

Virtual Care CORE



March 2021 Newsletter

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Recent News from OCC and the VC CORE

Virtual Care CORE SubGroups

One of the ways we hope to provide value to researchers is through the creation of topically focused subgroups. We are currently piloting the first of these groups, focused on Telemental Health. The Telemental Health Subgroup had our first meeting on Wednesday, March 3, with 16 researchers and CORE Team Members in attendance. It immediately became clear researchers frequently face and think about similar issues in the field. We are very excited about the potential to come up with solutions as a coordinated group, rather than as individuals working in silos.

The goals or products of these groups may vary, but the benefits of creating connections among the researchers in our network will hopefully include increased collaborations, opportunities to foster mentoring relationships, and sharing and development of standard measures in the context of each group. Whatever the context, we believe that creating focused, high performing teams can make us all greater than the sum of our parts.

If you are interested in joining the Telemental Health SubGroup, or would like to discuss organizing a group around another topic of interest, please email VHAVirtualCareCore@va.gov and let us know!

VARC & VC CORE Joint Cyberseminar

Congratulations to our presenters at the Access and Virtual Care CORE Cyberseminar on Wednesday, March 3, all of whom were excellent. Tim Hogan and Stephanie Shimada began the presentation by going over the goals of each CORE, and where they overlap. This area of overlap is clearly very important to both COREs, as the majority of our 100+ audience members responded that they are interested in both Access and Virtual Care research. The presentation was then handed over to members of each CORE, who provided their exemplars of Access, VC, and overlapping research. Many thanks to our presenters for sharing their exemplars:

- [Paul Hebert, PhD](#); *Routing Calls to Nurse Practitioners (NP) was Associated with Fewer Emergency Department and Outpatient Visits*
- [Jolie Haun, PhD, EdS](#); *Virtual Medical Modality Implementation Strategies for Patient Aligned Care Teams to Promote Veteran Centered Care*
- [Charlie Wray, DP, MS, FHM](#); *Improving Access to Care For Socially Vulnerable Veterans Through the Focused Delivery of Telemedicine*

A link to the presentation is available further down in this newsletter, in *Past Presentations and Cyberseminars*.

Funding and Presentation Opportunities and Deadlines

Opportunities	Contact	Deadline
The AMIA 2021 Annual Symposium will consider poster, podium abstract, regular paper, student paper, panel, systems demonstration, and workshop submissions that showcase the latest innovations from the community of biomedical informatics researchers and practitioners	Information can be found here	3/10/2021
HSR&D Pain/Opioid CORE 2021 Rapid Start Funding Opportunity: See PDF attached to email	Brian.Coleman2@va.gov	3/15/2021
Submit late breaking abstracts to the AcademyHealth 2021 Annual Research Meeting; the submitted research should be likely to have a significant impact on the research community or represent a major advance in the field and for which the data was not available by the regular abstract deadline of January 14, 2021	Information can be found here	3/31/2021
Call for Abstracts, Workshops, Symposia, Research in Progress, and Creative Arts for the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare	Information can be found here	
Call for papers on Women Veterans' Health and Health Care from JGIM sponsored by HSR&D. Types of articles accepted include original research, concise research reports, innovation and improvement approaches, and those regarding implementation science	Information can be found here	6/1/2021
Call for papers on Healthcare System Recovery Post COVID-19. Topic includes handling deferred care, staffing innovations, employee and patient safety (mentally and physically). Main goal being the collation of evidence on issues to generate solutions helping to rebuild healthcare and offer resilience and especially future sustainability	Information can be found here	9/30/2021

Recent Virtual Care Publications

- Connolly, S.L., Hogan, T.P., Shimada, S.L. *et al.* [Leveraging Implementation Science to Understand Factors Influencing Sustained Use of Mental Health Apps: a Narrative Review](#). *Journal of Technology in Behavioral Science* 9/2020.
- Etingen, B., Amante, DJ., Martinez, RN., Smith, BM., Shimada, SL., Richardson, L., Patterson, A.,... Hogan, TP. [Supporting the Implementation of Connected Care Technologies in the Veterans Health Administration: Cross-Sectional Survey Findings from the Veterans Engagement with Technology Collaborative \(VET-C\) Cohort](#). *Journal of Participatory Medicine* 7/2020.
- Felker, B.L., McGinn, M.M., Shearer, E.M., et al. [Implementation of a Telemental Health Training Program Across a Mental Health Department](#). *Telemedicine Reports* 1/2021.
- Gately, M.E., Tickle-Degnen, L., Trudeau, S.A., et al. [Caregiver Satisfaction With a Video Telehealth Home Safety Evaluation for Dementia](#). *International Journal of Telerehabilitation* Fall 2020.
- Hatch, M.N., Martinez, R.N., Etingen, B., et al. [Characterization of Telehealth Use in Veterans With Spinal Cord Injuries and Disorders](#). *PM&R: The Journal of Injury, Function and Rehabilitation* 01/2021.
- Hilty, D.M., Armstrong, C.M., Edwards-Stewart, A. et al. [Sensor, Wearable, and Remote Patient Monitoring Competencies for Clinical Care and Training: Scoping Review](#). *J. technol. behav. sci.* 1/2021.

- Kaboli, P.J., Augustine, M.R., Rose, D.E. et al. [Call Center Remote Triage by Nurse Practitioners Was Associated With Fewer Subsequent Face-to-Face Healthcare Visits](#). *J GEN INTERN MED* 1/2021.
- Kobe, E., Edelman, D., Tarkington, P., Bosworth, H., Maciejewski, M., Steinhauser, K.,...Crowley, M. [Practical telehealth to improve control and engagement for patients with clinic-refractory diabetes mellitus \(PRACTICE-DM\): Protocol and baseline data for a randomized trial](#). *Contemporary Clinical Trials* 7/2020.
- Lu, A., Junge, M., Garber, J., Abramson, A., Whooley, M., & Smith, J. [Feasibility of a telemedicine urgent care program to address patient complaints on first contact](#). *Emergency Medicine International* 10/2020.
- Saxon, D.R., Kaboli, P.J., Haraldssib, B. et al. [Growth of Electronic Consultations in the Veterans Health Administration](#). *American Journal of Medical Care* 1/2021.
- Whittington, M.D., Ho, P.M., Kirsh, S.R., Kenney, R.R., et al. [Cost Savings Associated With Electronic Specialty Consultations](#). *American Journal of Medical Care* 1/2021.

Upcoming Meetings and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Veteran Reported Outcomes for Referrals to Community Care Providers Compared to Referrals to Regional Tele-Mental Health Hubs	Fortney, John	3/17/2021 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST

Past Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date
Access and Virtual Care COREs: Complementary Initiatives to Speed the Research Cycle	Haun, Jolie Hebert, Paul Hogan, Timothy Shimada, Stephanie Wray, Charlie	3/3/2021 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST
Leveraging VA Text Note Data for Quality Measurement: A Case Study of a Novel Measurement Tool for Cardiac Device Procedures	Branch-Elliman, Westyn Mull, Hillary	2/25/2021 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST
One-Year Costs Associated with the VA National TeleStroke Program (NTSP)	Todd Wagner, HERC	2/17/2021 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST
Meet ViReC: The Researcher's Guide to VA Data	Maria Souden	2/1/2021
Using VA data and information systems (including Cerner data from Spokane) to support the ...	Kathleen Sarmiento Mary Whooley	1/27/2021
Evaluating the Implementation of VA's TeleWound Practice Program	Bella Etingen Marissa Gutkowski Frances Weaver	1/19/2021
Requesting Access to VA Data	Linda Kok	11/2/2020
Overview of VA Data, Information Systems, National Databases and Research Uses	Maria Souden	10/5/2020

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.
- 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.
