

Virtual Care CORE



August 2021 Newsletter

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Recent News from OCC and the VC CORE

VC CORE July Cyberseminar

Last month, VC CORE investigators Amy O'Shea, Taona Haderlein, and Samantha Connolly presented in the second of our VC CORE Cyberseminar Series, entitled *Disparities in Telehealth Use During COVID-19 Described Three Ways*. It is clear that the broad topic of these three distinct presentations is of great interest to the field as over 600 registrants signed up, and 350 participants attended the cyberseminar. We heartily thank our presenters and their teams for dedicating their time and sharing their findings with the community!

HELP WANTED

The *Improving Access through Virtual Care Focused Area of Research* (TeleFAR) group at the Durham COIN is **collecting qualitative interview guides and questions about virtual care and virtual care use** to build a virtual care measure bank for qualitative and mixed-methods research. For questions and submissions, please contact Caitlin Sullivan (Caitlin.Sullivan2@va.gov)

Those individual presentations were titled:

- *How to Measure Broadband Access and the Implications for Virtual Care*; Amy O'Shea, PhD, Bjarni Haraldsson, MS, Ariana Shahnazi, PhD, Kailey Mulligan, BA, Peter Kaboli, MD, MS
- *Assessing Disparities in VA Telehealth Use During the COVID-19 Pandemic*; Taona P. Haderlein, PhD, MA, Donna L. Washington, MD, MPH, Alison B. Hamilton, PhD, MPH
- *Predictors of patient and provider use of telehealth within the Department of Veterans Affairs during the COVID-19 pandemic*; Samantha Connolly, PhD

The PDF and recording of the cyberseminar are available in the HSR&D website; link in the table of past presentations below!

Funding and Presentation Opportunities and Deadlines

Opportunities	Contact	Deadline
VA National & VISN Researchers & Evaluators-in-Residence Program	For details see VA National & VISN	8/27/2021

<p>HSR&D will fund VA researchers and evaluators to spend time in clinical programs or VISN offices to help with analysis and to help bring research knowledge to policy and program planning. The following positions were approved by HSR&D:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Office of Mental Health & Suicide Prevention, Vocational Rehabilitation Service: Economic Analyses of Compensated Work Therapy 2. Office of Connected Care: Economics & Cost-Effectiveness of VA Telehealth 	<p>Researchers & Evaluators in Residence Program Opportunities</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>Information can be found here</p>	<p>9/30/2021</p>

Recent Virtual Care Publications

- Wray C.M., Junge M., Keyhani S., Smith J.E. [Assessment of a multi-center tele-urgent care program to decrease emergency department referral rates in the Veterans Health Administration.](#) *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 06/2021.
- Tran, J.E., Fowler, C.A., Delikat, J., Kaplan, H., Merzier, M.M., Schlesinger, M.R., Litzenberger, S.M., Marszalek, J.M., Scott, S., & Winkler, S.L. [Immersive virtual reality to improve outcomes in Veterans with stroke: Protocol for a pilot study.](#) *JMIR Research Protocols*, 05/2021.
- Lin L.A., Fortney J.C., Bohnert A.S.B., Coughlin L.N., Zhang L., Piette J.D. [Comparing telemedicine to in-person buprenorphine treatment in U.S. veterans with opioid use disorder.](#) *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 05/2021.
- Armstrong, C. M., McGee-Vincent, P., Juhasz, K., Owen, J., Avery, T., Jaworski, B., Jamison, A., Cone, W., Gould, C., Ramsey, K., Mackintosh, M. A., & Hilty, D. M. [VA Mobile Health Practice Guide \(1st ed.\).](#) *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*, 04/2021.

Upcoming Meetings and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
<p>COVID Lessons Learned: The Invaluable Need for Virtual Care</p>	<p>Christina Armstrong, PhD</p>	<p>8/10/2021 10:15 AM – 11:15 AM PST</p>
<p>VA Connected Care Community of Practice: Virtual Care and Technology: Pulling it all Together</p>	<p>Whitney Cone, RN and Christina Armstrong, PhD</p>	<p>8/19/2021 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST</p>
<p>Annie Clinician Training</p>	<p>Boyd Loehr, RN</p>	<p>9/01/2021 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM EST</p>

Past Presentations and Cyberseminars

Title	Presenter(s)	Date/Time
Patient-Generated Health Data (PGHD): Integrating Sensors and Wearables into Healthcare (Slides to be added soon)	Christina Armstrong, PhD	7/29/2021 3:00 PM-4:00 PM EST
State of HSR&D and QUERI	David Atkins, MD, MPH Naomi Tomoyasu, PhD Amy Kilbourne, PhD, MPH	7/29/2021 12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
Disparities in Telehealth Use During COVID-19 Described Three Ways	Amy O’Shea, PhD Taona Haderlein, PhD, MA Samantha Connolly	7/07/2021 1:00 PM – 2:00PM EST
VA Connected Care Community of Practice “Increasing Technological Cultural Competency to Meet Patient Needs” (Sharepoint)	Whitney Cone MSN, RN Christina Armstrong, PhD	6/17/2021 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST

Links to Resources

Telehealth

- [VHA Telehealth Services Website](#)
- [Telehealth Intranet Site](#)
- [VHA Mobile and Peripheral Devices for Facilities](#)

VA Mobile

- [VA Mobile | VA App Store](#)
- [New VA Mobile 'My App List' functionality/categories](#)
- [ANNIE Automated Texting System | SharePoint site](#)
- [VACO Mobile Mental Health & Technology | SharePoint site](#)
- [VA Mobile Health Practice Guide | SharePoint site](#)

MyHealthVet

- [MyHealthVet | Portal Homepage](#)
- [MyHealthVet | VA Intranet Product Homepage](#)
- [My HealthVet Statistics - My HealthVet Product \(va.gov\)](#)
- [My HealthVet Secure Messaging Reports Guide](#)

Data Reports, Measures, Definitions, and Training

- [VHA Reports and Measures Portal \(RAMP\)](#)
- [Reporting and Analytics Field Training \(RAFT\)](#)
- [VSSC – Connected Care, Telehealth, Call Centers](#)
- [Data Definitions for VSSC Data Cubes](#)

Patient Generated Health Data

- [Approved VA Policy on PGHD](#)
- [PGHD video for staff](#)

General Office of Connected Care

- [Connected Care Website](#)
- [Connected Care Outreach Toolkit](#)
- [Connected Care Academy](#) (VA Intranet Required)

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.
