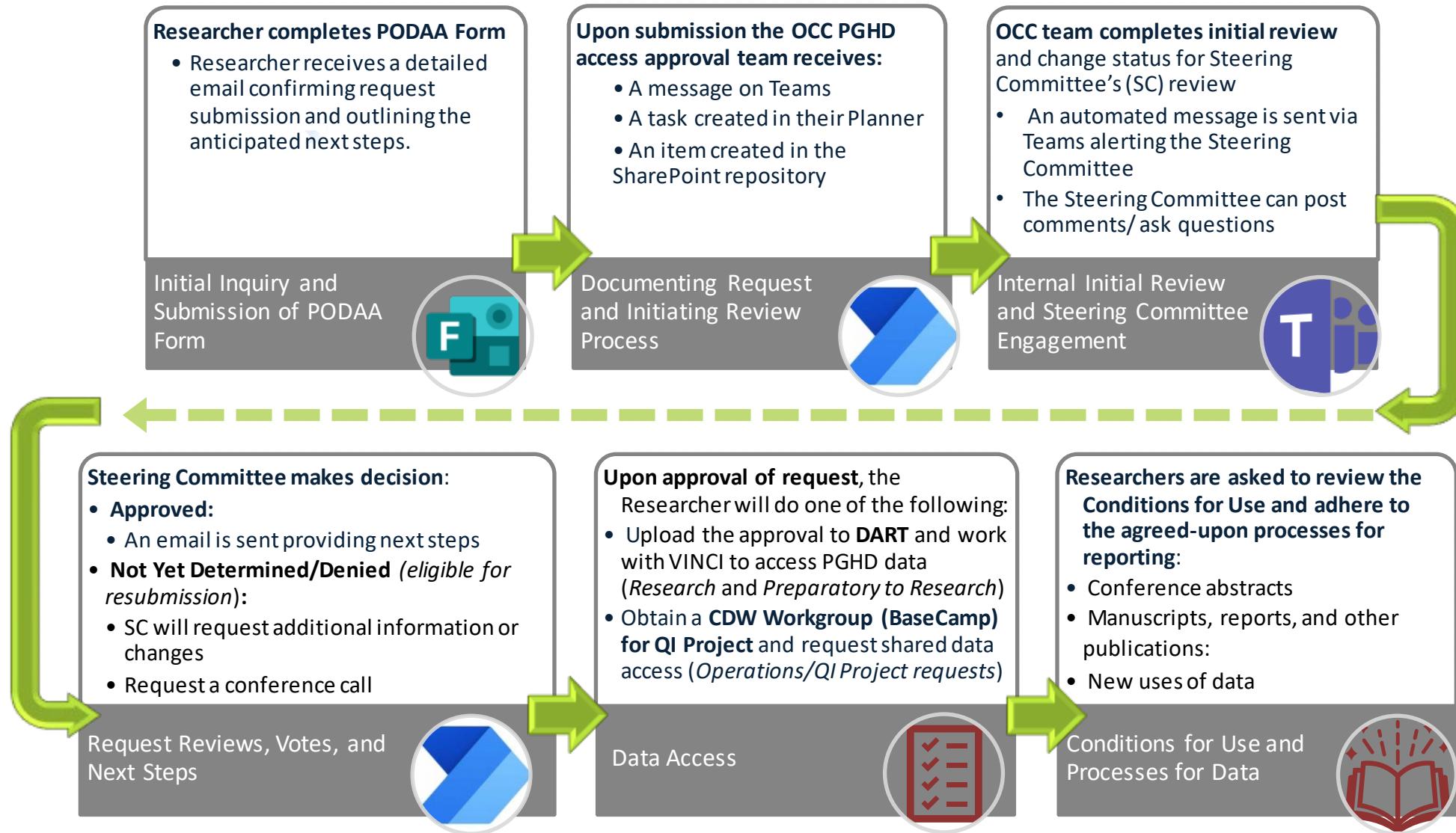
1. Please complete the appropriate Program Office Data Access Approval (PODAA) form based on whether your study is research, preparatory to research, or operations (quality improvement or program evaluation). Most up-to-date forms and instructions can be found at: Patient-Generated Health Data for Researchers (sharepoint link below).
2. Located at the end of the form, please upload the appropriate PODAA form for your request type with the additional materials as instructed on each form (i.e., IRB protocol and approval letters for research, QI determination letter for QI/program evaluation).

PGHD PODAA Submission Portal:

<https://forms.office.com/g/s3vWEjEgWj>



PODAA Form Request/Submission Workflow



Required Notifications to OCC

■ WHEN

- New analyses that differ substantially from originally approved PODAA
- Upon submission of a conference abstract
- Upon acceptance of a conference abstract
- Prior to initial submission of a manuscript (At least 14 days prior)
- At time of acceptance for publication of a manuscript

■ WHY

- To enable OCC to be aware of emerging research resulting from PGHD data
- To support more rapid translation of research/QI findings into action

■ HOW

- Upload documents via the same [PODAA portal](#) where you sought initial access to the PGHD database, referencing OCC Record ID (PGHD ###) at bottom of approved PODAA

Resource List

For All Requests:

- [VHA Data Portal Page](#)
- [OCC PGHD for Researchers Sharepoint](#)
- [OCC Patient-Generated Health Data Sharepoint](#)

For Operations Access Only:

- Make sure you have required CDW permissions: [Access & Permissions Lookup Tools \(va.gov\)](#)
- Request permissions if you do not: [NDS ePAS UserRequestGuide.pdf \(va.gov\)](#)
- Request a consult for new CDW Workgroup (for QI/Operations access): [BaseCamp \(va.gov\)](#)



THANK YOU!
Questions?

PGHD Database Office Hours

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 3:30pm ET

Starts March 13, 2024

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Please check [OCC PGHD for Researchers Sharepoint](#) for any calendar updates.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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DATABASE & METHODS CYBERSEMINAR SERIES

Next session:

April 1, 2024 at 1 pm Eastern

**Assessing Race and
Ethnicity in VA Data**

[Learn more and register to attend](#)

Data Spelunking: Strategies for Exploring VA Data

Thursday, March 14, 2024 (2:00pm-3:00pm ET)

VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI)

[Learn more and register to attend](#)





Database & Methods
BONUS SLIDES



Agenda for PGHD-related Research in the VA

- **Prioritize PGHD Use Cases and Data Types**
 - Identify PGHD most relevant for patient care improvement.
- **Standardize Practice Protocols for PGHD**
 - Develop user-centered PGHD protocols ensuring safety and effectiveness.
- **Enhance Interoperability and Integration**
 - Address barriers to PGHD integration with the EHR.
- **Advanced Data Analysis Tools**
 - Implement tools and algorithms for efficient analysis and risk prediction.
- **Evaluate Impact on Patient Outcomes**
 - Assess PGHD's effect on health status and healthcare utilization.
- **Implementation and Scalability**
 - Research strategies for widespread PGHD adoption in healthcare.



Nazi KM, Newton T, Armstrong CM.
Unleashing the Potential for Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD). *J Gen Intern Med*. Published online January 22, 2024. doi:10.1007/s11606-023-08461-4

BaseCamp Workgroups Information

Search by Email or Name

Environment: All v POC: All v Reset

WorkgroupID
WorkgroupName
EmailAddress
FullName

Sponsor	Sponsor Description	WorkgroupID	Workgroup	Created Date	Type	Status	Workgroup Description	Workgroup Clearances	Enviroment	Supporting Dcuments	Email POC
OCC	Office of Connected Care (10P8)	22075	OCC_EHPEI	12/21/2023	Healthcare Operations	Active	Workgroup for the eHealth Partnered Evaluation Initiative (PI: Tim Hogan) to conduct analyses of the Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) database and related data in partnership with the Office of Connected Care (OCC).	CDW_Full, CDW_SPatient, CDW_SStaff	VINCI		

Request

Task Type	Change	New	Total
UpdateWorkgroup	1		1
CreateWorkgroupFolder	1		1
CreateWorkgroupDatabase	1		1
CreateWorkgroup		1	1
AddWorkgroupMember	1	2	3
AddWorkgroupClearance		3	3
Total	4	6	10

Request
10

Group Members


ADAccount	Members Name	Email Address	Persona	POC	NDS Authorizations
VHA01\VHABEDZocchM	Zocchi, Mark	Mark.Zocchi@va.gov	Unassigned	Yes	CDW_SPatient, CDW_SStaff, CDW_VitalStatus, CDW_DSS, CDW_Full
vha01\VHABEDSHIMAS	Shimada, Stephanie	Stephanie.Shimada@va.gov	Unassigned	Yes	CDW_VitalStatus, CDW_Full, CDW_SPatient, CDW_SStaff, CDW_DSS
VHA01\VHABEDNdiwaN	Ndiwane, Ndindam	Ndindam.Ndiwane@va.gov	Unassigned	No	CDW_SStaff, CDW_SASData, CDW_Full, CDW_SPatient

Resources Own and Share

Select all
Owner
...

Owner	Shared	Type	Resources
OCC_EHPEI		WorkgroupFolder	\\vhacd\wpe\02\homed\va.gov\Projects2\OCC_EHPEI
OCC_EHPEI		DOExSubscription	VHACDWA01.OIA_PGD.DOEx.GENERIC_PGHD
OCC_EHPEI		WorkgroupDatabase	VHACDWR003.OCC_EHPEI

VHA Data Portal Page: Patient-Generated Health Data (va.gov)

[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 & Admin
Support

Data Sources > Patient-Generated Health Data

On this page

- » Overview
- » Content
- » Requesting Data Access
- » Resources

Patient-Generated Health Data

📄 Overview

VA Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) are submitted by [Veterans through VHA Office of Connected Care \(OCC\)](#) mobile health applications, enabling VA care teams to offer continuous care to their patients. PGHD gives VA care teams greater insight into patients' health and empowers patients to be more engaged in their care.

PGHD is health-related data that patients and their family members or caregivers create or gather outside of a clinical setting. For example, patients can log health and lifestyle information such as diet, mood, sleep, and weight, or they can use wearable devices and sensors to gather data such as blood pressure, glucose levels, and heart rate. PGHD is distinct from the data generated in clinical settings and through encounters with providers. Reference [VA Directive 6506](#) for official VA policy on PGHD.

📄 Content

PGHD are drawn from different sources such as health tracking devices (e.g., Fitbit, Garmin, Apple Health), Bluetooth-enabled digital devices that have been synced to the Share My Health Data mobile app, and VA connected apps. The database includes select self-reported vitals collected via Annie's SMS text messaging service or shared vitals from the VA's online patient portal (My HealtheVet). Data elements in the PGHD adhere to the Health Level Seven International (HL7) / Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) standard, which defines healthcare "resources" that represent granular clinical concepts. Note: The amount and level of detail (i.e., metadata) associated with PGHD resources vary depending on the source and type of data. While it is anticipated that additional PGHD types will be added in the future, as of September 2023, PGHD includes data from the following sources:

1. Share My Health Data app (synced to: VA-issued devices, third-party apps & other devices, and third-party "aggregator" apps)
2. VA connected apps (e.g., Annie SMS text messaging service for Veterans, My VA Images)
3. My HealtheVet shared vitals

Categories of available PGHD include:

Patient-Generated Health Data for Researchers (sharepoint.com)

SharePoint

Search across sites

CONNECTEDCARE Programs Promotional Toolkits News and Events About Us OCC Help Desk

Office of Connected Care (OCC)

Immersive Reader

CONNECTED CARE


Patient-Generated Health Data for Researchers

The Office of Connected Care approves researcher access to the Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD) Database preparatory to research, for IRB-approved research studies, and for quality improvement projects. You will find links to information about the PGHD Database and the forms and processes necessary for access approval.

Currently, PGHD is collected through a variety of virtual care technologies, such as health tracking apps and Bluetooth-enabled digital devices. In addition, some PGHD is collected through services such as Annie and My HealtheVet. The PGHD database is evolving and progressing as Veterans and clinicians adopt new digital health technologies that become incorporated into the PGHD database.

On this page

- PGHD Data Dictionary
- Getting a BaseCamp Workspace
- Program Office Data Access Approval Forms
- PGHD PODAA Submission Portal




Program Office Data Access Approval for Research Use

Patient Generated Health Data

This Program Office Data Access Approval (PODAA) form is used to request program office approval for research use of the Patient Generated Health Data (PGHD) database produced by the Office of Connected Care (OCC). This form should be used for IRB-approved research projects.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete the required information in Section 1.
2. Sign the form in Section 2. (*Handwritten or digital signatures are accepted.*)
3. Upload this form along with your project's IRB Committee approval letter and IRB protocol via the submission form at the [PGHD PODAA Submission Portal](#).
4. OCC will review your submission and either:
 - a. Email you a signed version of this form for you to upload to VINCI Data Access Request Tracker (DART),
 - b. Request additional information or changes from you, or
 - c. Request a conference call with you to discuss issues.
5. Once you receive the approved form from OCC, upload it to DART in the Required Documents section to submit it with your request.
6. After you receive the DART approval letter for your project, the assigned VINCI IT data manager will provide you with a link to a secure correspondence site for your project. Use this site to describe your study cohort inclusion criteria and your project's specific data needs.

Program Office Data Access Approval for Preparatory to Research Use

Patient Generated Health Data

This form is used to request program office approval when planning for research use of the Patient Generated Health Data (PGHD) database produced by the Office of Connected Care (OCC). This form should be used when requesting limited access preparatory to research. A new request using the Program Office Data Access Approval (PODAA) for Research Use form must be submitted to use the data for research once a study is funded and has obtained IRB and local R&D approvals.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete the required information in Section 1.
2. Sign the form in Section 2. *(Handwritten or digital signatures are accepted.)*
3. Upload this document via the [PGHD PODAA Submission Portal](#).
4. OCC will review your submission and either:
 - a. Email you a signed version of this form for you to upload to VINCI Data Access Request Tracker (DART),
 - b. Request additional information or changes from you, or
 - c. Request a conference call with you to discuss issues.
5. Once you receive the approved form from OCC, upload it to DART in the Required Documents section to submit it with your request as part of the [DART Preparatory to Research Request Process](#).
6. After you receive the DART approval letter for your project, the assigned VINCI IT data manager will provide you with a link to a secure correspondence site for your project. Use this site to describe your preparatory to research needs.

Program Office Data Access Approval for Operations Use

Patient Generated Health Data

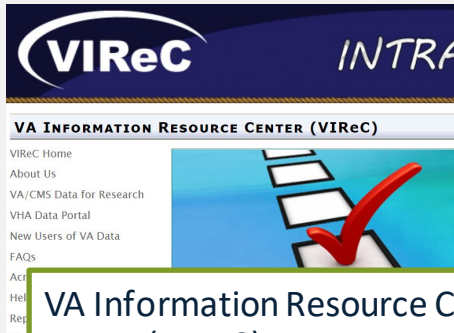
This Program Office Data Access Approval (PODAA) form is used to request program office approval for quality improvement, program evaluation, or other time-limited operations projects that require the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Patient Generated Health Data (PGHD) produced by the Office of Connected Care (OCC).

INSTRUCTIONS

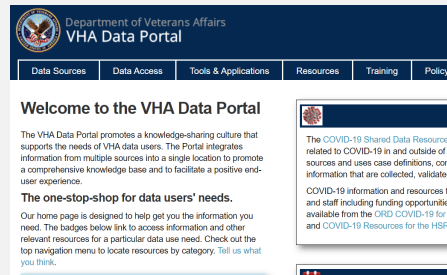
1. Complete required information in Section 1.
2. Sign the form in Section 2. (*Handwritten or digital signatures are accepted.*)
3. Upload this document along with the QI Determination Letter and Sponsor Memo (if applicable) via the submission form at the [PGHD PODAA Submission Portal](#).
4. OCC will review your submission and
 - a) May request additional information, changes, or a conference call with you to discuss data access if needed.
 - b) Approve time-limited access to the PGHD via [BaseCamp](#) if your request is approved.
5. Ensure NDS operations access is in place. **Note:** Submitting a [NDS Access Form for Health Operations](#) in VA's Electronic Permission Access System (ePAS) will be required if you are requesting access to the Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) for the first time, or if you need to modify existing data access permissions to either of these data sources.
6. Request a new workgroup consultation via [BaseCamp](#).
7. Once your CDW Workgroup has been created, OCC will share PGHD with your Workgroup.

Resources for VA Data Users

Select image to visit page



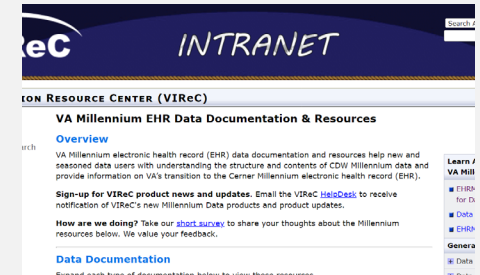
VA Information Resource Center (VIREC) (VA Intranet)



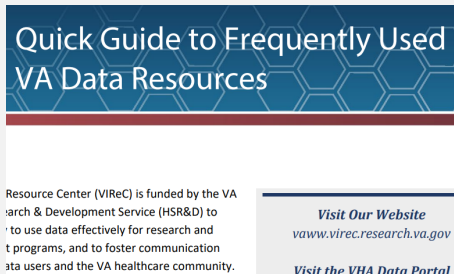
VHA Data Portal (VA Intranet)



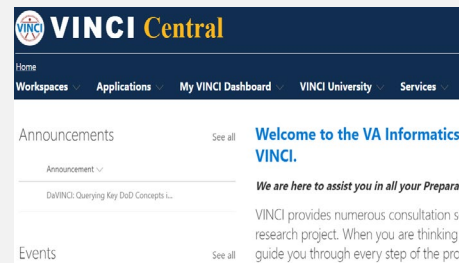
VIREC Cyberseminars



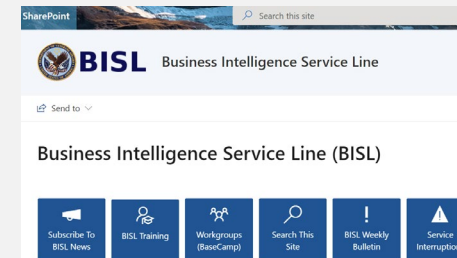
VA Millennium EHR Data Documentation (VA Intranet)



Quick Guide: Resources for Using VA Data (VA Intranet)



VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI) (VA Intranet)



BISL/CDW (VA Intranet)



Health Economics Resource Center (HERC) (VA Intranet)





Questions about using VA Data?

HSRData Listserv

- Community knowledge sharing
- ~1,400 VA data users
- Researchers, operations, data stewards, managers
- Subscribe by visiting vaww.virec.research.va.gov/Support/HSRData-L.htm (VA Intranet)

VIReC HelpDesk

- Individualized support
- Request Form: varedcap.rcp.vaec.va.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=KXMEN77LXK (VA Intranet)