Health Services Research & Development (HSR&D) Research at VAPORHCS;
An overview of policy, grants, programs and timelines

Mary Frances Ritchie, MPH, VEG Liaison
Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Training
March 16, 2017
Portland, OR

CIVIC
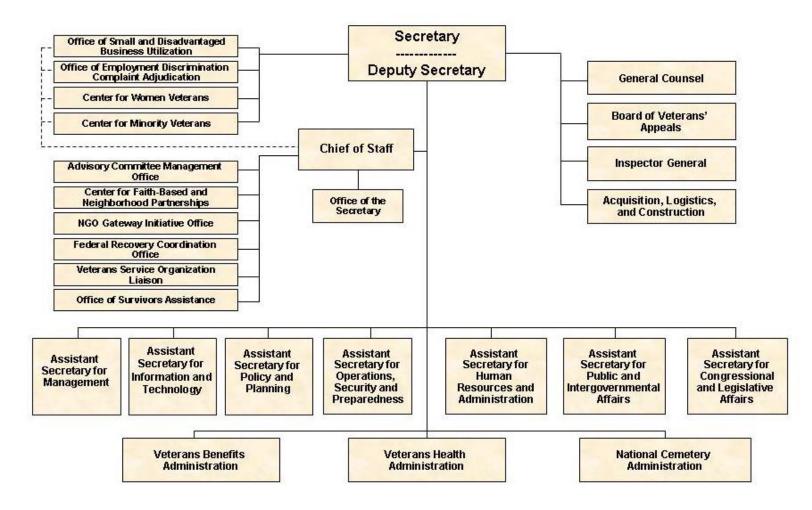Center to Improve Veteran Involvement in Care

What do you want to learn?

- As we are going through this training, please note a list of trainings (or areas you want to learn more about)

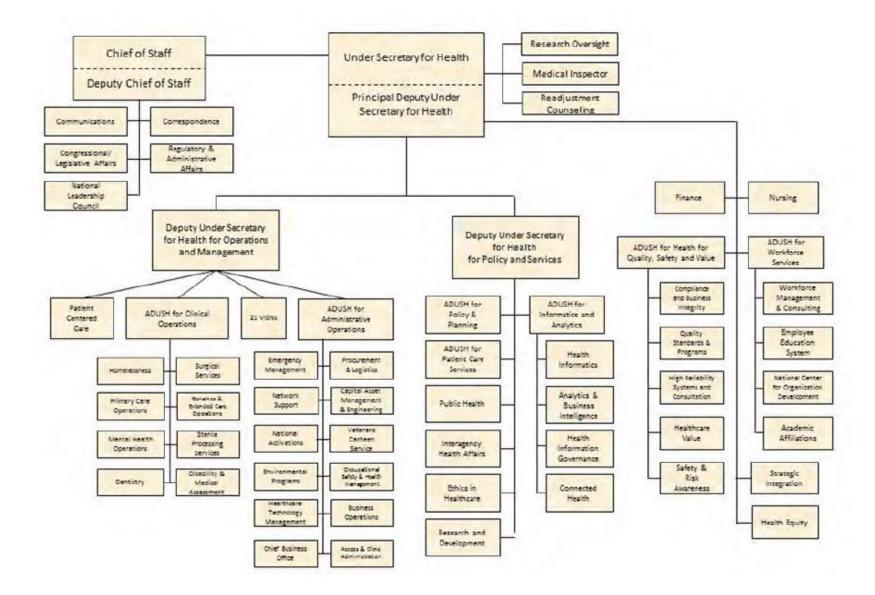- Please fill out Question #11 on your hardcopy evaluations!!!

Goal of the training: How Veteran Engagement in Research fits in to the bigger picture of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA)
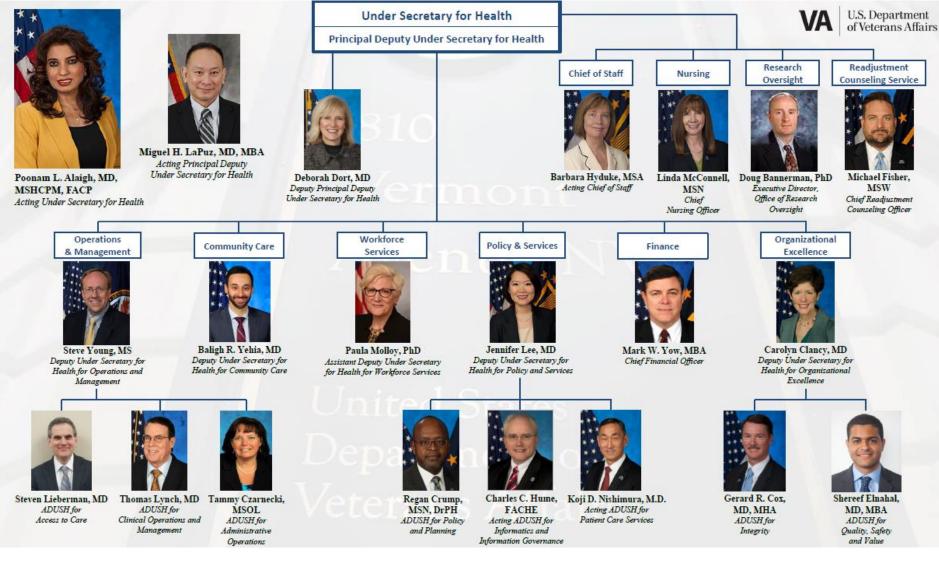
VA Organizational Chart

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Secretary

Deputy Secretary

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization
Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication
Center for Women Veterans
Center for Minority Veterans

Advisory Committee Management Office
Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships
NGO Gateway Initiative Office
Federal Recovery Coordination Office
Veterans Service Organization Liaison
Office of Survivors Assistance

Chief of Staff

Office of the Secretary

General Counsel
Board of Veterans' Appeals
Inspector General
Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction

Assistant Secretary for Management
Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology
Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning
Assistant Secretary for Operations, Security and Preparedness
Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration
Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs
Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs

Veterans Benefits Administration
Veterans Health Administration
National Cemetery Administration

Veterans Health Administration Organizational Chart

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

Veterans Health Administration Leadership Chart

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

Notable VHA History (1920s to 2000s)

- Reported first findings for malaria and long-term health effects of chemical warfare
- Developed and tested effective TB therapies
- Developed first rehab program for blind persons
- Performed the first successful liver transplant
- Linked smoking with cancer of the respiratory tract and lung
- Identified genes for schizophrenia, dementia, laryngeal cancer, Werner's syndrome and Alzheimer's.
- Developed Prolonged Exposure behavioral therapy for PTSD
- Developed the nicotine patch to support smoking cessation
- Developed computer controlled ventilator
- **Veteran Engagement in Research!!!**

Citation: VA Research and Development Program Overview Discovery – Innovation – Advancement Pamphlet, Veterans Health Administration, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2015.

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

The Office of the Under Secretary for Health (USH) is responsible for the leadership and direction of VHA, the Nation's largest integrated health care system.

The four statutory missions of VHA are:

1. to develop, maintain, and operate a national health care delivery system for eligible Veterans;
2. to administer a program of education and training for health care personnel;
3. **to conduct health care research;** and
4. provide contingency support for DoD and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) during times of war or national emergency.

VA Office of Research and Development (ORD)

Biomedical Laboratory *Research & Development*	Clinical Science *Research & Development*	Health Services *Research & Development*	Rehabilitation *Research & Development*
➢ Conducts preclinical research to understand the life processes form the molecular, genomic, and physiological level in regard to diseases affecting Veterans.	➢ Focuses on clinical trials for human volunteers to study new therapies, compare existing therapies, and improve clinical practice and care for Veterans. ➢ Cooperative Studies Program (multicenter trials)	➢ Supports research to improve the delivery of health care to Veterans. ➢ Quality and organization of care, patient access and outcomes	➢ Conducts research to discover knowledge and create innovations that restore Veterans who have been disabled due to injury or disease to their greatest possible functional capacity in their families, communities and work places.

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

VAPORHCS Research

[VAPORHCS Institutional Review Board (IRB)](#)

[VAPORHCS Research and Development](#)

[OHSU/VAPORHCS Joint IRB](#)

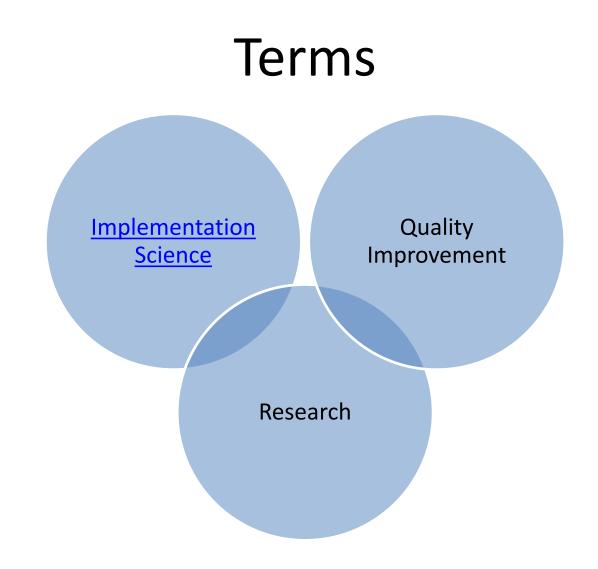[Tuskegee](#) (1932-1972)

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG)
Research Resources

VAPORHCS Institutional Review Board (IRB)

[Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) and Federal Wide Assurance (FWA)](#)

- The systematic and comprehensive approach of an organization, to ensure human subject protection in all human research conducted under the auspices of the institution.
- The VAPORHCS's HRPP is established in the Medical Center Memorandum No. 151-01, "Responsible Conduct of Research at the VA Medical Center."

- Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) mandates that each institution's IRB be registered with the OHRP.
- Our VAPORHCS IRB operates under an OHRP approved Federal Wide Assurance (FWA).
- Must be compliant with the terms set forth in the FWA for protecting human subjects and renew this FWA every **three years.**

Terms

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

VAPORHCS HSR&D CIVIC Research Study Team (an example)

Sarah Ono, PhD
CIVIC Primary Investigator (PI)
MIRB #3840 **SITE PI, Co-Investigator**

Multi-site Study!

Gala True, PhD
Southeast Louisiana VA Health Care System
(SLVHCS) - (MIRECC)
Primary Investigator

Sarah Aktepy, MA
CIVIC **Qualitative Analyst**

Mary Frances Ritchie, MPH
CIVIC **Research Assistant**

Ray Facundo, MSW
SLVHCS **Program Manager**

Ivy Wilson-Terrell, MPH
SLVHCS **Research Coordinator**

John, Marmion, MPH
SLVHCS **Research Assistant**

Advisory Board	Steering Committee	**SLVHCS Local Co-Investigators:** Randy Roid, MD (Deputy Associate Chief of Staff for Education) Baris B. Konur, PsyD (Local Recovery Coordinator) **Offsite Co-Investigators:** Rosette C. Biester, PhD (Senior Polytrauama Neuropsychologist) Helene Moriarity, PhD, RN (Endowed Chair in Nursing Research-Villanova Univ. Laraine Winter, PhD, Research Psychologist, Philadelphia VAMC

VAPORHCS Research Pathway

[IRB Handbook & Forms outline the rules for submission](#)

To gain approval:
1) Primary Investigator gets funded; hires and trains team
2) Research Coordinator compiles Institutional Review Board (IRB) submission; reviews with research team
3) Research Coordinator submits PPQ, IRQ and then CRQ
4) IRB analyst reviews submission and works with study team to perfect the documents
5) Submission is either sent to IRB for review or is given expedited review (outside of IRB) because of "risk" level
6) Review from the Information and Security Officer
7) Review by Privacy Officer (if IRQ or PRAF)
8) Review by Research and Development (R&D) Committee
9) Review by ACOS for research
10) Approval letter from IRB
11) Approval letter from R &D
12) Continual Review as necessary

Stretch Break and Questions?
VA Research Podcast!

CIVIC Veteran Engagement
Group (VEG)
Research Resources

HSR&D Centers of Innovation (COIN)

VA Health Services Research and Development (HSR&D)

Centers of Innovation (COINs)

HSR&D Resource Centers

- Health Economics Resource Center (HERC) CA

- VA Information Resource Center (VIREC) IL

- Center for Information Dissemination and Education Resources (CIDER) MA

- VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI) UT

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

Other HSR&D Funding Mechanisms

ORD – Career Development Program

HSR&D Collaborative Research to Enhance and Advance Transformation and Excellence (CREATE) Initiative

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

HSR&D QUERI

- The goal of VA's Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) is to improve the health and care of Veterans. In order to accomplish this goal, QUERI supports the application of critical evidence into practice.

- QUERI applies innovative strategies to more rapidly implement effective treatments and other evidence-based system improvements in routine care, and evaluating the results of those efforts.

- Since 1998, QUERI has been committed to ensuring that research gets used effectively by VA providers and leaders to ultimately sustain care improvements for veterans and beyond.

- Amy Kilbourne, PhD, MPH

[Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers (MIRECC)](#)

The Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers (MIRECC) were established by Congress with the goal of researching the causes and treatments of mental disorders and using education to put new knowledge into routine clinical practice in the VA. Specialized mental health centers of excellence (MH CoE) are an essential component of VA's response to meeting the mental health needs of Veterans.

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

VA HSR&D Funding

CIVIC Investigator Funding   Grants: National Institute for Health (NIH)

Research Funding	Grant Type	Description	Cycle – Due Date	CIVIC Investigator
Development	Career Development Award (CDA)	VA HSR&D	Summer/Winter	Teo
Investigator Initiated Research	(IIR) Investigator Led HSR&D Initiative Based	Clinicians and social scientists pursue their personal research interests while advancing HSR&D priorities	Summer/Winter	True/Ono
Service-Directed Research	HSR&D Initiative Based – Announcement through VA or COIN	Solicited by HSR&D to address Veteran Health Issues	Spring/Summer/ Winter	Ono (QI/SIP)

CIVIC Veteran Engagement Group (VEG) Research Resources

VETERAN ENGAGEMENT (VE)

- Service-Initiated Project (SIP)-Strengthening Excellence in Research through Veteran Engagement (SERVE)

Resources

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Lindstrom, T., Spece, A. "OHSU/VAPORHCS Joint IRB."
http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/about/services/integrity/training/upload/IRB_AnalystBB_11_17_14-VA-Update.pdf Accessed 3-13-2017.

QUERI – Quality Enhancement Research Initiative. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
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