

# Virtual Care CORE



## January 2021 Newsletter

















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### Introduction to the Virtual Care Consortium of Research

We are pleased to release the first issue of our Virtual Care CORE Newsletter. We hope to use this resource to provide timely communication of relevant updates and the latest research, create visibility for our researchers and their work, and facilitate collaboration between researchers with overlapping interests. To help accomplish each of these goals, we invite readers to [share](#) news or publications they wish to disseminate in future issues, as well as questions and feedback that can help us improve.

While the VC CORE is comprised of over two hundred researchers nationwide, we wanted to provide an incomplete roster of team members here to help you put faces to names you may hear from and collaborate with on a regular basis. Over time, we aim to add features such as a “New Investigator’s Corner,” or “Investigator Spotlight” to fill help us all get to know each other.

	<u>Principal Investigator</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Co-Investigators</u>				
<a href="#">VA New York Harbor</a>	 Scott Sherman, MD, MPH	 Navid Dardashti, MPH	 Erin Rogers, DrPH	 Elizabeth Stevens, PhD, MPH			
<a href="#">VA Bedford-Boston</a>	 Tim Hogan, PhD	 Nicholas McMahon, MPH	 Samantha Connolly, PhD	 Stephanie Robinson, PhD	 Erin Reilly, PhD		
<a href="#">VA Palo Alto</a>	 Donna Zulman, MD, MS	 Cindie Slightam, MPH	 Josephine Jacobs, PhD	 Kritee Gujral, PhD	 Eric Schmidt, PhD	 Sonya Soohoo, PhD	 James Van Campen, MS

## Recent News from OCC and the VC CORE

### Congratulations to VC CORE Investigators on their OCC funded projects from our COVID-19 RFA:

- **Amy O'Shea, PhD** - The Association of Broadband Access with Changes in Use of Primary Care and Mental Health Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- **Ursula Myers, PhD** - A Mixed-Methods Investigation of High and Low Adoption of VVC for Mental Healthcare During COVID-19
- **Taona P. Haderlein, PhD, MA** - Assessing VA Health Disparities in Telehealth Use During COVID- 2019
- **Chelsea Leonard, PhD** - Improving Care Coordination Using Home Pulse Oximeters for COVID-19 Patients
- **Paul Krebs, PhD and Melanie Jay, MD, MS** - Patient Use Characteristics of VA Telehealth Services and Impact on Quality of Care during COVID-19
- **Jennifer Stevens-Lapsley, PT, PhD** - Tele-rehabilitation for Medically Complex Veterans During COVID-19

### VC CORE Progress

Since our launch, we have been working hard to establish our network of investigators which is now comprised of 210 members. We held a successful [Kick-Off Meeting](#) in October 2020, and have issued two [Requests for Applications](#) (RFAs) for Office of Connected Care-funded projects. We will disseminate word of future funding opportunities to the CORE network as they become available. You can also visit our [SharePoint site](#) for further information on RFAs. Finally, we are working to build our relationships with the other existing COREs. To that end, we are planning a joint cyberseminar with the Access CORE which is scheduled for March 3. In 2021, we will move forward with a portfolio review of Virtual Care research and evaluation projects to identify gaps and opportunities for high-impact research in subsequent years of the CORE.

## Funding and Presentation Opportunities

Opportunities	Contact	Deadline
Submit abstracts to present your work at the 2021 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting – a call for late breaking abstracts will follow in late February	<a href="#">ARM Web Page</a>	1/14/2021
Portland ORH Resource Center is soliciting 1-page concept papers for FY22 pilot research and implementation projects focusing on: access to care, mental health and suicide prevention, pain management and opioids, and health disparities in vulnerable veteran populations.	<a href="#">Melissent Zumwalt</a>	1/15/2021

## Recent VA Virtual Care Publications

- Connolly SL, Stolzmann KL, Heyworth L, Weaver KR, Bauer MS, Miller CJ. [Rapid Increase in Telemental Health Within the Department of Veterans Affairs During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). *Telemedicine and e-Health* 09/2020.
- Davoudi A, Lee NS, Chivers C, Delaney T, Asch EL, Reitz C, Mehta SJ, Chaiyachati KH, Mowery DL. [Patient Interaction Phenotypes With an Automated Remote Hypertension Monitoring Program and Their Association With Blood Pressure Control: Observational Study](#). *J Med Internet Res* 03/2020.
- Ferguson JM, Jacobs J, Yefimova M, Greene L, Heyworth L, Zulman DM. [Virtual Care Expansion in the Veterans Health Administration During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Clinical Services and Patient Characteristics Associated with Utilization](#). *JAMIA* 10/2020.
- LaFrance WC Jr, Ho WLN, Bhatla A, Baird G, Altalib HH, Godleski L. [Examination of Potential Differences in Reporting of Sensitive Psychosocial Measures via Diagnostic Evaluation Using Computer Video Telehealth](#). *Psychology Online* 02/2020.

- Perry K, Gold S, Shearer EM. [Identifying and addressing mental health providers' perceived barriers to clinical video telehealth utilization](#). *Journal of Clinical Psychology* 03/2019.
- Reddy A, Gunnink E, Deeds SA, Hagan SL, Heyworth L, Mattras TF, Nelson KM. [A rapid mobilization of 'virtual' primary care services in response to COVID-19 at Veterans Health Administration](#) *Healthcare (Amst)* 12/2020.
- Saleem JJ, Read JM, Loehr BM, Frisbee KL, Wilck NR, Murphy JJ, Vetter BM, Herout J. [Veterans' response to an automated text messaging protocol during the COVID-19 pandemic](#). *JAMIA* 08/2020.

## Upcoming Meetings and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
<a href="#">Evaluating the Implementation of VA's TeleWound Practice Program</a>	Bella Etingen Marissa Gutkowski Frances Weaver	1/19/2021 12:00 – 1:00
<a href="#">Using VA data and information systems (including Cerner data from Spokane) to support the ...</a>	Kathleen Sarmiento Mary Whooley	1/27/2021 12:00 – 1:00

## Past Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date
<a href="#">Impact of Virtual Integrated Multisite PACT (V-IMPACT) for Teleprimary Care on Patients' Utilization and Costs</a>	Anna Oh Jean Yoon	11/18/2020
<a href="#">VA Telehealth Data Overview</a>	Jo Jacobs (VA HERC Data Bootcamp)	10/19/2020
<a href="#">Effect of Frontline Clinical Team Participation in a Virtual Quality Improvement Learning Program on Weight Management Program Outcomes</a>	Michele Freitag Laura Damschroder	7/23/2020
<a href="#">Virtual Facilitation Guidance 2.0: Practical tips for engaging groups</a>	CONCERT Team	6/30/2020

## 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](mailto: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.

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*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.*

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